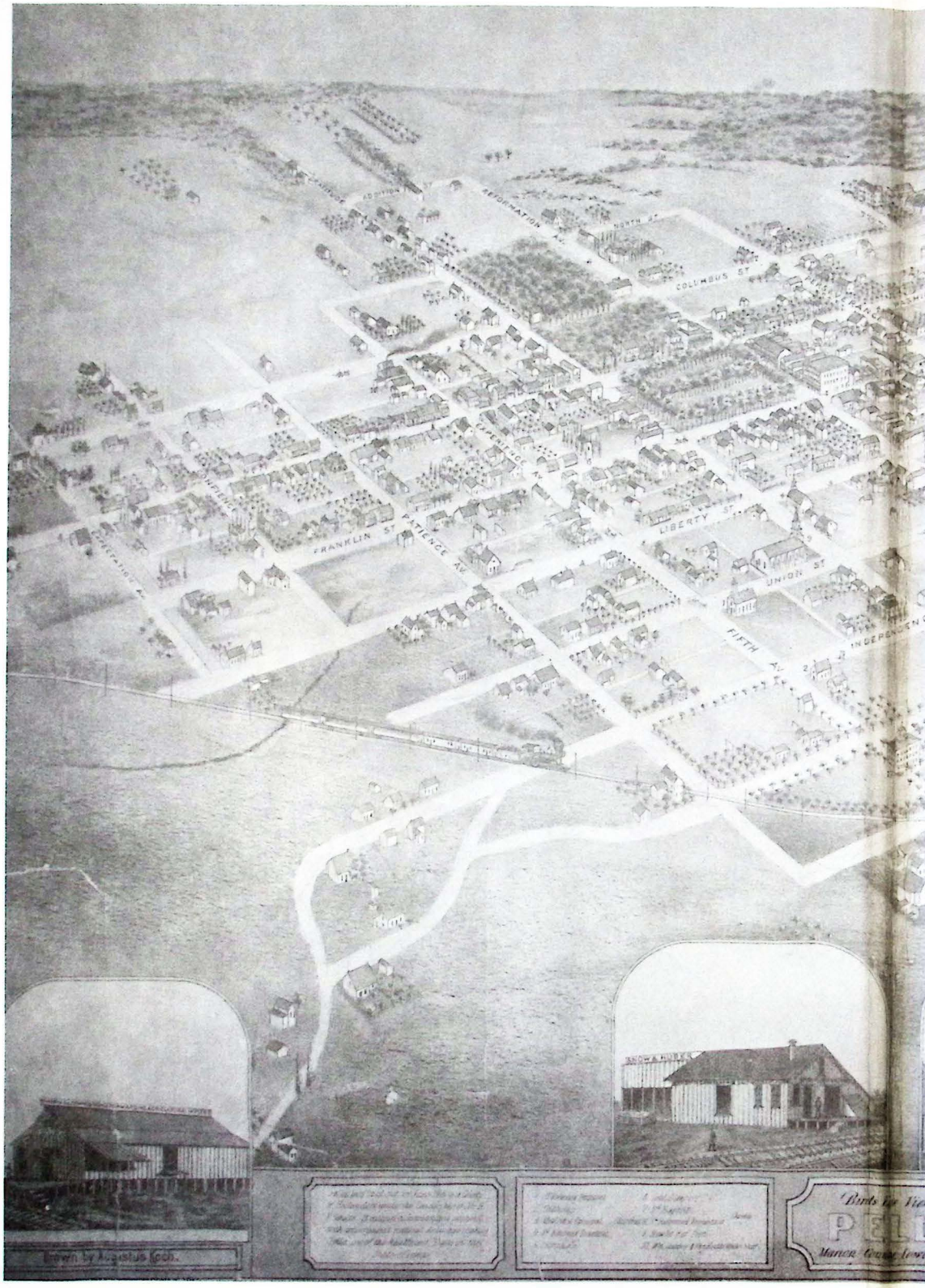
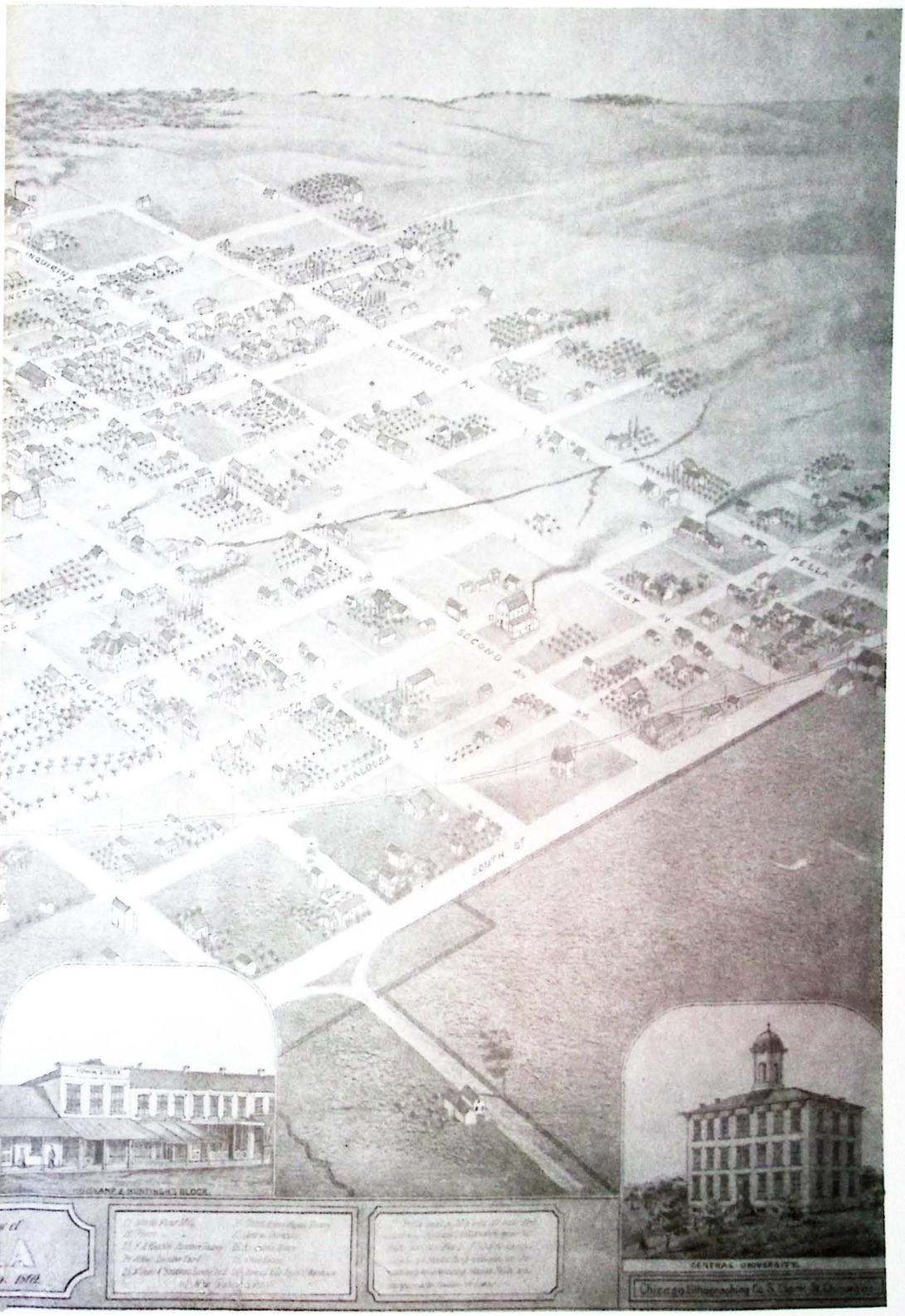
History of Pella, Iowa
1847–1987


REFORMATION AV.
COLUMBUS ST.
FRANKLIN ST.
PATIENCE AV.
LIBERTY ST.
UNION ST.
FIFTH AV.
Drawn by Augustus Koch.


INQUIRING
ENTRANCE AV
PELLA ST
FIRST AV
SECOND AV
THIRD
FOURTH
SOUTH ST
OSKALOOSA
SOUTH ST
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

THE NETHERLANDS INFORMATION SERVICE

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NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

Holland, Michigan

1004 MILLS BUILDING
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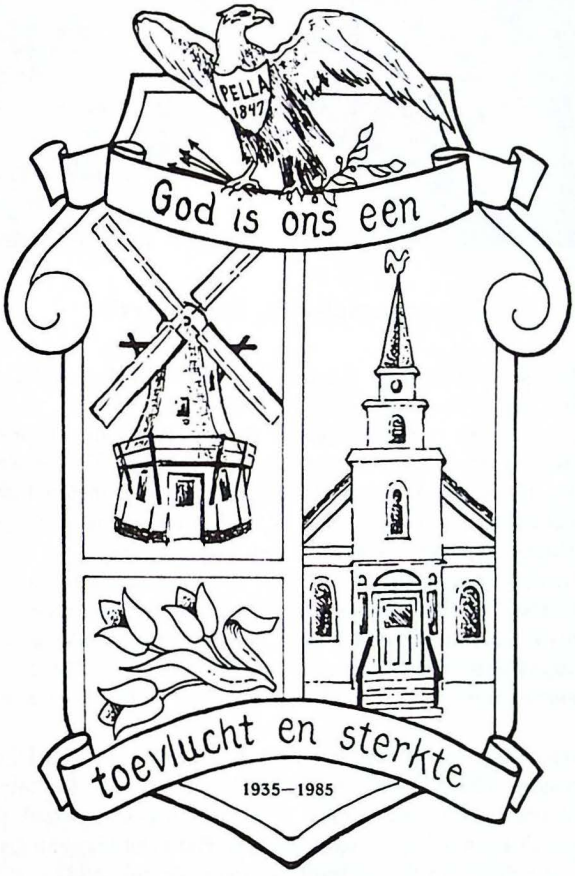
History of Pella, Iowa
1847 – 1987



Sponsored by the
Pella Historical Society
Pella, Iowa

Leonora Scholte, Cover Artist

Leonora Keables Scholte was the daughter of Dr. E. H. Keables. She married Henry Scholte, oldest son of Dominie H. P. Scholte.

Known affectionately for many years as Pella's First Lady, she maintained the Scholte House as a haven for music, art and hospitality. The house was always open to family, friends and visitors and it was she who insisted on the careful preservation of its treasury. Leonora was famous for the holiday celebrations in the Scholte House, especially Christmas and New Years.

She was the author of the book *Stranger in a Strange Land* and a book about her mother, Harriet Rose (which is printed in part in the volumes of Pella History).

Leonora was Pella's "Grandma Moses" as well, spending long hours painting china, landscapes and florals. The charming oil chosen for the cover of Volume I of Pella History is one of several she painted of Dutch scenes as she imagined them to be.

The year before she died at the age of 83, she entertained HRH Queen Juliana (then a princess) of The Netherlands during a visit to Pella in May 1942.

Leonora herself was a community treasure. She epitomized the gracious atmosphere which even today prevails in Pella. Her granddaughter, who bore her name, carried on these traditions until her death in July 1987.

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To Our Readers:

One of the complaints often heard about the 1922 History of Pella is that so many people were left out. We hear that it was certainly not complete. These complaints may also be issued when the history books of 1987–88 are finished. However, everyone in town was asked to submit stories of their families and of their businesses. Not everyone chose to participate. We realize that not all the persons who have lived and worked in Pella in the last 140 years will be included in this book. But, we have made an honest effort to provide the opportunity to include as many people, past and present, as possible. There has been no selective channeling of stories. We used what we were given.

The complexities of producing two books of this nature are awesome. The details of compiling and collating this enormous amount of copy often seemed overwhelming. It took many people much time to accomplish the task. The workers who compiled this book were volunteers who gave up much free time correcting type, proofing and reproofing, finding information, digging into archives and sorting through piles of pictures. They ask for no thanks other than to see the books a reality. They hope that their efforts are conducive to making the history of our unique town something of importance to you, and a matter of pride to all.

We who have read and reread articles submitted, typed the same and corrected errors, realize that there will still be mistakes. None of the errors were made purposely and we apologize for the inevitable. It is our earnest wish that the books will be source of information in your home and that they will provide you with many pleasant hours of reading.

—The Committee

Acknowledgements

Hundreds of people have contributed to the Pella History Books with a variety of styles on a multitude of topics, all in some way pertinent to the town's history.

There were countless others who, although they did not actually write stories, were prodded into telling them. These persons were asked to go back into their memories to ferret out facts, to scrape up tidbits, to add to someone's written treatise.

To all the above mentioned, we give our sincere thanks and gratitude for sharing the past with us and with the generations of the future who will benefit from these pages of historical significance.

We are indebted to some very special people who contributed their unique talents and their time to these books.

MARTHA LAUTENBACH shared her vast knowledge of Pella's history with us and encouraged our efforts. She found documents, maps and pictures, all of which made our research easier and more accurate.

ALICE LAMMERS, Central College and Pella Historical Society Archivist, led us to and through a wealth of information found in the confines of Pella's historical storehouses.

JOHN VANDEVOORT volunteered his finesse in photography, spending hours in the dark room, developing pictures from a seemingly impossible array of old negatives, newspaper clippings and prints from old books. He also spent hours photographing scenes of present-day Pella.

GLORIA VANDER PEUT kept the myriads of stories recorded properly, handled pages of records, urged us to meet deadlines and prepared all written material for processing and mailing to Dallas . . . an enormous task done with patience and fortitude.

We are grateful to fellow members of the committee who worked together through countless meetings to plan these books. PATSY SADLER, MURT KOOI and DENA BOKHOVEN agreed to be co-ordinators of the books. Each worked in her area area of responsibility to get the books written, printed and sold. ALICE LAMMERS, BETTE BRUNSTING, CORA THOMASSON, EUNICE KUYPER, HERB VANDERWAL, JOHN VANDEVOORT, JAY VERMEER and GLORIA VANDER PEUT were all organizing and contributing members of a busy committee which worked at various tasks in the conglomerate necessary in the preparation of Pella's History Books.

ERMA J. RENAUD unselfishly shared her large collection of scrapbooks from which we gleaned much information.

Many people spent hours reading old *Pella Chronicles* on the micro-film reader which was a gift from ROLSCREEN FOUNDATION. We appreciate this gift which was such an asset in preparing the books and in assisting families in finding recorded stories.

We thank the large group of persons who in the beginning stages of book preparation telephoned people to alert them to the project and got the whole process moving. We cannot thank them all by name but want to impress upon them the importance their task was to us.

There were persons who typed for us and rewrote stories for people who requested that service, and to them we are thankful. To the diligent proofers who read and reread every article, marking mistakes and catching errors, we sincerely appreciate all of those efforts. Without this loyal cadre of typists and proofers, we could not have proceeded.

Having access to the basement of Heritage Hall where we set up our working area, and to Blom House where we headquartered the processing portion of the books, was a real benefit. Our "organized chaos" bothered no one and those locations were conducive to our work. The SECRETARIES OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE were most congenial in helping us with copy work and often took and delivered messages to us when were secluded in the Heritage Hall basement.

The foresight of the late CLARENCE BUERKENS, who wrote the "Buck Saw" columns in the *Chronicle* for so many years, and who later gave them to the Historical Society, was realized as we compiled the books and drew on his valuable research into the past.

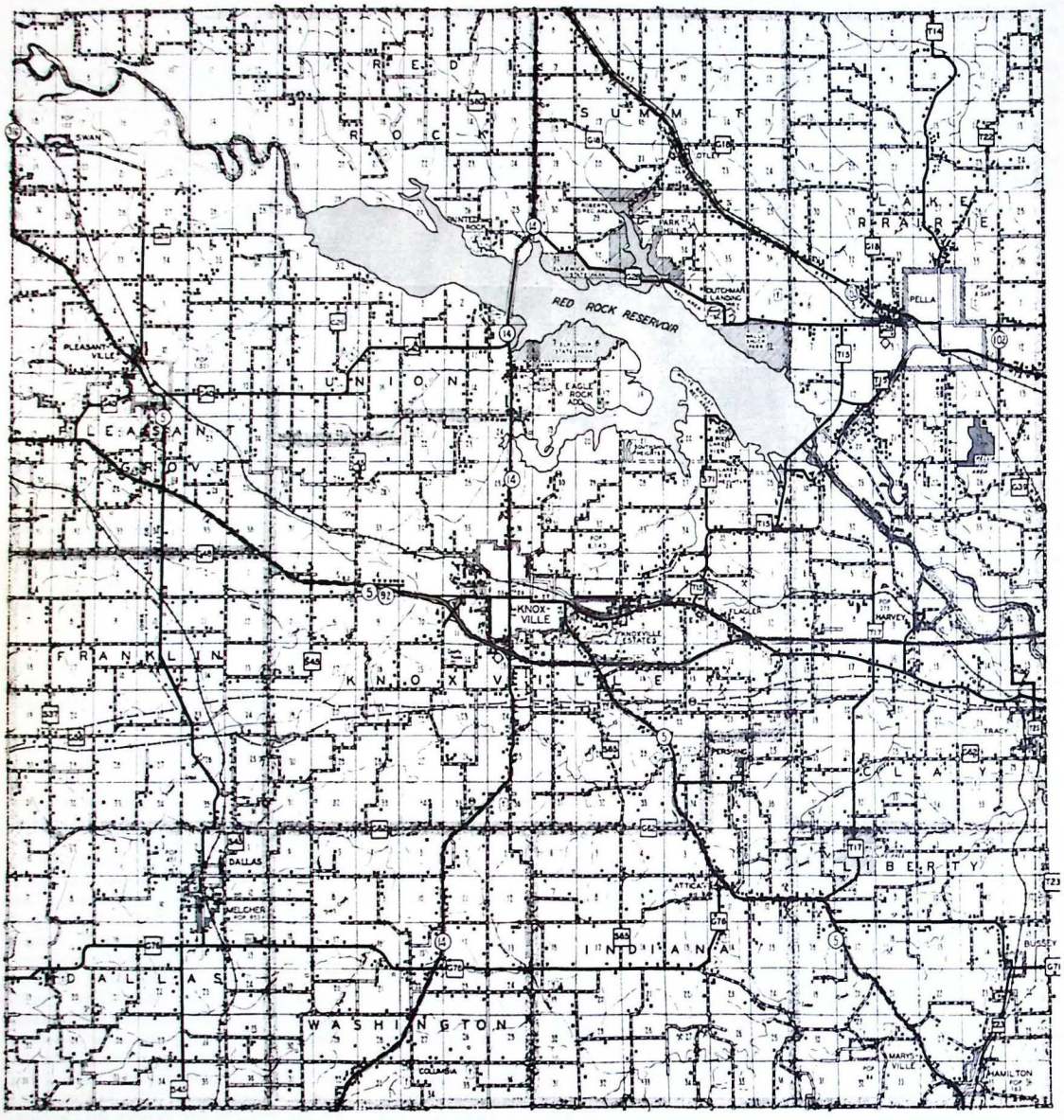
ED LECOCQ graciously gave us permission to use any of his drawings for the books and drew a wonderful cartoon especially for the history book. He has given the community a rich heritage in his drawings of the past and the present.

EMMA LOU HEUSINKVELD told us we would be able to use any portions of her *Pella School History 1847–1980.* We used the vast research she had done for that publication and quote from it at great length.

We hesitate to list every person who helped in various categories fearing we will leave out some person who contributed. We will not list authors who wrote stories as that is a long, long list. We hope they will be gratified by seeing their stories in print.

A few names we just must include for contributions of many kinds are: Louise Hallenbeck, Dena VerSteeg, Catherine Vander Wiel, Mary Kuyper, Val Van Kooten, Jean Thomasson, Harriet Heusinkveld, Frances and Jennette Huyser, Ray and Gretta Mount, Art and Lucille Tysseling, Elsie and Fred Whalley; all proofers. Also Carol Vander Ploeg, Shirely Weller and Dana Blom-Sadler, processors. Other very important assistants were Hester Vande Gaard of Orange City, Ia., Nellie Schryvers-Seegrist of Virginia, Ken Vandevoort of Omaha, Neb., Jo Harmeling, Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Van Hemert, the Carnegie-Viersen Librarians, Tena Frederick, Dean Sadler, Mari Savery, Wilma Vanden Oever, Henry VandeKieft, Les W. Sadler, Bob Klein, Ralph J. Kuiper, Lloyd and Nola Vander Streek, Loren Vander Zyl, Robert C. Van Vark, Carol VanDusseldorp, V. Van Vark, Margaret Hoeksema, Walt Roorda, Jay DeYoung, Warren Schreiner, John Smalley, Sara Caldwell, and Madeline Vander Zyl.

Filler pictures from *Festival* produced by Pella Historical Society and Dutch Nursery Rhymes illustrations by Wilma Hadley; text translations by Elizabeth Kempkes.



Map of Marion County, Iowa

History of Pella, Iowa 1847–1987

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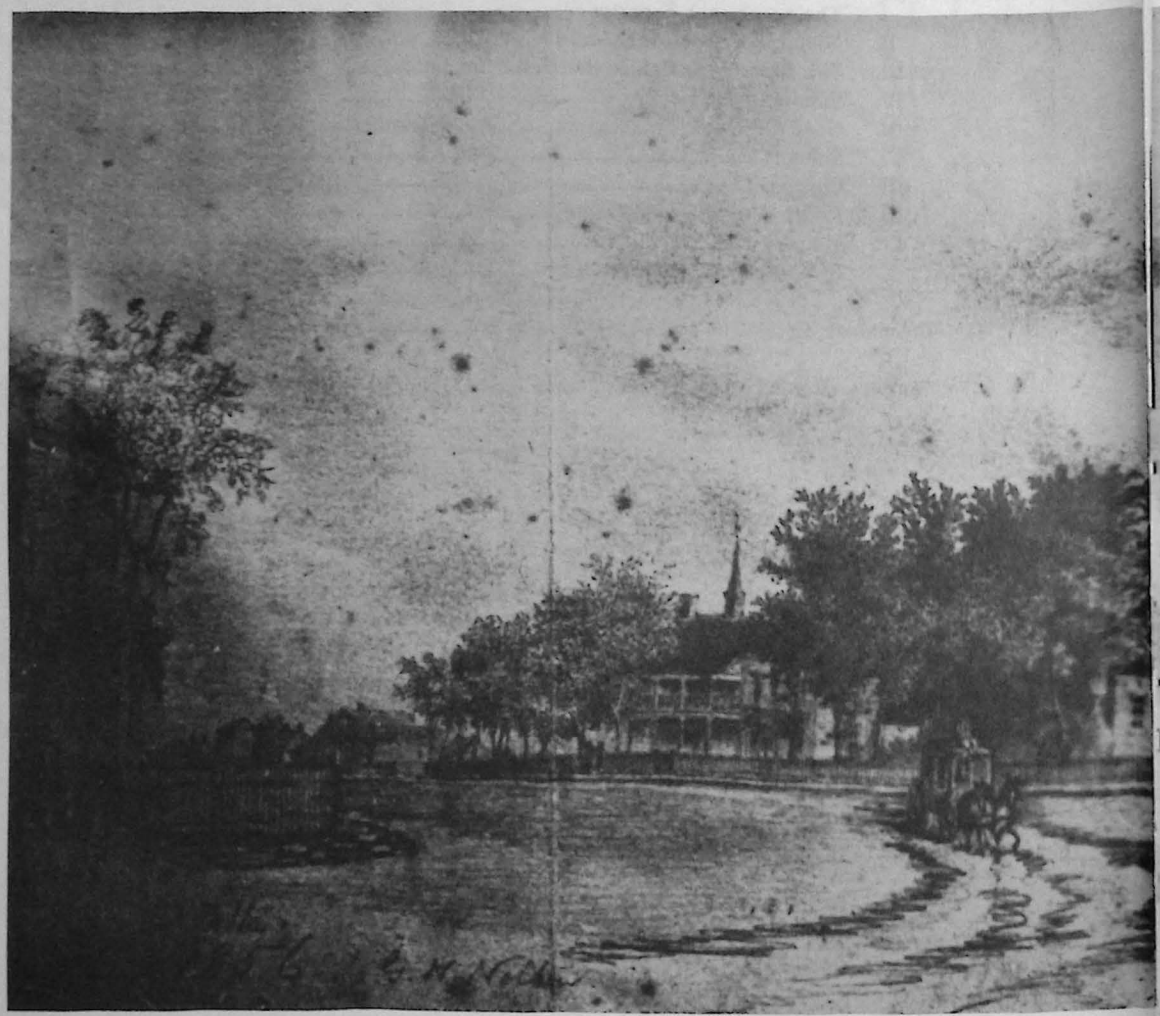
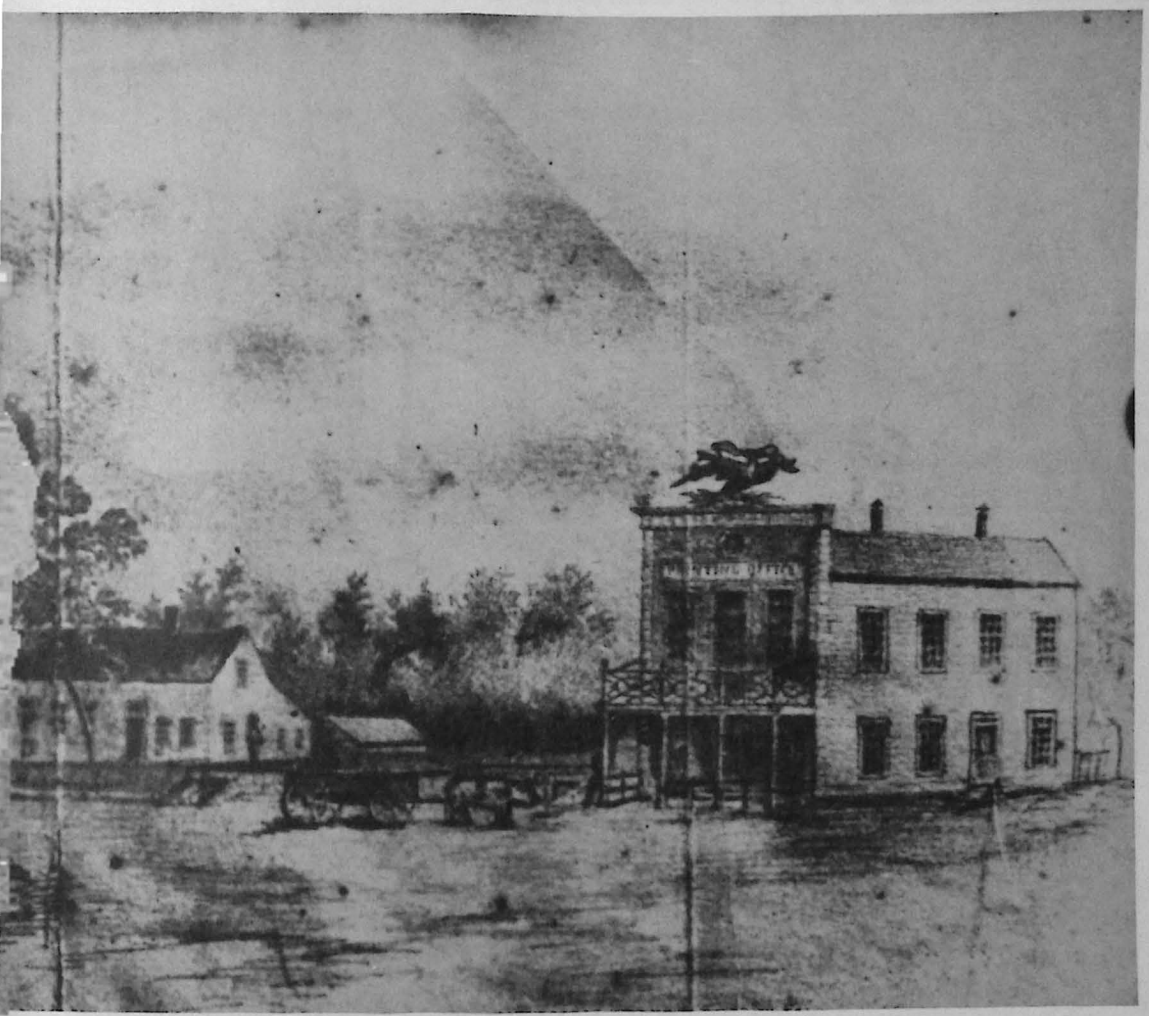


HISTORY OF PELLA, IOWA



Taken from a painting entitled "Pella, 1856" by G. H. Nollen. The north side of the square is depicted.

I.

THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE

DE EERSTE STEM

T1

(The First Letter)

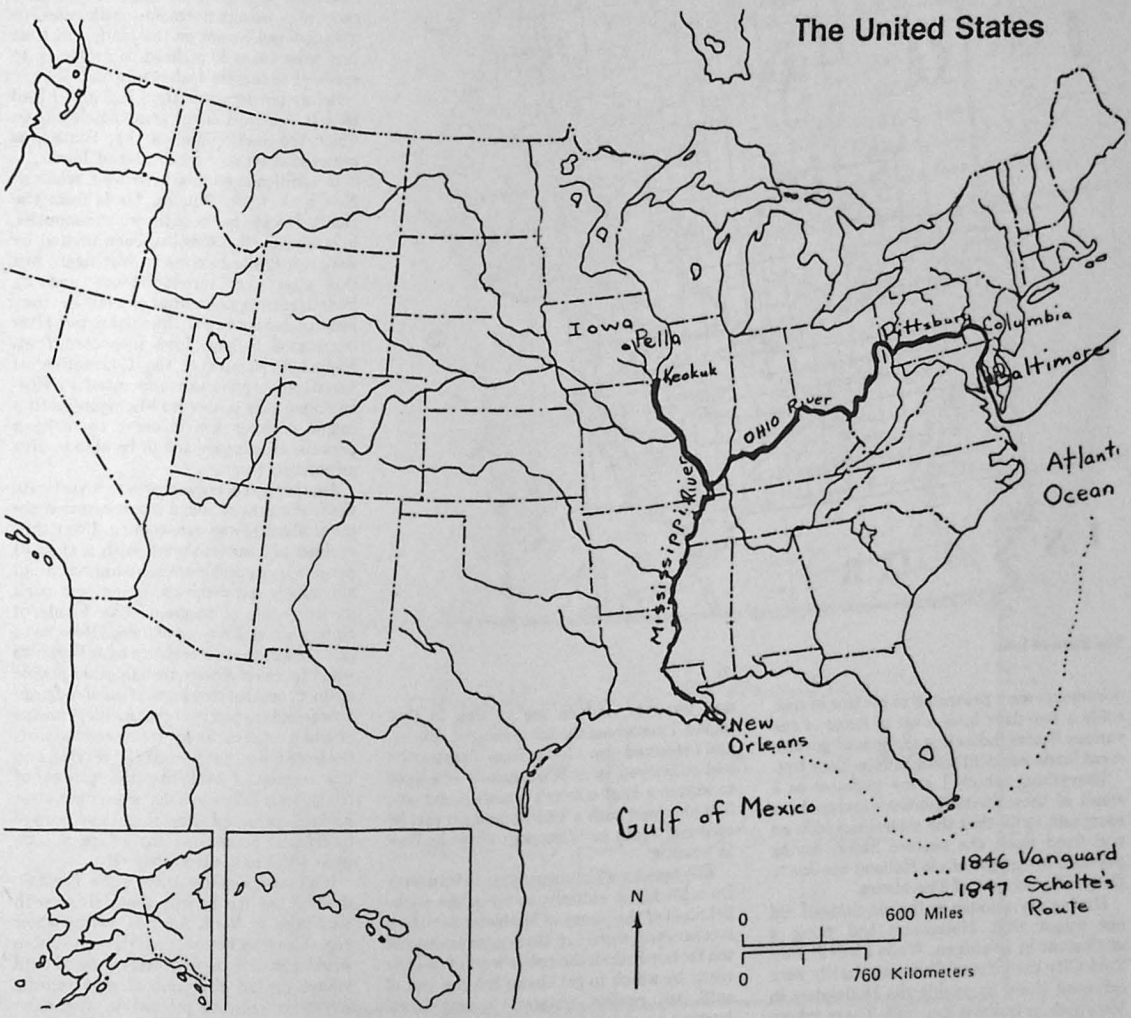
The following text contains Scholte's first letter to his homeland. It was translated by the late Jacob Van Der Zee, and was previously published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics.*

"Numerous former fellow-countrymen of mine must have long ago have expected some article from my pen.

The reason for my silence hitherto lies not in any indifference toward the land of my birth; for during my domicile in the United States of North America I followed as closely as possible the fortunes of The Netherlands. It pained me to hear that affairs after my departure were so conducted that the blood of citizens had to be poured out, due not to differences with foreign potentates but to civil dissensions. Just as little must the reason for my silence be sought in dissatisfaction arising from my past experience. With grateful acknowledgment of God's good hand over me for the unusual honor which has come to me in my new country, I have sincerely forgiven the land of my birth for the unjust treatment meted out to me in various ways. The reason for my silence hitherto is that I did not like to trouble my former fellow-countrymen with matters which they can read in every book on America, and I did not care to tell them facts which in themselves are of trifling importance but when colored a little have a certain charm for the minds of men. I believe I have become well enough acquainted with human nature to know how little it takes to portray a situation in light wholly different from the real, and I am convinced of having so much regard for my fellowmen that I do not wish to be instrumental in deluding them in any way.

As soon as I arrived in the United States . . . I took pains to secure all possible information, useful and necessary for our colonization. The rumor of our coming had preceded me; and hardly had I reached America when I was stormed from various sides with offers of land so tempting that I am not surprised when foreigners who come here unprepared fall into the snare set for them by some land speculator. For the sake of our future peace of mind I took the trouble to investigate as accurately as possible the opportunities presented to me in various states.

Since the door to different circles was opened to me by means of letters of recommendation from the North American Minister in Holland and by influential friends, whose acquaintance I had previously made, I had abundant opportunity to obtain instruction in everything which I desired. At Washington, too, I found the higher government officials so ready and willing to help me in every way that I could hardly trust my own experience, and I was involuntarily driven to compare them with officials in Holland — a comparison which did not redound to the credit of the latter country. Not only did I not experience any gruffness, not only was no greedy hand anywhere extended, but with the greatest modesty and willingness in answering my questions of investigation printed



The United States, showing the Vanguard Route (1846) and Scholte's Route (1847).

The State of Iowa

documents were presented to me free of cost, while a few days later a set of maps of the various States indicating the unsold government lands was sent to me at New York free.

Everything which I came to know as a result of those investigations convinced me more and more that the attention which we had fixed upon the western States during previous investigations in Holland was due to the good guidance of Providence.

During my sojourn in the old States I did not forget that Hollanders had made a settlement in Michigan. While I was at New York City the gifts of Christian charity were collected there to enable the Hollanders in Michigan to build a saw-mill. These tokens of good-will toward the Dutch colonist did not, however, induce me to trek to that region. I perceived the same thing at Albany, and I received also a letter from Sleijster who had journeyed from Wisconsin to Michigan to examine that colony's situation and who had obtained such a bad impression that he returned again to Wisconsin where he lives at present.

The reasons which caused me to turn away from Michigan entirely, so far as the establishment of the colony of Netherlanders there is concerned, were: 1st, that region is situated too far north; 2nd, the entire want of suitable roads by which to get there; 3rd, the lack of sufficient prairie adapted to agriculture, because nearly all the land is covered with a heavy growth of timber; 4th, the proximity of the Indians and the distance from other settlements of whites. All these reasons taken together caused me to judge that for the class of Netherlanders, with whom I should colonize, that region could not be considered desirable.

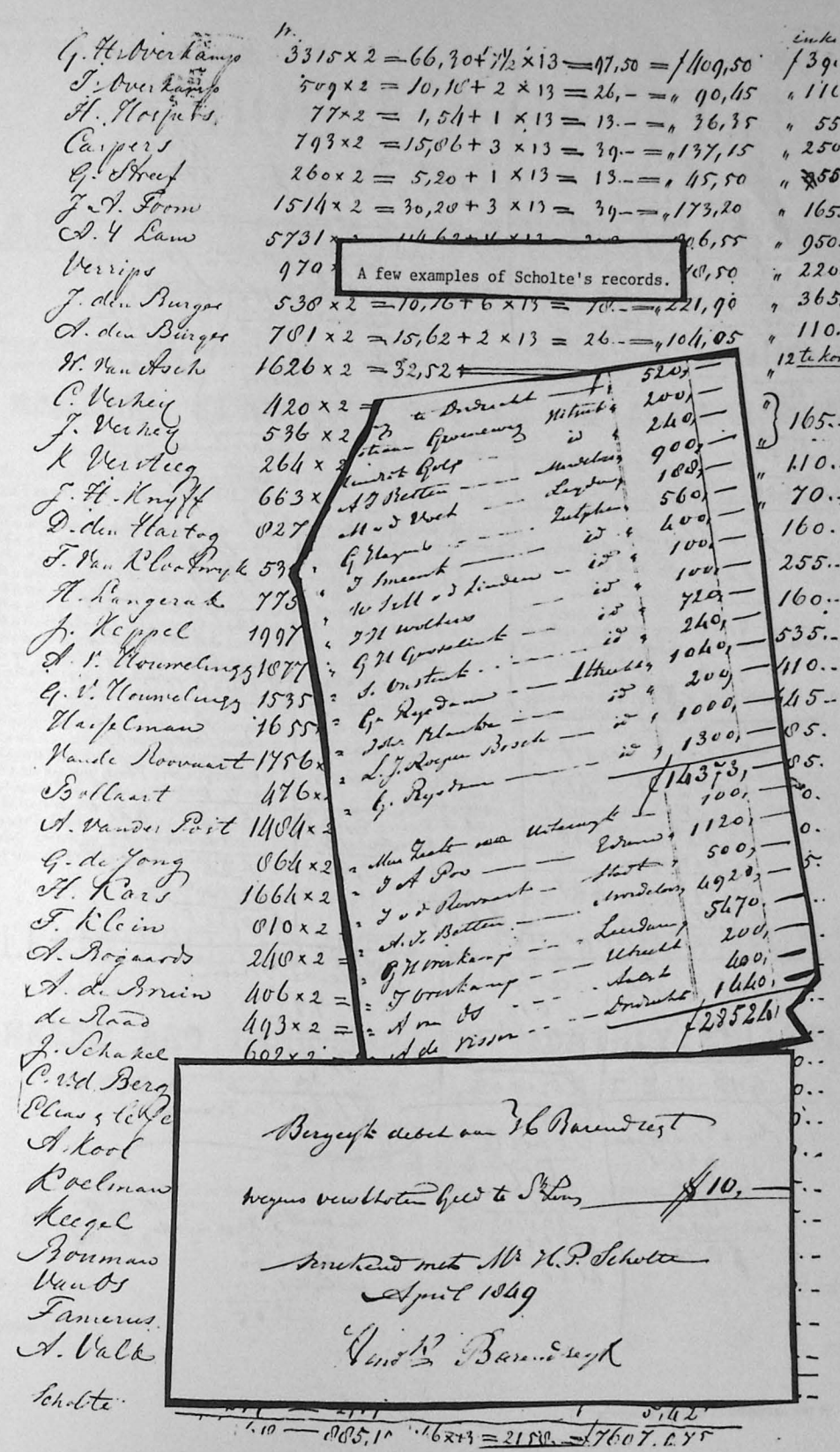
To the farmer who had already spent a part of his life in the level hay lands and fields of Holland, the unusual battle with trees and the constant view of stumps in the midst of meadows and cultivated fields could not be agreeable. Not to detract from Michigan's fertility, nor from the value of many kinds of wood, nor from the pleasure of hearing the warble of birds in the cool shade of virgin forests, I had, however, experienced enough of real life to know that stumps of trees are disagreeable obstacles to farmers, and that the value of wood decreases very much when everything is wood. Besides, I was too well convinced that the Hollanders who were coming to North America were more prosaic than poetic, and consequently they thought not so much of pleasing their eyes and ears as of buying soil suitable for farms, the easier to cultivate the better. I knew that the Dutch farmers, of whom our Association chiefly consisted, were especially eager to be able early to possess pastures and milk-cows, to use plow and harrow on the land, and that they were not at all inclined to prefer ax to spade or to become dealers in wood.

Before my departure from Holland I had read a published letter from Michigan in which the healthfulness of that State was reported as far superior to that of Iowa. . ..

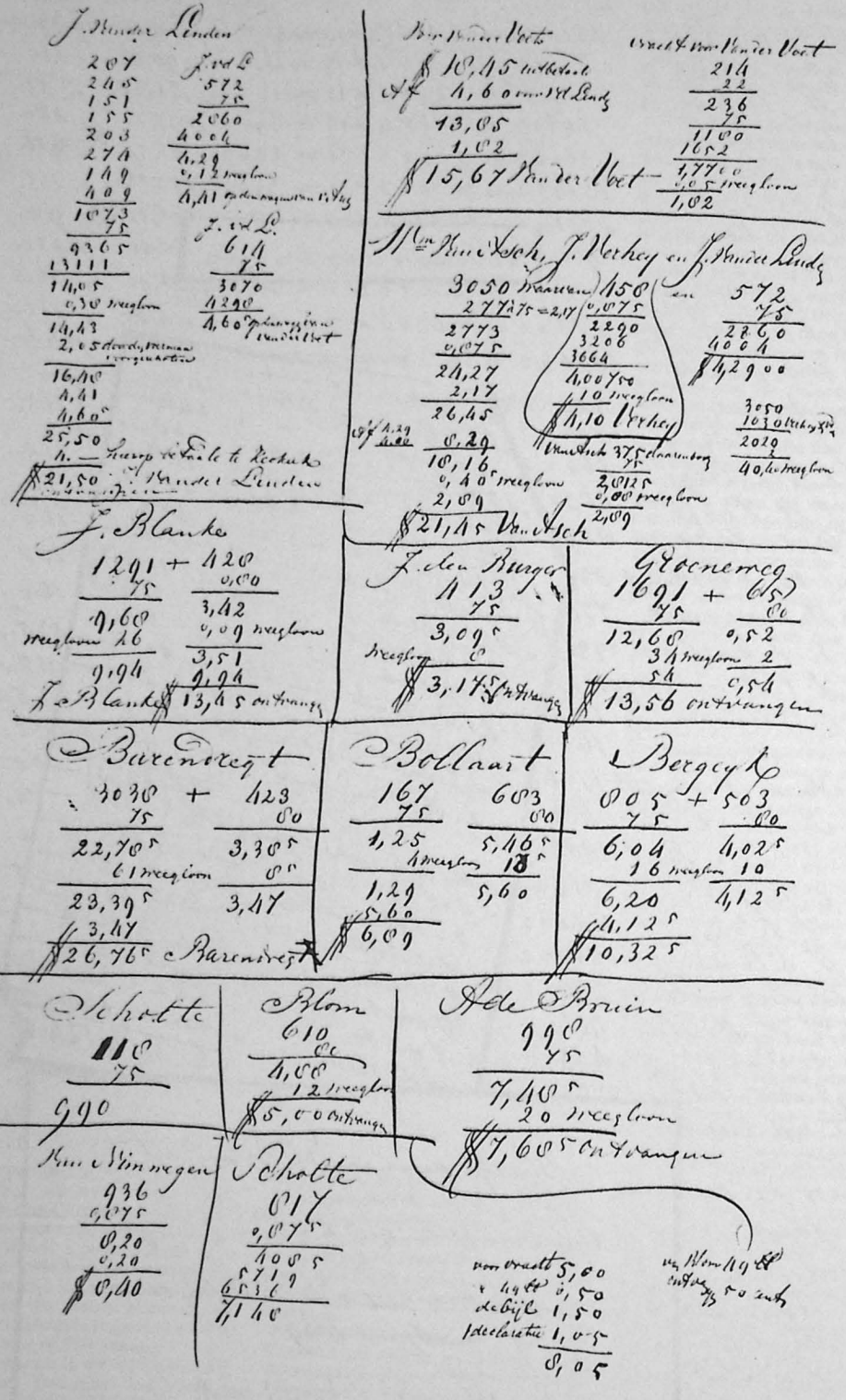
In addition to all this, I received, while at New York, letters from St. Louis from the Hollanders who had been there some months, informing me that they had been invited by Rev. van Raalte to come to Michigan, but that after some correspondence and by investigating opportunities nearer by they had decided not to go to Michigan, but after our arrival to have Iowa inspected first. Keppel, a member of the Committee of Investigation previously appointed in Holland, had gone thither [to Michigan] with a couple of other men in order to make a personal examination and to be able to give an accurate report.

Another part of my work was to investigate the best means of inland transportation for the Hollanders who were coming. I was thus enabled to come into touch with a class of persons whom people are accustomed to call kidnappers and deceivers, who storm each incoming ship of emigrants like bands of hungry wolves. Everyone of them attempts to gain the foreigner's confidence by telling him with the utmost concern that all other people are liars, but that they know of good lodging-houses and can point out the cheapest means of transportation. Every transportation office has a few such way-men in its service, and this method of exploiting the purses of foreigners is so involved that even now, after having experienced everything, I can not yet confidently recommend any office as one upon which people can safely rely.

If all foreigners who arrive knew English, if they had familiarized themselves with conditions in North America before their departure from Europe, then the safest plan would certainly be that everybody should inform himself of steamboat and railway service in order to proceed in the most advantageous manner. These kidnappers have become so accustomed during recent



A few examples of Scholte's records.



A few examples of Scholte's records

HENRY P. SCHOLTE. EDWIN H. GRANT.

SCHOLTE & GRANT,

BANKERS,

LAND, INSURANCE AND GENERAL AGENTS,

PELLA, MARION COUNTY, IOWA.

THE UNDERSIGNED have established an Office in the North West Corner of Garden Square, where we will attend to all business connected with a general

BANKING, EXCHANGE, AGENCY OR COMMISSION,

On the most favorable and accommodating terms.

We will collect Notes and Bills in all parts of the State, and remit proceeds at Current Rates of Exchange.

To FARMERS and persons residing in the country, we offer the EXTRA inducement of ten per cent interest on special deposits for six months or over.

We wil buy and sell sight and time Bills of Exchange, Domestic and Foreign.

We will furnish Bills of Exchange on all the principal cities in Europe—£1 and upwards.

We will buy and sell Land Warrants, or locate them on time.

We will discount Short Time Notes, and lend Money on undoubted Security.

We will buy and sell Current Money, Gold and Silver, and Foreign Coin.

We will pay Taxes for resident or non-resident Proprietors, in any County of the State.

We will make cash advances upon pledge of Deed or Mortgage, to unincumbered real estate, in city or country; or upon good notes.

We have twenty or thirty thousand acres of choice Lands for sale, mostly in the Ft. Des Moines Land District, a partial list of which we publish in the Pella Gazette, and Bankers' and Land Agents' Monthly Bulletin.

Valuable City Lots, and Houses and Lots for sale or rent.

We solicit foreign capital for investment, our facilities enabling us to do it profitably and securely. Remittances to us can be made by depositing the money in any good Bank to our credit, and forwarding us the certificates of deposit.

We attend to all Legal business, administrate estates of deceased persons, and draw up all kinds of Legal instruments, such as powers of attorney, deeds, bonds and mortgages.

Notarial acknowledgements also affixed to all such instruments.

We are General Agents for the purchase of Government, De Moine River and Swamp Lands, and for the purchase and sale of second hand Real Estate of all kinds. We are also Agents for United States Fire Insurance Company of New York City, and for Iowa State Fire Insurance Company, of Keokuk. Also for Coopers' & Clark's Steam Engine Manufactory, of Mt. Vernon, Ohio: for Manny's Reapers and Mowers; for Hendrie's Threshing Machines, and for Agricultural Machinery generally.

Also Agents for Ambrose Foster's Patent Brick, for Southern and Western portions of the State, and sole Proprietors of Rights for the Counties of Marion and Mahaska.

EDITORS AND PROPRIETORS OF THE

WEEKLY PELLA GAZETTE, $2 A YEAR IN ADVANCE

AND OF

BANKERS' AND LAND AGENTS' MONTHLY BULLETIN,

BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.

— REFERENCES —

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JOHN THOMPSON, Esq., Banker, do.
Ex-Gov. SEYMOUR do.
Hon. G. W. JONES, United States Senate,
Hon. JAMES HARLAN, " "

CHARLES PARSONS, Esq., Banker, Keokuk, Iowa.
Messrs. E. W. CLARK & BROS., " St. Louis, Mo.
" DARBY & BARKSDALE " "
" HOYT SHERMAN & CO., Ft. Des Moines, Iowa.
" McKAY & JUDD "

Scholte's business ad

The Town of Pella is located in Section 5 & 10, Township 79 Range 18 and is one Mile Square; situated on an eminence which can be seen for several miles, on the great thoroughfare from Keokuk, Burlington and Muscatine to Fort Des Moines and Council Bluffs. Pella is only Two Miles and a half from the Des Moines River where Amsterdam is located, which is the landing place for Steamboats for the surrounding Country.

Grave Yard

Extension Street.

Addition Street.

Columbus Street

Washington Street

Franklin Street

Liberty Street

Union Street

Independence Street

Peace Street

South End Street

Benton Av. Boone Av. Marion Av. Skunk Av. Clay Av. Webster Av. Depot Av. Houston Av. Bell Av. Keokuk Av. Burlington Av. Muscatine Av. Davenport Av.

Grand Av.

Accomplishment Av. 9. Expectation Av. 8. Confidence Av. 7. Patience Av.

West Market Square 36

Garden 26 Square

East Market Square 45

6. Experience Av. 5. Gratitude Av. 4. Reformation Av. 3. Perseverance Av. 2. Inquiring Av. 1. Entrance Av.

Central University of Iowa.

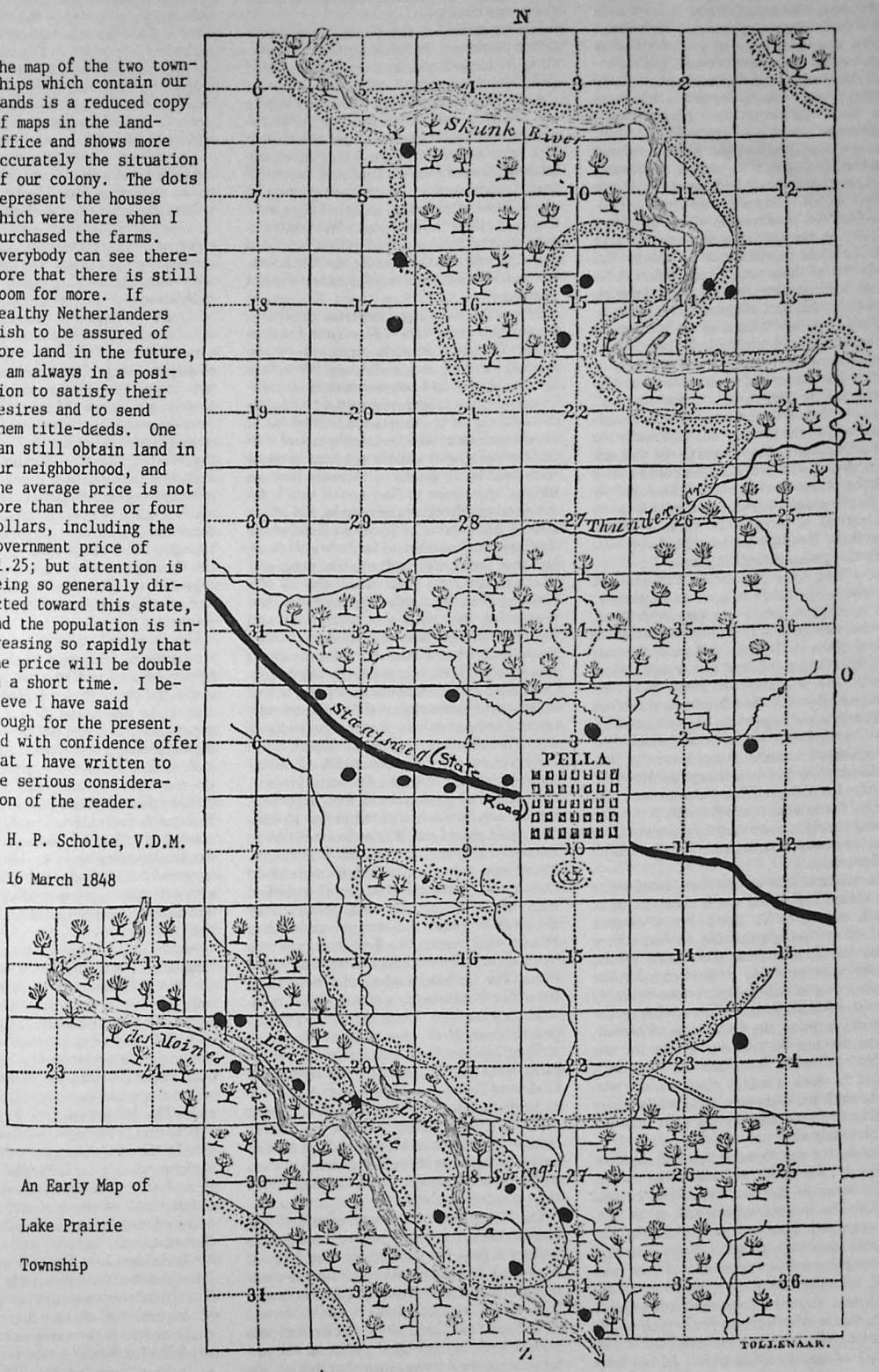
Plan of Pella

Township 76 en 77, Range 18 North.

The map of the two townships which contain our lands is a reduced copy of maps in the land-office and shows more accurately the situation of our colony. The dots represent the houses which were here when I purchased the farms. Everybody can see therefore that there is still room for more. If wealthy Netherlanders wish to be assured of more land in the future, I am always in a position to satisfy their desires and to send them title-deeds. One can still obtain land in our neighborhood, and the average price is not more than three or four dollars, including the Government price of $1.25; but attention is being so generally directed toward this state, and the population is increasing so rapidly that the price will be double in a short time. I believe I have said enough for the present, and with confidence offer what I have written to the serious consideration of the reader.

H. P. Scholte, V.D.M.

16 March 1848



An Early Map of Lake Prairie Township

years to see incoming ships filled with half-starved Irishmen or ill-smelling Germans that the rumor of the coming of so many Hollanders, who were bringing some money and a fairly cleanly appearance with them, goaded their zeal anew to give chase after what people here have already quite generally learned to call "willempjes". Gold 10 Gulden pieces. Among the ship's assistants who were interested in the oncoming "willempjes" were also several Hollanders, Jews as well as Gentiles, who were acquainted with the relatives and circumstances of some of whose coming they had heard, obviously obliged by allies equally concerned in Holland. One can form no idea of this branch of industry at the sea-ports and especially at New York; one should almost be able to read the hearts of these men if one wishes to be secure from paying toll in some form or another to this host of unofficial officers.

What I learned to know of the busy world in the ports, and particularly New York, compelled me to recognize the necessity of waiting for the arrival of our ships but also caused me to long ardently for the glad tidings of their arrival, when I should be able to proceed on the journey inland. Finally the glad tidings were telegraphed to me that one of our ships had reached Baltimore and later that the others were in sight. I hastened by rail to the place where I could rejoice in the safe arrival of those with whom I should henceforth live in common. St. Louis was made the general meeting place.

In a long time Americans had seen no foreigners who made so good an impression and brought so much property with them. Various newspapers spread the report of the arrival of the Hollanders, and some accounts were so exaggerated that one would almost believe the treasures of Peru had been transported to the New World in the boxes and baskets and bags of the people come from The Netherlands — a belief which was strengthened in many places since the Hollanders usually had to exchange gold in order to pay for things. This circumstance has created for us what is called credit, but it also caused people in some cases to charge us more than they were accustomed to take from Irish or Germans.

Packed into railway carriages, canal-boats and steam-boats, the whole Association at length arrived at St. Louis. For so large a number not enough suitable dwellings were to be found, and those who could get no houses were provided with sheds, for the construction of which space was willingly offered. After a brief breathing-spell from the fatiguing journey, the Committee of Investigation set out to look for a site for the settlement, while everyone at St. Louis looked for work, a search wherein some who like to work were very successful, while others were less fortunate in finding what they did not seriously seek.

During the sea voyage a few had died, on land only four so far as I remember. At St. Louis, however, the number of deaths was greater. The unusual experiences of the trip, the cramped quarters at St. Louis, the extraordinary heat in that daily growing city, the irregular and careless use of food and drink, and the disregard by some of Dutch cleanliness caused illness and consequent death. Some who were not very sick at St. Louis or had partially recovered had to pay the toll of nature after arrival in our new settlement. Without judging those who departed this life, we can sincerely say of some that they died as Christians and testified that death was their gain.

Having arrived at this point, I must cast a glance backward to what surpasses everything in importance, namely, religious and social life.

At Boston I stopped but a few days to give my family a rest from the very tiresome voyage. Particular persons I did not visit in that city; those in whom I was especially interested were absent. I quickly perceived that Americans were very much concerned about Dutch emigration and that they were frank in their friendliness. But common religious ties I did not find in that capital of American rationalism, while the Christians whose addresses I had were away traveling at that time.

After a few days' rest I departed to Albany, the capital of the State of New York. I at once found Christian friends, apprised of my arrival, awaiting me, and I was taken to a hotel such as I had not met with in Europe. The first thing to attract my attention in the rooms assigned to me was the printed list of hotel regulations and therein the notice that each evening at 9 o'clock religious services were held by all guests in common. It was a unique experience to find myself in a hotel where strong drink was never sold, and where also a great number of the guests finished the day listening together to God's Word, praising the Lord with enthusiastic song and thanking God on their knees for all His blessings, humbly confessing their sins, and beseeching that their sins be forgiven and cleansed in the beloved blood of Christ. Sometimes when a minister was present, he was asked to lead, but ordinarily the respectable head of the house did so. My stay at this hotel was so pleasant that all the guests really seemed to be members of one large family. If any Christian ever comes to Albany from Holland and desires respectable Christian lodging, let him to to the Delavane House.

At Albany I quickly found Rev. Wyckhoff, a man very much interested in the Hollanders, who placed me at once in a position to preach the gospel in my mother tongue. There were many in the city who understood Dutch, but beside these the church was filled with other inhabitants who, though they themselves could no longer understand Dutch, still remembered that it was the language of the founders of this city and State. The Christians who had arrived there from The Netherlands a month before rejoiced to hear the Word of God publicly preached in their own tongue. It was a striking incident that while in the land of my birth most public places for the worship of God were closed to me, and even those who in their homes called me brother in Christ would not have dared to allow me to take charge of services in their churches, here in a strange land one of my first experiences was to be urged to preach God's Word in one of the principal churches.

On this occasion I preached about the parable of the ten virgins, and so far as human judgment goes, not without blessing, Later at New York I was invited several time to come preach once more at Albany. Circumstances, however, did not permit me to do this. In and near New York City, where dwell many who understand Dutch well, I preached for various ministers in numerous churches on the Sabbath day and during the week. Had I not been tied to our Association, I certainly could not have withstood the pressure of persons who urged me to stay in the State of New York and once more to hold regular services in the Dutch language. At Pittsburg too I had the opportunity to preach God's Word in our language when I happened to be there one Sunday with a part of our Association, and there too one of the ministers was ready to make room for me.

Everywhere among the Christians of America I met with a hearty, lively interest in the emigration from The Netherlands. I believe that in general they cherish a too lofty opinion of us. In their conversation and newspapers we are represented as resembling the God-fearing Pilgrims who first settled in the United States. They regard our coming to this land of civil and religious liberty as one of God's blessings on their country. Our settlement in the West they regard as a beneficient act of Providence to spread the saving knowledge of the gospel among people who belong to no religious sect at all, since they do not believe and they seldom if ever hear the preaching of the gospel. They regard us as a banner to be raised by God's Spirit in the West against the ubiquitous, insidious ambassadors of popedom. Oftentimes a sense of shame and embarrassment comes over me when I stop to look at myself and our Association, and then consider the high thoughts which people entertain of us: while the Germans who come here are less highly regarded, the Hollanders are held in honor and are often placed on an equality with the Americans.

One sees and hears of such favorable treatment of Hollanders not only at the hands of individual Christians and Christian circles but also at the hands of State officials and State Assemblies. I myself had an experience of this sort at Albany, where the legislature had just convened and I wished to look on for a moment. Recognized by one of the members, I was compelled to take a seat in the midst of them. How different from Holland! In the land of our birth branded and treated as a despised congregation, misunderstood by everyone, shoved aside, trampled upon and bruised; in the land of strangers and above all in its most respectable part honored and treated as a costly gift of God to improve their country!

At St. Louis where people do not know our language, where they once hardly ever thought of Hollanders, they have the same impression of us, the same respect for us. So long as the Dutch Christians remained in this city a Presbyterian congregation allowed them to make regular use of a large room for Sunday services, with heat in the winter and without cost, and they even helped our needy sick. The Hollanders have had the same experiences in Michigan and also in Wisconsin. In the latter State we recently had a striking example: on Lake Michigan, which is especially dangerous to navigate in the autumn and winter, a steamboat disaster occurred, and besides a few Americans and Germans, one hundred and twenty-five Netherlanders from Upper Gelderland and Overijssel lost their lives. Only twenty-five Netherlanders were saved and set on shore at Sheboygan, but all that they owned was swallowed up in the waves. Immediately on the following Sunday a collection was taken up in the various churches of Milwaukee for

the surviving Netherlanders.

In this way America speaks and thinks of Hollanders, in this way America treats the Hollanders who were so oppressed in their native land in matters civil and religious that they were forced to leave. That God has done for us. If we must answer the question: what are we doing for God, then shame and humiliation join within us; for since we ought to shine as lights in the world, some would surely have to admit on meeting God: "our lamps are going out."

During my investigations in the old States I frequently heard the remark that it would be extremely difficult to find unsold lands suitable for us, unless we were willing to be cut off from intercourse with all human beings except the Indians. The latter experience none of us desired, and the truth of the former statement became more and more clear to us. There are extensive unoccupied areas in Iowa and Illinois, but removed from wood and water and therefore certainly not to be chosen for a young colony of people who are entire strangers to this country.

Leaving St. Louis the Committee of Investigation went first to inspect the State of Iowa, and in case nothing desirable was to be found there they intended to go to northern Illinois. The first land to be examined in Iowa, and the nearest to St. Louis, was the district which is called The Half-Breed Tract, once set aside as a reservation for Indians, who later sold out not to the Government but to private persons. A company at New York owns a great portion of this tract, and while I was at New York I held a conference with the principal owners. There I obtained some impressions unfavorable, not to the land, which is good, but to the people living on it. Having made an accurate investigation in Iowa, it became clear to us that a purchase in this region was very dangerous because lawsuits were constantly brought to quiet title; while so many people lived there without being owners of the land that it was far from our thoughts to buy them out.

Now our path lay to the nearest land-office where unsold government land can still be bought for the fixed price of $1.25 an acre. Among several letters of recommendation for various places in Iowa and Illinois I had one addressed to General van Antwerp, Receiver of Public Lands at Fairfield. With the greatest good-will he showed me all maps of the State to indicate to me what land in the State had not yet been paid for; but I was also informed that, as far westward as it was deemed advisable for us to go, the most important lands had been "claimed", that is to say, settled and cultivated by the first settlers who had employed all their time and money to bring the land under cultivation but had not yet saved enough to be able to pay the government for their "claims" (generally a half-section in area).

Since the right of these people is honored, it is almost impossible to buy such lands from the Government until one has satisfied the demands of the people themselves by buying them out. Only in such a district was a settlement possible for us: because, wherever the inhabitants had progressed so far as to be able to pay the government for their land, it was hardly to be expected that a more numerous population would make room for new-comers without demanding prices so high as to be out of all proportion to the means of an Association like ours.

Whither should we now direct our attention? The best and latest map of Iowa directed us no farther than Fairfield the place where we then were. I decided therefore to copy a list of various localities which we intended to inspect, and to copy my own map as accurately as possible from the government map. Besides, I had already asked the Receiver for a good guide and some one who could negotiate with the Americans for us. I was quite convinced that the site of our settlement was predestined. I saw no light, however, by which to find that site. Accordingly, I did what my hand found to do, namely, I set about to finish the map, and for that purpose I had to visit the land-office.

While my fellow-committeemen went to inspect the neighborhood of Fairfield in order to gain some information from this or that inhabitant, I went to work. It soon appeared that God had seen to it that I should need no map. On the day previous there had occurred the death of a child of the Register in whose house the land-office was. As I was going to work, preparations were made for the child's funeral. The Receiver, who happened to be there at that time also, invited me to follow the body to the grave. I complied with his request; and then it appeared that without human aid or deliberation a guide had been provided.

On the previous day, Sunday, I had been introduced to the Presbyterian minister at the place where religious services were held. This man said a prayer at the grave, and when the dust had been consigned back to earth and we were returning home, this minister made me acquainted with a person unfamiliar to me, who was introduced as the minister of the Baptists. Very quickly I entered into conversation with him, and when he heard who I was and what our object was, he told me that he had traversed this section of the State as a missionary for six years, and that he was convinced there were two districts which would suit us, if the few settlers would consent to sell out. I paid close attention to his story, and recognized the good hand of God. I asked him if he would serve us as a guide. He deemed this impossible because he was under obligation to preach at Fairfield the following Sunday, when the scattered members gathered together from the surrounding country.

Once having noted the hand of God I did not let loose, and after speaking with the other members of the Committee who shared my conviction I persuaded that minister to let us call upon his deacons; and having informed them of the case, they decided to write a letter at once to the nearest minister telling him that he should take charge of services on the following Sunday and that we would set out the following day. This we did, and by Thursday noon we were at the place where I now write, without a possibility of a rumor having preceded us. This was necessary in order that the settlers might not know our intentions and so be prepared to come to some agreement among themselves.

We began straightway with the man at whose house we had dinner at noon, and with him agreed upon the price of his farm, reserving the right to give him a definite answer not later than one o'clock Saturday, because we wanted to be assured of the other farms first. He gave us a short list of the various settlers, and by constant riding, before darkness set in, we had everybody's promise to sell at a stipulated price. Some whom we did not well trust were bound by cash payments in the presence of witnesses. Our work, however, was now but half done, for we had to have access to the Des Moines River also.

Early Friday morning we rode thither. There, too, the settlers were not informed, and after coming to terms with each one separately by evening we had bound all of them till Monday. Saturday we appeared at the appointed time and place, when written contracts to be executed within one month's time were signed by them as sellers and by me as purchaser. To accomplish this, however, I had to purchase also the growing crops, the stock belonging to the various farms, and other personal property. I had no authority to do this, and the money invested was not nearly sufficient for the purpose; but mindful of the Lord's guidance, perceiving the excellent situation and exceptional fertility of the soil and the facility of cultivation, I did not hesitate to buy on my own responsibility.

On Sunday I heard two excellent sermons by our guide and mediator; on Monday we signed contracts with settlers near the river; and on Tuesday we commenced our journey back to St. Louis to convey the members of our Association the glad tidings that we had found a good place for our homes, and to make preparations for the departure of a first column.

Keppel, who was mentioned above, had returned from Michigan just before the Committee departed. He was at once appointed to accompany us; he too did not hesitate to acknowledge openly that we should regard the district now occupied by us as preferable to Michigan.

I am compelled to come back to Michigan since I notice that attempts are being made in The Netherlands to exalt this State and its Dutch Colony and to make them preferable to Iowa, not by simply furnishing facts but by giving false colors to affairs and conditions. As I said above, I have not been in Michigan but I have made inquiries, and I knew I could not go thither without also having to decide to direct those who were to follow me to go thither, and I have given the reasons why I had to give up Michigan. With regard to what I have written here, I refer the reader to the first appendix where he shall be able to find satisfactory evidence.

When the Committee arrived at St. Louis and announced the finding of a place, general rejoicing prevailed. The report of the purchase was quickly spread abroad by various newspapers, and I have not read a single article which did not speak favorably of our choice. It is the general opinion of Americans that we are established in one of the best parts of Iowa.

I unite herewith a small map of this State, a copy of a map drawn by order of the Government and, so far as I am acquainted with the land, a trustworthy map so far as the course of the rivers is concerned. I must add, however, that this map extends as far west as the land was then surveyed. Iowa's area extends twice as far westward now. The government surveys also extend farther. The site of the new capital, fifteen or seventeen miles northwest of us, is approximately the center of the State.

The first General Assembly chose a committee of three to choose a capital location and in Oct. 1847, they had found a new site

— Monroe City in Jasper County. Lots were laid out and sold and the three commissioners were sudden owners of thirty-eight most desirable lots. This became public scandal and the "paper city" called Monroe City faded as fast as it had been born.

[*Story of Iowa* William Peterson

In Jasper Co., the west half of sections three and ten, all of sections four, five, eight and nine in Congressional Township, 78 north in range 20 west of the 5th principal meridian and five miles west of the Skunk River and two miles southeast of the present town of Prairie City was laid out a tract two miles north and south, two and a half miles east and west and it was named "Monroe City". The act providing relocation was repealed in the Legislature in 1848 and the plat of Monroe City was vacated.

History of Iowa Gue

The selected land in Jasper Co. between the present towns of Prairie City and Monroe was named "Monroe City" on the plat. "Monroe City" is not to be confused with present-day Monroe.

In 1851 a bill was introduced in the House that the capital should be moved to Pella or Fort Des Moines. Both failed at that time but on Jan. 15, 1855, the Governor approved Fort Des Moines and thus it became the capital city of Des Moines.

In the book *Abandoned Towns, Villages and Post Offices of Iowa* is found the following: 'Monroe City. Located about midway between the towns of Prairie City and Monroe, partly in Des Moines and partly in Fairview Townships, and is now penetrated by the Des Moines Valley Branch of the C.R.I. and P. Ry. It was platted in 1847, the intention to being the capital of the state." And in addition, this information about Tool's Point. "Tool's Point was the name first given to the present town of Monroe . . . but the change was made a few years later to Monroe." This book was written by David C. Mott and is reprinted from *The Annals of Iowa* Vols. XVII and XVIII 1930-1932.

This editorial commentary is added to help clarify a portion of Scholte's *Eerste Stem* (First Letter) Murt Kooi]

The farms and government lands which were purchased lie in two townships, numbers seventy-six and seventy-seven. One was named Lake Prairie Township, after a small lake situated in it; the other was called Jefferson Township, after a leader in the war of independence. The former is traversed by the rivers Des Moines, and Skunk, while various creeks can be found containing living springs. The land is general rolling or undulating. The heaviest timber is to be found along the rivers, but from time to time one finds larger or smaller lots of trees, of which some may bear the name groves, while others are only clumps. The city is platted in the midst of prairie on one of the highest points, so that the houses can be seen about eighteen miles away in clear light. The farms are scattered over the entire plain, along and between both rivers. Along the rivers there is excellent opportunity to construct water-mills.

When the Des Moines River becomes navigable for ships and steamboats, the site of the little lake in Township Seventy-six will offer an inestimable opportunity for the erection of factories driven by water-power. There is also a sulphurous spring of especially good quality, which manifestly can be very useful in cases of sickness. At several places coal is to be found, of excellent quality, also lime and sandstone. The burnt lime is first-class. At a few places stones have been found which will apparently be good for mill stones, while in digging wells metals are found. In general, however, we can only say what can be found upon the surface; what still lies concealed in the earth's bosom the future will tell. Wherever wells existed or were dug we have excellent water. Some struck good water at a depth of twelve feet; others had to dig down about thirty feet.

The soil is suitable for all sorts of grain. On the farms we found exceptional summer and winter wheat, oats, buckwheat, flax, hemp and Indian corn, cabbage, turnips and onions of especially good quality, all sorts of potatoes and many kinds of melons which ripen upon the cold ground in the corn-fields here as well as they do in the hot-beds of Holland, not only the coarser but also the finer sorts. When the prairie is once broken the ground is easily tilled; in general it resembles rich, mellow, black garden soil. Tame or grafted fruit trees are not numerous, but in the groves wild fruit-trees are met with in profusion, as also grapes.

Livestock is of very good quality here, and was accustomed under former owners to run loose upon the prairie both winter and summer. It seemed to us, however, that it is preferable to stable stock in the winter time. The cows yield exceptionally rich milk, and we are already convinced that with proper care butter and cheese can be made which can compare with the best in Holland — something of incalculable value to this Colony, since the butter and cheese made by Americans in the West is generally bad and sometimes unfit for consumption. There were hogs in plenty upon the farms because they are regarded as a profitable investment: they roam in the woods all summer and are only driven home a few weeks before slaughter time, to be fattened with Indian corn which is raised upon the farms.

During the time that we have been here the needs of the colonists have been provided for. Some farmers have sold their hogs cleaned to be shipped away; at this moment others have about 25,000 pounds of ham and bacon and nearly 5,000 pounds of lard ready for shipment. If one stops to think that this section was first turned over by the Indians to Americans in May, 1844, and that the original settlers who are now bought out were people of little or no financial means, and if one takes note of the additional fact that there were farms which with the property on them were valued by their owners at from one to three thousand dollars, not counting the money which had to be paid to the State for the title, then one can judge for himself how excellent the colony's situation is.

The Netherlanders, however, have more needs than the Americans, and are of course unfamiliar with the conduct of affairs. The first American settlers, generally speaking, do very little to secure comfort in their houses, furniture, and clothing. In the fullest sense of the word they help themselves, as Netherlanders cannot. The Americans themselves produce many things which the Hollanders are accustomed to buy. The former not only make their own bread and all kinds of eatables from the products of their soil, but they also spin the wool of their sheep, they make their own linen and clothes, and thus progress without needing much money. Only when they get money into their hands by selling their claims do they begin to buy, and in that case they are generally very liberal in giving or paying.

The American people in general know how to make money, as is well known, but they are also inclined to be generous in giving it away. That economy which is sometimes called stinginess is not a reigning evil with them. They do not turn over a dime four times, as the saying goes in Holland, before spending it, and therefore they part with everything more quickly, sometimes too quickly for some Hollanders.

Access to our colony is very easy. We are about one hundred and twenty miles distant from Keokuk, which is the best landing-place if one comes from St. Louis or New Orleans. From St. Louis to Keokuk there is a regular steamboat service so that merchandise can be conveyed between these places for fifteen or twenty cents per one hundred pounds. The road from Keokuk to Pella runs upon a high prairie ridge, along which are located many small towns, most of them laid out in recent years. With the exception of the short period of time when the ground is soaked with rain, one finds this road easier for travel than the highways of Holland, and even in winter when the road is called bad here, it is better than many in The Netherlands. This may be shown by the fact that when I brought my family here from St. Louis during the latter part of November, I made the journey on this road, then considered very bad, in a very good two-horse carriage; and nowhere were we stopped at toll-gates to pay a tax levied upon us for road purposes. Under ordinary conditions we pay seventy-five cents for freight from her to Keokuk, occasionally one dollar, a few times, when hauling was most difficult, $1.12½.

After fixing the site of the new capital, talk of laying a railroad has become stronger, and it is certain that as the population of the more distant parts of the State increases such a railway would be finished in a few years, and from the lay of the land such a road must almost necessarily pass through our colony. The Des Moines Valley Railroad reached Pella in the fall of 1865. The Des Moines River, which also passed through our colony, they have already began to render navigable for ships and steam-boats; one-half of the distance to be made navigable has already been surveyed to fix the places where dams and sluices must be constructed. Prospects indicate, therefore, that after a few years the expense of transportation will be decreased and the means therefore will be facilitated.

A scholarly man living in this State, Professor Newhall, who is known in Europe by certain writings and by public lectures on America, is busy at present preparing for the press a small book on the Des Moines Valley, for which purpose he made a journey through this country last summer. He is the author of a story in one of the newspapers, which we insert as an appendix from which the reader can gather what the Americans think about the Hollanders.

Then, there is the additional circumstance that almost contemporary with our settlement here a State Commission appointed for the purpose selected the site for the new State capital fifteen or seventeen miles northwest of us; it appears now that the road to this new capital must necessarily pass through our colony. Furthermore there is now an agita-

tion for the construction of a railroad from Dubuque, one of the chief places of the lead-mine district in the north part of this State, to Council Bluffs, an important point on the Missouri River. If this railroad ever comes into existence it must pass either through or very near our colony — another avenue of transportation which would open a cheap and easy outlet for various products.

In addition to all this there is another circumstance which should not be allowed to pass by unnoticed. The present seat of justice of the county wherein our townships lie is Knoxville, about twelve miles from here on the other side of the Des Moines River. This place is deemed inconvenient for the county, and this winter an attempt was made by the inhabitants to have the county seat removed to this side by the river. The American people are quite generally convinced that the best situated place in the whole county would be in our townships, and for that reason I have received several requests to lay out a town near the river, where the river is easily forded, and to offer lots in that town for sale to the public, convinced that if the selection of a county seat ever comes to a vote the choice would undoubtedly fall on this place if I should meet the county half way by appropriating a site for the public buildings. It is not improbable that I shall decide to lay out such a town near the river, and that a survey in compliance with the law shall be begun within a few weeks.

I believe I have said enough about local affairs to place the Netherlander in a position to form a pretty accurate idea of the geographical location of Pella and surrounding country where a part of the Christians who emigrated from Holland live. Now a word as to the work that has been done.

The larger part of the Hollanders who sojourned at St. Louis took passage to Keokuk on a steamboat chartered for the purpose, and thence traveled by wagon and on foot to Pella. On Sunday, which we spent on the steamboat, the Word of God was preached to the assembled multitude, and in memory of God's goodness the history of Israel was recounted, showing how in return for fidelity to God and His service God's blessing is assured also in temporal affairs, and also how as a result of disloyalty to God even the most fruitful land can be turned into a desert. The rumor of the coming of the Hollanders to Keokuk had attracted a large concourse of curious people from various places, many also expecting to reap some profit, and I do not doubt that some succeeded in this when they sold certain articles.

At Keokuk an old man and a woman died, while a child which had died upon the steamboat was buried there. Besides this, we were pained when one who professed to be a Christian rendered himself guilty of drunkenness, and as a result he suffered such a bad fall that the effect is still visible, and alas! without causing him to acknowledge or confess his sin, so that the Christian congregation no longer recognizes him as a member. A heavy downpour of rain shortly after our arrival rendered the commencement of our journey in our new State no more agreeable, and did not add to the order in loading up our property or hasten our departure.

Human beings and freight arrived within a short time of one another. I had contracted with certain Americans for the completion of fifty log-cabins during my absence; but upon my arriving at the place I found nothing but a lot of boards which I had ordered at the same time. Of this lumber a few sheds were constructed as hastily as possible. Then the farms were vacated and a settlement was made with the Americans. As fast as the farms were vacated, I had a few families take possession in order to look after the live-stock and crops. During that time the county surveyor laid out the middle portion of the city, so that those who wished to build might go to work as soon as possible. We offer the official description as an apprentice.

After the farms were vacated, they were apportioned among the Netherlanders who wanted to take possession. Since the Association had not assumed the burden of the entire expense incurred in the purchase of the farms and other property, this became my own personal affair. Meantime a competent surveyor commenced a survey and description of all the land that was purchased, in order that the division might take place in proportion to the amounts of money subscribed. I saw to it that the Government was paid in order to be assured of the title to the claims as protection against possible and partly apparent intrigues of deceitful speculators.

Meanwhile I calculated how much the land cost per acre, purchase money and Government price, and then I calculated how much land each one should have as his share; then lots were drawn to fix the order of the owners and to fix the numbers of the sections in which they should settle, whereupon the surveyor had to proceed to divide the land according to the share which fell to each one's lot. That survey will be completed this week. According to the provision that the lots drawn by those who had already come to Pella were to be surveyed and numbered first, these men were helped at once. All vacant farm houses not otherwise occupied were temporarily assigned to the use of some families, while the rest constructed temporary dwellings for the winter.

From time to time new accessions of persons arrived from St. Louis, and as fast as suitable lumber could be obtained from neighboring saw-mills, the construction of buildings was begun in the city and on some of the farms. Moreover, there was abundant work attending to crops in the fields and caring for livestock. Some people were quickly engaged in the making of butter and cheese, in sowing winter wheat and preparing barns for stock. The need of lime and brick compelled me to decide to begin a brick-kiln and try to build a lime-kiln. The inexperience of our workmen in this kind of work made the brick and lime expensive; the quality of this burnt lime is so excellent, however, that our masons aver that they can accomplish as much with one bushel of lime here as with three in Holland. The difficulty of getting sufficient sawed lumber and the inconvenient situation of the nearest saw-mills forced me quickly to recognize the need of a good saw-mill, and when a competent American mill constructor appeared I was persuaded to erect a good water-mill on the Skunk River. This work is now so far completed that we expect to be able to saw in April, as the necessary machinery is already on the way.

The river dam is so constructed as to enable us to use all the water-power, and if my money does not run out, after the saw-mill is working, a corn-mill can at once be placed next to it. There will be no lack of coal, as soon as I shall be in a position to present the mines to suitable persons who understand mining.

The ordinary day's wages for laborers is fifty cents, for artisans one dollar. In general the Hollanders know very well how to receive American wages; some are not ready to acquire the American habit, i.e., to work fast. A few, who do not care for work and imagine that people can get a living in America without exertion, find themselves badly deceived, since here too God's universally established rule applies: "In the sweat of thy brow shall thou eat they bread."

Four men returned from here to St. Louis, men of whose wrong principles people here are generally convinced. Two of them, after gadding about for some time and molesting the colony, ended by entering the military service in Mexico. A few other persons, who seem to have thought that by means of a magic wand they could cause suitable houses to rise up out of the ground just as in fairy tales, complained of the hardships, as the people of The Netherlands may have noticed in their newspapers; but these persons have already expressed their grief for being so obstinate, and now entertain contrary opinions. Some now own land and stock, but their quantity of money has diminished so that they shall have to learn for the first time how to succeed in the American way, i.e., to do much with little money. Whether this art can be learned quickly and well, the future will tell.

With regard to our social condition the following is to be noticed. Immediately after our arrival, we wished to have it known that we intended to reside permanently in this State. When we had requested the proper State official to come into our midst so that all of us would not need to journey to the county seat, and when this officer had willingly acquiesced, we declared our intention to become citizens of the United States of North America, so that our relation as subjects of William II came to an end once for all. We append a description of an American who was present on that day. This hasty manifestation of our readiness to be incorporated into the American people made a good impression. Let one incident be given to show the attitude toward our colony.

According to the laws of America one must live in the country five years to be qualified for citizenship, to be able to vote on State matters and to be qualified to hold any office or government post. As a result we should for a long time have been deprived of our own township government, something which would have caused many difficulties in daily transactions and the administration of justice.

Since a special session of the legislature was to be held in January, in company with the other members of the Association's Council appointed in Holland, I prepared a petition to that body, requesting the legal union of the two townships into one with the name of Lake Prairie Township, and furthermore requesting the privilege that the inhabitants who had declared their intention to become citizens be allowed to vote as citizens for township officers and to be elective to offices established by law. When this request had been presented to the Senate, a bill on the subject was at once read three times and unanimously adopted. This same thing happened in the House of Representatives, and so this became a State law. Accordingly,

on the first Monday in April the legal election of township officers will take place so that we shall have law administered by justices of the peace, local township government, public instruction, and public care of the poor, so far as this is not a church affair, and to such an extent we shall stand on a par with American citizens.

How different this is from our condition in Holland. I need not point out to anyone who remembers how we were treated as people who should be denied everything and be kept out of all positions; while here the various parties in the State unite to assure us that they prize our presence among them and that they will grant us as many privileges as possible without breaking the Constitution. May the people's representatives in Holland upon hearing this feel ashamed, and may the Dutch Government in general recognize its own folly, for the benefit of the Christians who are still in Holland. If not, there is still room here for thousands; America receives with open arms and warm affection the liberty-loving Hollanders, always remembering that sons of that same Holland have been the founders of one of the most flourishing parts of the American Union, and hoping that the present immigrant Hollanders will be to the West what the earlier ones were and have remained to the East — powerful supporters of the development and prosperity of the United States of North America.

Another evidence of good-will toward the colony is the following. There was a post-office on the Des Moines River. But since the postmaster sold his farm to me, his position there ended. Recognizing the need of a post-office, with the other members of our Council I wrote at once to Washington, requesting with an assignment of reasons that the old office and post-route be removed to Pella, at the same time recommending a competent person for the postmastership. We received a speedy and favorable reply and the necessary authorization. Since that time we have had a post-office in our city, with I. Overkamp as postmaster, while we receive mail twice a week from the Eastern States and The Netherlands. We have also received assurance that another post-route to the county seat will be relocated so as to run through Pella.

As to the religious condition of our colony, from a previous statement many a reader must have observed that we have nothing special to boast of. To the person who judges superficially, as happens all too often, the religious tone is not so very noticeable. Ever since our arrival regular Sunday services have been held, first partly in the open air on account of the lack of sufficiently roomy houses. Later when G.H. Overkamp finished his house in the city, he kindly allowed it to be used for Sunday meetings, which were generally very well attended. The congregation has been reorganized, elders and deacons have been chosen. Besides, there are weekly gatherings at which the members practice reading and interpreting the Holy Scriptures.

The building which must serve as a schoolroom and also as a house of worship is fifty feet long and twenty-five feet broad and will be ready very soon. One of the school teachers is busily engaged every day instructing children at his house. One may converse with many on religious subjects; and although our people were adherents of different sects in Holland, they are all Christians and thus far form but one congregation here. The preaching of the Word is listened to attentively, and although a difference of opinion exists this is not productive of disputes; sometimes differences are debated but without resulting in hostility or bitterness.

Not withstanding all this, to be frank in what I say, I must admit that religion does not flourish, because there is no evidence in daily life that seeking God's kingdom and righteousness assumed a foremost place, but rather the things of this world. Nearly all appear to be taken up with their new social and worldly condition — so much so that they are lost in it — and judging from some of their dealings one would almost say that they do not know that God's kingdom is "righteousness, love, peace, joy, happiness in the Holy Ghost". Consequently they are in a position which the Bible would describe: "from afar they see not".

Self-interest and self-seeking so affect some that one would doubt that they are real Christians, if we did not know how far a child can wander from its father's house and still continue to be a lawful child who on its return is received with a father's love. It is certain that the incidents of the journey, the new, strange and busy pressure of life in our present unsettled condition contribute much to shatter our ideals; but this is no real excuse. "To shine as lights in the world" is the calling of God's children, and "by bearing much fruit is the Father glorified." Of such a glorification of God one does not now meet with abundant examples. It will be a source of great joy to me if it shall subsequently appear that only a few have damaged their faith.

Here in America one frequently hears that a revival has taken place in this or that town or district. A few weeks ago a revival took place at St. Louis, where for more than three weeks daily services were held by a talented preacher who makes a business of traveling around for the purpose. Our people are not yet accustomed to such a method, and even if someone could preach to them several times a day, most of them would obviously find no time to come to listen.

I hope and pray that the Lord out of the fullness of His mercy in one way or another shall cause such a revival that there shall be evidence once more of the bloom and growth of spiritual life to the glory of God. We have no excuse here that we are forced or restricted from without; we have the most boundless freedom to turn the qualities and means poured out to us by God toward the development, revelation and propagation of God's kingdom. It appears, however, that the hasty change from a condition of oppression and anxiety in Holland to one of space and freedom has caused a dizziness, and that therefore the American love of material things is more attractive than Heaven. This can not result in anything but harm since Earth pulls down while Heaven draws up.

Within a few weeks those who spent the winter at St. Louis expect to join us; it appears that their spiritual condition, at least of some, is better. It is to be hoped that their presence among us will serve to enliven the others. They will not have to anticipate the difficulties of life with which we have wrestled, and which therefore cannot have a bad influence on them. We shall also soon see some Christians who have had to spend the winter in and around New York, Albany, Buffalo, and Chicago. Christians in America remember not only our temporal but also our spiritual welfare in their private and public prayers.

As we now know that there is One who hears prayer and who is almighty, so we trust that He will visit the vineyard planted in this place with such blessing that the present winter shall make room for a beautiful spring and a fruitful summer. May His blessing continue then until the possibility of a new winter time shall be past, when we shall rest from our labor and our works shall follow us.

Directing my words to Netherlanders, I can no longer speak as a Netherlander. I have severed myself from social position in the land of my birth. I have become bound to the American people; and before Netherlanders can read this I shall have been engaged with American citizens in the selection of our governors and shall apparently occupy a position of which I should never have thought in Holland. My native land, however, lies close to my heart, and in the midst of all sorts of work I have not neglected to take an active interest in its fortunes.

I am grieved to note that the government of Holland has not yet forsaken its fatal course, and that newspapers in support of the government are not ashamed to print articles which place immigrants to America in a false light. Christians have not refrained from adding their mite also to create a wrong impression. This, however, has not prevented many from following us. Neither anonymous addresses to local government officials, false rumors from America, nor honest representations have been able to turn away God's hand, but the minds of men have been moved, and the eye and heart have been turned toward this land of civil and religious liberty, where everyone who wants to work can find his daily bread in abundance without the intriguing and elbowing of others, without being driven to practices opposed to a Christian conscience (because they are not to be reconciled with the first principles of justice), and without creeping as slaves before the possessors of any power.

Here every person is respected and treated according to his merits; there are no spies for a suspicious government: the rulers know that this would not profit them because a subsequent election might at once deprive them of the chance to lord it over the people by putting orders in their places. It is God's hand which in many ways directs oppressed Netherlanders to a land where they first learn what freedom is and how the country's inhabitants make a worthy use of it.

Ask yourself: has history since our departure belied our opinion of Holland's unfortunate condition? Has not the blood of citizens flowed as the result of attacks by other citizens who were bound blindly to obey the orders of men higher up to aim their murderous weapons against their fellow-countrymen? That sort of thing has no place here; for that sort of thing no soldiers are available here.

Here too the ruling class sometimes makes laws which are rejected by the people as detrimental to the people. The people gather in mass meetings, condemn such law, pass resolutions and propose what they think is right. The government never thinks of resisting such conventions by means of police force or armed power, but listens to the people's voice; occasionally the unwillingness of certain self-seeking officers is checked by

the unanimous public action of the people. A subsequent General Assembly investigates the grievances and if it does not agree with the people, then at the next election the American people show that they understand how to secure rights in a lawful manner without causing an uproar. I attended such a mass-meeting here and was really struck by the way in which matters were conducted. Not only did political party lines disappear and the people act as companions in misery, but the distinction between American and Hollander attracted no notice; while the advice of persons who had just recently arrived was listened to and consulted just as freely as that of native born citizens.

Despite God's blessings as manifested in an abundant harvest, does not the same distress continue among the poor and needy in The Netherlands? Is not the shamelessness of Anti-Christendom increasing from day to day? Does not the same hostility toward the spread of truth hinder the institution of Christian schools? Does not the government constantly give the advocates of liberalism reason to revile prince and ministers to their faces, and so openly that the echo of it can be heard on this side of the Ocean?

With happiness and thankfulness we have learned that since our departure renewed proof has appeared in The Netherlands that God's Word is not restrained in the conversion of sinners. But have these evidences of God's gracious power forced the Christians to rise from their former lukewarmness and inactivity to real and united activity? Is it not still the same as when we were in The Netherlands? One may make mention of "opinions, votes and observations, brotherly words, protests", but everything is on paper. Do not deeds survive?

Would that when these lines see the light the condition might be so altered that Christians could say: so it was according to the latest reports, but now it is different Christians in Holland! Here in the land of freedom we feel that you are with us flesh of Jesus' flesh, bone of His bone, members of His body, as the Word bears witness. The waves of the ocean and the light of the New World's freedom have not swallowed up nor dimmed the relation of members of the one and indivisible body to their brethren who have stayed behind and have misunderstood them in many respects.

The social bond is severed, but such a bond is only of the earth; the bond which shall also hold the body together in heaven cannot be broken on earth, even if the existence of various "ists" and "ians" would seem to belie the existence of the bond. Though we have cut ourselves loose from Holland, the land is still dear to us because the brethren whom we knew by sight are still there. Out of our affection for Christians we think of the unchristianizing land of our birth. Therefore we have been frank also in our address to you.

I have given you a short and, so far as I could, trustworthy account, and you must admit that it is not trimmed up, that it conceals no deformities in our midst; it gives facts and nothing more. Always repelled by exaggerated reports from America, I am now all the more opposed to them, because I have seen the tragic results of such excited writings in the miscalculations and disappointments of our people upon coming face to face with realities. You doubtless must have read many letters which revealed a picture more attractive, more stimulating to the emotions than mine; but I feel obliged to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, without giving it a color of my own.

I shall not invite you to leave Holland and come to us; you have to know and to decide that for yourselves. But I would induce you, if you remain in Holland, not only to think, contemplate, speak, protest and write, but also to act. Holland is in danger socially and spiritually. If you think you must remain inhabitants and citizens of the country, discuss and describe not only that which is leading Holland to destruction, but fight it with deeds, not only on paper but also in actual life. Do not behave yourselves as the Jews at Jerusalem, who sit down and weep when they see the heaps of ruins of the old city of God, not knowing or admitting that Israel's Messiah, the King of the Jews, lives. We know that our God is king and lives, and that He is almighty in heaven and earth.

If you are convinced that you must stay in Holland, seize upon His strength, and make yourselves active as soldiers of Christ. If you are convinced that the former national church is God's house, do as did He who testifies that "the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up", and believing in Him who set you an example, drive from the holy dwelling of the Almighty those who turn God's house into a soul-murdering pit by their anti-Christian teachings. For a long time I did not cherish this conviction, and therefore I followed a later example of our Lord, believing that their house would be left in ruins.

If you do your duty to the Church, you will as a result feel your calling in regard to The Netherlands. You should not associate with those who desire a change, you should not range yourself with unbelieving liberalism, you should not revile the chief men of your people, but as Christians you should have the courage, not to speak about King and authority behind closed doors and to discuss their personal and social sins, but to tell them to their faces what Daniel said, and in the way in which he said it: "Therefore O King! let my counsel please you", etc.

Do your duty as Christian Netherlanders, then it will not be long before you will know whether it is your calling to suffer oppression in Holland in the Lord's name, with loss of honor, respect and temporal things, then, just as we did, under the Lord's guidance, you will go to find a place of refuge in that section of the world which has never been a part of the Roman Empire. The soil on which we now dwell has never actually been occupied by a European power.

We bought the right of occupation from those who had scarcely four years before succeeded the original Indian population. Our land was not wrested from the original owners by means of the conqueror's bloody sword; it was voluntarily sold to the United States government which passes title for a very trifling sum of money after the difficult work of the first clearing has been accomplished. In such a country now live your former fellow-countrymen, your present fellow-believers. Among us are many who left The Netherlands in extreme want, aided by a few wealthy ones among us. There are others who had just enough money to enable them to reach this place, and some had enough to become owners of land sufficient to support their families. Thousands of wretched people, however, still gasp for breath in Holland, so eager to come here to work and eat their own bread, but they lack the means to pay the expense of the journey.

Wealthier Christians in The Netherlands? You are under obligations to help the oppressed. When I was still among you, I was convinced it was my duty to give my God-given wealth for the good of my miserable fellow-countrymen whether in Holland or elsewhere. In Holland there were but two ways: to furnish work to the needy, or to give them food so long as I had anything to give. The former was impossible for me as a consequence of social conditions, and the latter was unreasonable and unchristian: unreasonable because, knowing my own means, I was certain I should soon be classed among the needy, a position which I did not wish to bring about so long as there was another way open; unchristian because eating without working is harmful to body and soul, for it promotes idleness which, according to a true proverb, is the devil's pillow.

Thus shut in on all sides in Holland, restricted besides in the matter of freedom of worship, reviled because we insisted upon our forefather's rights to educate our children in Christian schools in the fear of the Lord, I was forced to look to foreign lands. It appeared that Holland's colonies also were closed by the government to Christian freedom, and North America was open, receiving our fellow-countrymen with hearty affection. For me this was the only way, and I am not sorry to have followed it. Despite many difficulties, cares, and vexations, I say from the bottom of my heart: thanks to God who brought us here!

Such were my thoughts and actions, and I repeat it, well-to-do people in Holland, you are under obligations to help the oppressed. If in your own land or your colonies you cannot offer them work and bread and freedom of worship, besides Christian instruction, send them hither, help transport them, and make it possible for them to live among their fellow-countrymen here.

In order to be able to supply all his bodily wants in North America, a poor man who likes to work needs very little more than the money to pay his passage. There is so much work to be found everywhere that no one need suffer hunger. Spread among English-speaking people, however, the older generation of people will not be able to satisfy their spiritual needs, and thus while they promote their bodily welfare they lose their souls. Therefore it is necessary that they should come to a colony where they may speak their mother-tongue, where they may hear God's Word preached in their own language.

To be able to do this they must not only have money to pay for transportation but also find work when they come, and to provide them work money is necessary so that certain enterprises may be undertaken which require human labor. If such a colony has an abundance of labor but lacks money with which operations may be commenced, the poor will naturally be forced to seek work in some other locality where they can neither speak nor hear their mother-tongue. Since there is now in both Dutch colonies in North America sufficient opportunity to work with profit, in some cases with great profit, if fresh occasions of poor people arrive and there is insufficient money to commence operations, I judge that it is the calling of the rich, if they do not personally accompany the poor, to use

their money to help them and at the same time gain a profit for themselves.

An advance of money at moderate interest with a mortgage on the lands which are brought would be a good way to begin such enterprises as would yield enough sure profit for the entrepreneur, the money-lender, and the workman. The last will earn good wages, the second will get good interest on his money, and the first will be reimbursed for his trouble by keeping the surplus after wages and interest have been deducted. This is true of the Dutch colony in Michigan as well as of the colony in Iowa. Let everyone go to the locality where he is convinced he can place most confidence in the persons with whom he had to deal.

One bit of advice I should like to add. Well-to-do Hollanders so often take long and expensive journeys: if a company of three or four well-informed Hollanders should secretly make a little visit to the United States, inspect the various Dutch settlements, examine the business personnel, the conditions and opportunities, they would be enabled to give a trustworthy report to their fellow-countrymen who in this way would find it easier to choose in what way and to what end they should be able to help their needy fellow-countrymen. To entrust the needy ones themselves with money to enable them to get a start in America is, in general, not advisable. Those who are not at once able to use it discreetly when they come into possession, not even in the midst of their own people. From the opportunity to work and save they learn gradually how to manage money matters, and when they have succeeded they become instructors and models for others.

I believe I have said enough for the present; and I think that the profit from the sales of this pamphlet will cover the expense of printing and postage. I shall rejoice if it is eagerly read, if thanks be rendered to God for the blessings vouchsafed to us. Some day The Netherlanders and America will exist no more, but the memory of what has happened in them will remain, and the communion of saints will last forever.

[The following appendices have been extensively edited:]

As for the situation of our city, we simply append the official description of the county surveyor rendered at the time of the first survey.

Description and Plan of Pella

Pella is beautifully situated on an eminence, from which may be had a general view of the surrounding country; the streets are one hundred feet wide; the Blocks and square[s] are four hundred feet square, and the Blocks are layed into eight lots each, as seen by the plat. It is situated about the center of the section line, dividing sections 3 & 10, running East and West. The Town is laid out at right angles. There is a stone planted at each corner of the square from which to make future survey.

State of Iowa,
Marion County.

I, Claiborne Hall, Surveyor of Marion County, certify that I have correctly surveyed sixty-four lots in the above named Town. Given under my hand this 2nd day of September, 1847.

Claiborne Hall, C.S.M.C.

An Act To Organize the Township of Lake Prairie In The County of Marion

Section 1. Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa, That townships seventy-six and seventy-seven, of range eighteen west of the 5th principal meridian, in the County of Marion, be and the same are hereby set off and organized into a separate township by the name of Lake Prairie.

Section 2. The first Township election therein, shall be held at the house of H.P. Scholte in said township, on the first Monday in April next, at which time and place the white male inhabitants of said township above the age of twenty-one years, shall elect two Justices of the Peace, two Constables, and such other Township Officers as are required by the act for the organization of townships, approved 17th February, 1842, and such School Officers as are required by law to be elected at the township elections.

[62] Section 3. The powers, duties and manner of qualifications of such justices of the peace and other officers, shall be such as are provided by the general laws of this State.

Section 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the Iowa City Standard and Iowa Capital Reporter published at Iowa City.

J.B. Browne,
Speaker of the House of Rep's.
Thomas Hughes,
President of the Senate.
Approved
Jan. 22, 1848.
Secretary's Office, Iowa.
Iowa City, Jan. 28, 1848.

I hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the original act on file in this office.

Elisha Cutler Jr.
Secretary of State.

As regards the accompanying map of Iowa, I have only to add that it does not show all towns in the State, but it serves only to show the surveys for the general land-office; therefore this map includes only that portion of the State which had then been surveyed; those surveys now extend much farther north and west. This map ends with Range 19, the newly-located State capital lies in Range 20, Township 78. I have inserted only the name of Pella so that everyone may see that it is situated pretty near the State's center. Every little square is a township.

The map of the two townships which contain our lands is a reduced copy of maps in the land-office and shows more accurately the situation of our colony. The dots represent the houses which were here when I purchased the farms. Everybody can see therefore that there is still room for more. If wealthy Netherlanders wish to be assured of more land in the future, I am always in a position to satisfy their desires and to send them title-deeds. One can still obtain land in our neighborhood, and the average price is not more than three or four dollars, including the Government price of $1.25; but attention is being so generally directed toward this State, and the population is increasing so rapidly that this price will be doubled in a short time. I believe I have said enough for the present, and with confidence offer what I have written to the serious consideration of the reader.

Pella, Marion County, Iowa.
16 March 1848
H.P. Scholte, V.D.M.

THE VANGUARD

T2

Much discussion of emigration took place in The Netherlands among the people who had formed the Association for Emigration to North America. During the first half of 1846, there had been much information published in "De Reformatie" and a meeting was held in Utrecht in August. The following month a committee decided on how much land they wished to purchase as collective co-owners.

It was in the Summer of 1846 that a few of the people decided to become a vanguard for the larger group, starting the journey to the new land ahead of the others. They would travel to the proposed general area by way of Rotterdam, New Orleans and on to St. Louis. (Van Raalte arrived in Feb., 1847, but chose Michigan.) The Pella Vanguard would wait in St. Louis as the region of Iowa had already been discussed as a possible site for the Scholte contingent.

The small Vanguard left Holland on Oct. 2, 1846, but because of terrible storms at sea, returned to a sheltered area near England and rather than proceeding through the English Channel, they detoured around Scotland and across the North Sea which was to add many days to their travel time. According to immigration records, the ship they were sailing on was the *Wakona*. They traveled steerage (between decks) and made the final departure Nov. 19, 1846.

The group known as the Vanguard were: Hendrik and Ingetje Barendregt, both 39 years of age and their three sons, Pieter (16), Cornelius (11), and Jacob aged 8. Barendregt was a house carpenter. Others were Cornelius Van Nieuwenhuizen and his wife and two daughters, Gerritje and Maria. A talented blacksmith, Jan Hendricus Schijf and his wife and their daughter Hendrika were with the group. Adrianus den Hartog, wife and three children: Elizabeth, Jaantje and Stijntje were aboard as were David Van Ham and his wife, Paulus and Mrs. Stavast, Mr. and Mrs. Rouwert and Jan Mergels and wife. Five bachelors served in the Vanguard: Kommer de Hoog, Teunis Keppel, Jan Schaap, Hendrick Bomgaars and Jacob Baay.

The adventures of the Vanguard were told exceptionally well by Hendrik Barendregt in a letter to Dominie H.P. Scholte which was dated St. Louis, Dec. 14, 1846:

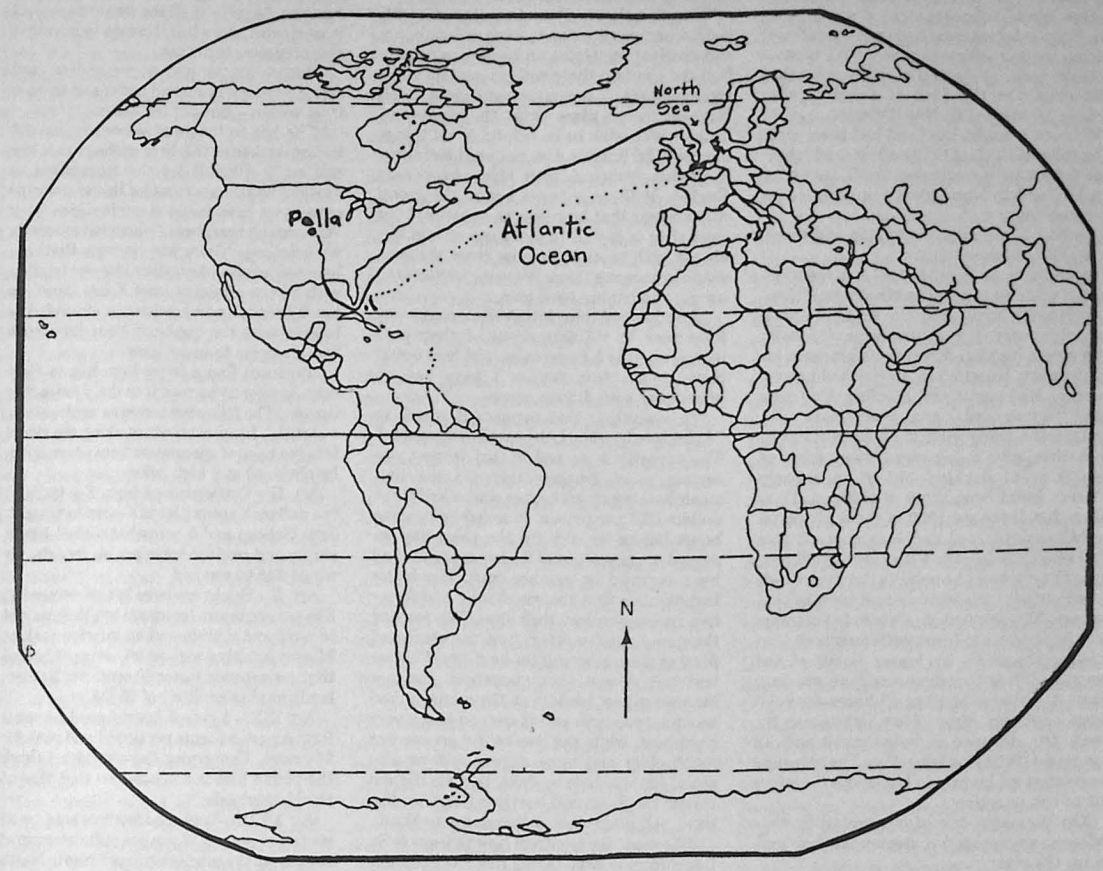
*The Vanguard

St. Louis Dec. 14, 1846

"Dear Dominee and Brother in Christ:

"It is now my privilege by God's grace to write Your Reverence. Willingly would I have done so in New Orleans but the terrible rush to find the office designated by you (which no longer exists) together with the search for the steamboat that was to take us up the Mississippi, prevented me from doing so.

"Before I tell about the journey, God be praised and thanked for leading us so lovingly day by day! He was our guide, saved us, and gave us strength over and above our prayers! Especially was this true in my own case. All the other passengers were more or less seasick. I was the exception. While the others



The Vanguard Route . . . usual route via New Orleans

were ill I was fresh and healthy no matter where I was above or below. Then one realizes that reason is put to shame and prophesy of unbelief is completely falsified for even the experts had predicted that I would not cross the sea. At present we are in St. Louis and all are in reasonably good health, those of my family and also the others. We hope that this may be true of your Reverence and his family.

"First briefly something about the trip. On Friday, October 2, we left Rotterdam and on the 4th of October we sailed from Helvoet. The wind was favorable; on the fifth we sailed into the Channel. Here we soon found the wind contrary so that the sea was heavy and caused severe sickness among the passengers. Cupboards and chests flew here and there. This lasted for three days, so that our ship reached outside the fairway and the Captain found it necessary to put up the distress signal where upon the pilot boats from England came to us. At first it was difficult to reach us but towards morning we succeeded in getting one pilot on board who soon brought us to the city of Deal. Here many ships lay at anchor and the Lord gave us a breathing spell. However the wind remained so strong that soon the Captain decided not to proceed through the Channel but to go back across the North Sea and around Scotland which, according to the mate would take eight days longer if all went well.

"Here it became real cold especially in passing the mountains of Scotland which we could see from a distance. Here we passed another frightful night. Your Reverence remembers we had a place near a large hatch. Now it happened that as I was sitting in front of the bed in which my wife was already reposing, a wave engulfed the ship and burst into the hatch so that I was completely covered. It lasted so long that I thought to perish. Our bed was completely flooded and my wife thoroughly drenched. But the Lord was with us. He cleared us a path through the wild waves and the broad streams. Quickly turning the bed over and putting on some dry clothing, such as we could find, we passed the night.

"On the following morning Saturday the 17th, the weather was reasonably clear, the sun shone at times so that our bedding partially dried out. But again the wind was against us so that we had to tack continually, even though the damage was not so great as that we had experienced in the Channel. On the 28th the wind was favorable, north and

northeast. All anxious worries ceased and we sailed with a fair wind across the wide ocean experiencing one good fortune after another. Even on the 14th of November, on entering the Gulf of Mexico the wind changed in our favor so that on November 18 the shores of the New World hove into sight. It was a level land. Then later we travelled on a steamboat that, no matter which way the wind blows, meets the ships at sea and leads them up the Mississippi. On the 19th at seven in the morning we arrived in New Orleans.

"Without a doubt, the Lord had been with us. In spite of the fact that we had made that great detour we nevertheless made that trip from Holland to New Orleans in America in forty-five days.

"We had five deaths on the ship and three births, all Germans.

"In order to be brief I shall not mention much of what we saw on the Mississippi River up to New Orleans, but will say something about the latter. It is a very large city built on an extensive plan. Everything seems to be in its infancy. Hundreds of unfinished houses are seen. All is astir and bustling. One sees noisy wagons and carts everywhere. Six hundred sea-going vessels lie three-deep in the harbor, also many steamboats, most of them large of its kind but of an entirely different build from those of Holland. They tell us that there are 1300 of these plying on the Mississippi. And as I look upon all this stir, I readily believe it. There are no sailboats here. They can not be used as the river winds in and out and the wind cannot blow in that manner. The current is always downstream and the shores are lined with forests so that drawing the ships by horses is out of the question. Then too, distances here are very great. A distance of 10 or 12 hours does not mean anything. From New Orleans to St. Louis the distance is between 10 and 12 hundred (1200) English miles. The shipping business as we know it in Holland is therefore out of the question.

"On the same day of our arrival in New Orleans, we boarded a steamboat that took us up the river.

"The fare was $2.50 per person and those under nine years of age paid half-fare; along with this went 100 lbs. of baggage free, but all weight above that was 25 cents per hundred excess pay.

(We allowed a few tips after we came to terms.)

"The following serves for further information. Before entering New Orleans an official comes on board. He registers each family and those who belong to it, also the number of chests and fire weapons. I advised all to declare everything and not try to conceal any chests or fire weapons. The fee is the same whether one declares six or twelve chests, etc. They simply wish to know how much each one has.

"Then each one receives two papers and these must be signed, the sooner the better, in the toll house. (that is the name for bureau).

"The official has the right to ask fifty American cents for each paper. He can and may do it gratis. One can try to have it done cheaper. With the poor folks they are less exciting. For the signatures one pays 20 cents more for each paper. I mention this for the reason that some think that all this is unnecessary, and, perhaps swindling, but that is basically not true, for the officer who is present at the unloading of the goods passes nothing for which he has no papers.

"Also a contract must be written and signed by the captain on board in which is clearly stated that the money for the recorded freight of the steamboat has been paid.

"The steamboats all lie along the quay with their schedules attached giving sailing hours and destination. Going on board you usually find the Captain there with whom you make arrangements. It seems on just cannot finish business in one place only. The number of brokers who wish to be helpful in all things are plentiful but one does not need their help if he has someone with him who speaks English. If there is found one in the group who masters that language, as was true in our case, then it is well to make use of him but always with caution, because there are even swindlers among them. We were fortunate to have a reasonably good man.

"Another bad thing is that all along the way folks seek to rid themselves of their gold money and the 5-franc coins, and here a gold piece means four dollars. I have had no experience with 5 franc pieces.

"In everything that happens it is well to "Acknowledge the Lord in all your ways." The experience we had in that respect was certain proof. Imagine this: On the first steamboat we met a broker who asked three dollars ($3) per person. It sailed away some hours before we did. On the third day we passed it. On account of the heavy fog she had been rammed by another craft. Her boiler had burst so that the vessel sank and forty-five passengers lost their lives. We rescued the crew and a few others from the wreck and putting them ashore in the next city. That we had not chosen that steamboat was not because of our wisdom as the money asked was not too much and it seemed like a very good boat, while the one we did choose was much older and more rickety and we also found it very slow; in short, that we did not choose the ill-starred boat was God's leading hand. All praise and thanksgiving to Him!

"We made the trip from New Orleans to St. Louis in nine days. Along this river trip one sees forest from beginning to the end. Never could have I imagined that there was so much wood in all the world and that up to this time it had stood there seemingly useless, and truly believe that I have seen only the beginning of America. Here and there one sees the beginning of a city. First we found sugar cane, farther on cotton, and still farther on beginnings of cornfields between open spaces of the forests. The river also is full of floating wood that shoots out regularly from the shores.

"There is much business here in St. Louis. 1300 new buildings are being constructed; 500 were completed during the past summer. Everything else seems to be just in its infancy.

"They say that the city measures nine miles (3 uuren) in length. This sounds somewhat exaggerated to me but I have no reason to doubt it. Two of the brethren tried to cover it from end to end but it was so far that they grew tired and turned back.

"Countless steamboats come and go. Land transportation both here and in New Orleans is done by horses, mules and oxen. Sometimes twelve oxen are seen hitched to a wagon but ordinarily only eight are used.

"Daily the farmers bring their produce to the city as it is market day every day. At times from ten to twelve dressed pigs are brought in in one wagon; cattle or rather beef lies quartered in the wagons or carts. All sorts of produce goes to the market – vegetables, apples, potatoes, poultry and fish but none of these are cheap commodities. Bread flour, meat and pork are considered cheap in America. In spite of all the wood one sees, it is very expensive when it comes to buying it and preparing it for use.

"Winter set in just as we arrived and everything now is snowed under and there is frost with it – but not too heavy.

"The trip to Iowa and Wisconsin can not be undertaken at this time as the river is low making it difficult for the steamboats to proceed. We do not consider this so unfortunate as we have found many brethren from Winterswijk here, two of whom have recently visited Iowa. There are German Brethren here too nd also Methodists that are familiar with all our affairs at least X has shown us much friendship and assistance, also aided us in answering the questions Your Reverence had given me to investigate.

"Enclosed find a letter from him in German. Insofar as he read it to me, I judge it is correct. The following serves as explanation:

Art. I – Land everywhere along the rivers is in the hand of speculators from whom it can be obtained at a high price.

Art. II – Cattle also are high. For ($10.00) ten dollars, a cow with a calf – can be bought. Jans Schaap and I saw what looked like a strong and spirited horse put up for sale, for which $15.00 was bid.

Art. V – Bricks are large in size, somewhat like our red bricks (moppen) but they are not so hard and therefore of an inferior quality. Mortar is fairly good – at 20 cents per bushel that corresponds to our 50 cents per Netherlands mud (hectolitre) of 25 lbs.

Art XIX – I myself bought good fat meat for 2 American cents per pound and pork for 2¼ cents. Concerning these weights I think the pound here is 5 ounces less than that of the Netherlands.

Art XXIII – Very good feathers here are 25 cents per pound. If you are still determined to come to the conclusion to colonize in North America, then the following data also serves for your enlightenment.

(1) Every land buyer who plans to cultivate the land himself has to figure on bringing his help with him if he feels that he needs help.

(2) The cost of living at first before one produces anything for himself is very low. Bread, meat, and pork are the principal commodities and these are cheap. One need not be concerned about clothing, rent or fuel.

(3) For those who have had experience in making butter and cheese have a profitable asset, because that which comes to the market here is very poor. Bring as much of your equipment as is possible, especially what can be packed in chests. It costs no more on the ships and the steamboat rates are only 25 cents per 100 pounds. Everything can be bought here but the prices are high. I am advising to do the same with all your tools, for instance, for farmers and trades people; but certainly I am not advising you to purchase new tools in Holland and bring them here, in such a case the difference would be negligible. Then too there is a difference in the "make" of the tools and all who come must make up their minds not to remain Hollanders after they come to live in America. Her customs and traditions must be pursued here. My meaning was, that if

anyone has tools he should not just dispose of them for "an apple or a pear," especially not, if they are in good condition, however it is always folly to transport rubbish. Let me also add that so far as possible all should bring their best pottery, not just the cheap earthenware. If it is packed between clothes in the chests that are packed full to the top, they can be transported with ease. Our baggage (goods) was in fairly good condition in spite of the fact that our chests rolled around like kegs and barrels. You can understand then that the chests must be made very strong because I did see many chests smashed to bits causing great grief. Neither must the chests be too large for then the handling of them is most difficult. "I wish further to mention something concerning your food and utensils for the trip. 160 lbs. is needed for each person. This can be divided into: 10 lbs. pork – cut reasonably thick to be used for pancakes; 10 lbs. ham – to eat on bread; 10 lbs. other meats; 10 lbs. rice (the price here is the same as yours); 20 lbs. flour – (do not keep any that is left over); 15 lbs. potatoes – that is ½ mud – (½ hectolitre); 20 lbs. blue peas – (save what is left to be used as seed as I have not seen any good peas here and they are expensive); 20 lbs. "kapercyner" peas (dried peas); 30 lbs. – graham bread, dried and cut into chunks. (I mean 30# after it is dried); 5 lbs. – biscuit dried."

"Then it is also well and desirable to take a jar of head cheese also butter, cheese, sugar, "klompjes" (loaf sugar), prunes and anything that can be eaten without being cooked – sweet cake, different drinks – wine, brandy, Rhenish wine, gin, vinegar, salt, mustard, pepper, coffee, tea, and also home remedies in case of sickness, as the Americans have no doctors on board, it is everyone for himself.

(Whoever accuses Barendregt of not having been solicitous for the welfare of the body judges him uncharitably and falsely – K.V.S., the author.)

"The utensils consist of a tea kettle, a copper or iron cooking vessel, a tin basin, and tin plates on which each person's food can be served as it is seldom that folks can sit together in a family circle at meals. Bring also water jugs or tin water cans. To those who travel alone I would advise that not more than six or eight men go together – not too large a group, for then disagreements are likely to occur. Furthermore let me warn you that the ship brokers deal very partially. They seem to take all they can get. With us there were some that paid only 30, 35 or 36 guilders. There were also those on the ship, who had been offered by X the provision of a good ship for their families, if they desired to send for them in the spring, for 35 guilders.

"In regard to making a choice between traveling via New Orleans or via New York, I do not exactly know how to advise you, but I do know this, that if you leave Holland later than February, it will be too warm to go via New Orleans, so I would say, "Go via New York. Then you must put up with more expensive and inconvenient land travel. But if you leave before, or in the month of February, then go via New Orleans with less expense and less inconveniences. It also makes a difference as to where one wishes to locate.

"Is it Iowa, then the trip via New York is still more difficult as you have to go to Milwaukee and then from there back to Iowa, which is not the case in going via New Orleans, because you can go from there to Iowa by steamboat. In either case it is better for those who feel uncertain to come to St. Louis because from there you can go in all directions.

"In regard to the climate, I understand that the summers here are much too hot for us. I happens that a day laborer who cuts wood or unloads wood from ships is offered $3.00 per day, in the summer while at this time of the year only 50 or perhaps 25 cents. Iowa I am told is more northerly situated and much colder.

"All sorts of produce is raised here: corn, wheat, rye, oats, beans, etc. Very little cabbage seed is raised; and as fat is cheap one is in no need of oil. The price of grain is not high for its kind, there is good business possibility in that, but if so, must consider many other items connected with it are necessary namely: the taxes on the land, labor, cost of the buildings, sowing expense, etc. – this all ties up together.

I am not sufficiently familiar with all these things to mention more and it is absolutely necessary to understand everything or else say nothing, for instance if I quote prices, you in Holland are immediately ready (in the manner of the Dutch) to start balancing and figuring. And this is not expedient unless one is right here in America. Experience will be the best teacher.

In regard to religion, one finds truly converted people among the Germans, also among the English and even among the black Christians. We receive much friendship although we do not agree with them in all things. The day of rest is fairly well observed. We find no gross intemperance as is found in Rotterdam and in other cities of Holland.

"Now about schools – you know schools are free institutions here but there are also schools connected with the churches. I am not well enough informed about them to give an account of the system. Several Sunday Schools are found where one gets free instruction. To us they are indeed helpful in learning the English language. He who knows English when he comes here from Holland possesses riches. I can not urge you enough to learn the English language if you plan to come here.

"I know of no further particulars to write about that I consider essential. My request is that your Reverence will be so kind as to publish this information as widely as possible; at least see that brother H — at R — gets it very soon. Tell him that as a "baker" in St. Louis he would more likely be considered a "gentleman" than the ordinary citizen in R — Also tell K — who has asked me divers questions that he will find them answered in this letter — also Mr. Jansdam, etc.

"De Hoog has written to Den Hitsert but gave no particulars. He referred them to this – your Reverence's letter. See to it that my father also reads this letter. I am planning to write my family within a fortnight. If there is any further news, I shall see that your Reverence gets it.

"Greetings to all the brethren and sisters that serve the Lord in undying love from all of us. We especially send greetings to your Reverence and those with you and we shall continue praying for you and your family also for your coming hence. Pray for us also.

"The Lord be your portion and also ours throughout eternity. Amen.

Your loving and mindful brother in Christ Jesus our Lord

Hendrik Barendregt

"N.B. Particular greetings to Dominee Betten. In regard to the letter written by Brummelkamp and Van Raalte concerning help for the needy, nothing is known about it here. Neither do we know anything about Van Raalte and those who accompanied him.

We hope Your Reverence will favor us with a speedy reply and address us at X, later to us here."

*Taken from Van Stigt's 1897 History of Pella.

This lengthy letter answers questions often asked regarding why Sholte subjected the large migration's populace to the more rigorous route by which they came to Iowa. Barendregt stressed in the letter that New Orleans would be unbearably hot and humid in the summer and advised that they take a different route. The letter was also one of amazing insight into the experiences of those early pioneers who preceded the 1847 colonists. The Vanguard truly prepared the way for their compatriots. They have almost gone unnoticed in historical writings though their advise for the great wave of emigrants is significant and was crucial to the well-being and preparedness of the more than 800 who followed several months later and joined them eventually in St. Louis.

Hendrik Barendregt became a well-known figure in the Dutch Colony and although he died in 1851, had contributed much to the history of Pella in the four years in which he was active. He was one of the public officials elected in the first township election in Pella in April, 1848. He was elected to the post of Overseer of the Poor. He also was an elder during the first years Scholte conducted church services in the little building used for school, church and public meetings. Dominie Betten also preached in the little church and if the ministers could not be there, Hendrik Barendregt or another Vanguard member, Kommer de Hoog, would take over. Van Stigt, in his 1897 history mentions that Barendregt was a witty speaker and a general favorite with his associates. He was also known to be outspoken and loved to instigate "tongue-in-cheek" arguments. He died of asthma and is buried in an unmarked grave on the farm then owned by K. Vander Linden one mile northeast of town. (The farm directly north of the Middle School in present-day Pella.) Barendregt's residence had been on the corner of 841 Franklin.

Johannes Hendricus Schyff and his wife, Gertrudi, purchased a 160-acre tract of land May 1, 1855, and in Sept. 1858, sold the Northwest corner acre to the School District of Lake Prairie Twp. for $1. Henry Hospers notarized the sale. This was later renamed Bunker Hill School District.

David Van Ham was a leader of "Brethern Church", a group that separated from Scholte's church. The Brethern met in the Van Ham home at 706 W. 1st. Mrs. Van Ham died Mar. 8, 1884, and David Van Ham died Nov. 22, 1896.

Cornelius Van Nieuwenhuizen and his wife lived in the Colony. She died July 15, 1872, following the death of her husband on Feb. 13, 1872, at the age of 68. The Rourvets also made their home in Pella and lived to an old age. Jacob Rourvet died July 24, 1889, at age 80 and Mrs. Rourvet died Apr. 28, 1882, at age 82. Hendrik Bomgaars died in Pella Mar. 1, 1891, at age 70 and his wife preceded him

in death at age 50 on June 15, 1880.

Komer Hoog separated from Scholte's church in 1851 and led meetings of the group that left. He later joined Scholte's church. He was a brother of Mrs. Komer Van Stigt. He died Dec. 22, 1896, at age 80.

Teunis Keppel settled in Holland, Mich. where he became a leader of the "Seceders" in 1857, in the separation of the Christian Reformed Church from the Reformed.

A search in the Archives reveals no further Pella or county records of Jacob Baay (although a Cornelius Baay joined the colony in '49 along with his wife Pietje). Adrianus Den Hartog may have been related to the Jan Den Hartog family that arrived in 1855 with six children: Heime, Hendrik, Huibert, Hendrika, Teuntje and Gerrit. Likewise, Paulus Stavast may have been a relative of Hendrik Stavast who came in the 1853-1855 group.

The Vanguard spent only a short time in New Orleans and traveled on to St. Louis on a nine-day trip on the Mississippi River. Because of winter's arrival, they gave up plans to continue to Iowa or possibly Wisconsin. In St. Louis they met other countrymen from Winterswijk and also many people from Germany who were well acquainted with Iowa and helped them complete the questions Scholte wanted answered before the large group of his followers began their voyages. Their investigation completed and the letter sent to Scholte in The Netherlands, finished their assignment and they waited in St. Louis until the next summer when they were joined by over eight hundred other Dutch persons all on the way to a new place which would eventually become Pella.

KAREL BLOM'S LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS (1846-47)

T3

The following letter was written by Karel Blom who came to America preceding the mass emigrations of Van Raalte and Scholte. He came to Pella in 1847 where he became a storekeeper. His house built in 1849 is now part of the Pella Historical Society's Museum Complex. The letter was translated from the Dutch by Attorney Dick Van Zante, a descendant. It has of necessity been edited. The original was twenty-one pages, with a few pages in addition which are missing. The editing was done by Muriel Kooi.

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The beginning of the letter was written by his wife, later recopied by Karel Blom and added to by him to send to relatives in The Netherlands.

"(The desire of my dear and now blessed wife was to send you this letter which I have copied and which she had begun some time ago on scratch paper.)

Dearly beloved sister and brother,

The grace of the triune God be and abide with you from now until all eternity. I turn to Thee who doth keep all souls in being and under whose guidance I now wish to write you.

It is now some five months ago that we parted and we have undergone a great deal. You may remember that we sailed up the North Sea, the 5th of October but our sailing was not very successful. The wind was generally against us and when the wind was in our favor, it became calm. Through the goodness of God I have been in good health but Mr. Blom at the present time has become sick. My dear children were well the first five weeks but then all three took the measles. Finally I had to offer up two of my dear ones. Our little Gerrit died the 7th of Nov. of a sickness which caused him to pine away. Thereupon, our dear Evert became sick and he suffered a great deal. We arrived at Baltimore the 15th of Dec. and in order to continue our journey quickly, we boarded the train the 18th of Dec. However, in the train, we had to sacrifice our dear Evert after very grievous suffering. Like our little Gerrit, his life slowly wasted away. We thought we had to offer up our dear Goziena also, however it pleased the Almighty to bring about her recovery. She now looks well, is of good health, and is fat. We arrived in Cumberland at three o'clock in the morning. (Ed. note: Cumberland is in Maryland.) There we had to remain some four days because our baggage had not arrived which could not come sooner because of the snow. The 19th our dear Evert was buried at Cumberland. From there we went on farm wagons to Brownsville (Note: Pennsylvania) on which trip we experienced intense cold, frost, and snow. The 29th of Dec. we boarded a steamer and so we arrived in Pittsburgh (Pa.) the 30th."

The wife's letter ended there. Karel adds:

"My beloved friends, parents, sisters, and brothers,

For various reasons and causes we have put off . . . writing to you. First, because we were not at our destination and daily expected to depart but we could not on account of the ice, then because of the water, and later on account of money. Furthermore, no definite location had been chosen, and when it had been selected the question arose whether it was a good one. Our people wished to be sure of that and therefore sent some Englishmen to find out. But these did not write immediately and when they did write it was not clear to us. Finally, we had planned to depart some six weeks ago with a man from Winterswijk, his and our families going together, however, the sickness of his wife followed by her death, prevented this so that we all had to stay. Then we had intended to write . . . we were hoping from day to day that Dominie Scholte with his company would arrive for we would rather go with the South Hollanders than with the Gelderschen. And, because my wife was far advanced in pregnancy, we thought it best until she was delivered, and then to write . . . On the 25th of Apr. it pleased the Lord that my wife was successfully delivered of a boy . . . all my wishes fulfilled. (Editor note: Two days after the birth, the mother became seriously ill and within a week she died. Karel goes into great detail into the aspects of the birth and the death. He writes that he must submit to the Lord's wishes. He assures the family that his wife had died having lost none of her handsomeness. The death occurred in St. Louis.)

(A page is missing from the letter and Karel tells about the trip to Cumberland, Md. and of the burial of the young son, Evert, there. Karel tells of meeting a Hollander in Brownsville (Penn.) who volunteered his assistance but who, in the end, is dishonest and demanded much money for helping. Karel challenged him to prosecute as had been threatened. Karel depended on American justice and in the end, won out, the mysterious helper vanishing at the dock.) "The rudder of our boat broke and we had to lay over for a day. Our boat touched at St. Mary's (W. Va.) then at Louisville . . . from the Ohio we sailed onto the Mississippi. We had not been long on this river when we met with ice. Soon we were caught in the ice and that for some seven days. That was not much to our liking. We went on land with our guns but found no game neither good land, that which was not to our liking . . . and after much slow travel we arrived in St. Louis." (On board this boat he and others were forced to work and were promised money but that was not forthcoming. Karel brought action against the boat's owner and a judge stood by the Dutchman and ordered the boat owner to pay the men who had been forced to work. Karen said he made a trial case of this to test American justice and he was pleased with the outcome.)

"Conditions here (St. Louis) are rather quiet. The only work there seemed to be was the preparation of drinks in cellars for the summer. Two-fifty per day was paid but where a hundred men were needed, there were at least a thousand available. Those who weren't supplied with gloves, froze their fingers. Food was cheap here in the wintertime. Meat could be bought for less than a cent which was good meat . . . the best meat cost three cents at the market. I have done a great deal of looking around in the city as much as I could. House rent is high . . . one who wishes to sell articles and they are not made by himself, must pay quite a sum to the city . . . Teamsters who come to the river must increase the charge several times so that there is nothing here not taxed or for which a license is needed. If one makes the article himself, he is free . . . manufacturing . . . is on a lower level than in Holland. Architecture is neglected. Machines propelled by wind or water are not to be found . . . my special attention are the fire engines and the care shown to get water to all the houses. Despite these precautions, several houses burn down . . . built mostly of wood . . . some surrounded by a stone wall."

(Karel related the lack of good sailing vessels, the advantages of spring carriages and wrote at length about the mistreatment of animals he had observed and the foraging of what seemed to be wild pigs and packs of dogs. He writes about missing the familiar birds and says the singing of birds is little in evidence. He is critical of the poorly-made storage places for hay and grain and derides the Americans' treatment of horses. Karel enjoyed the trees growing on cliffs and called them the 'nicety of them formed by nature.' He thinks the fir trees are very poor.) "There is plenty of soft wood for wooden shoes . . . lumber is cheap and of good quality . . . woolen cloth is of poor quality and cotton is much the same as at home. Generally the merchants take big profits . . . everything is done here in a hurry. Women could get work as maids easily as, if she needs anything, the housewives of St. Louis just buy it . . . they seem to have little to do. Rudeness is much in evidence. They point the finger at us when they see us wearing wooden shoes. Printers

of cloth and dyers we have not seen, neither weavers and spinners. Coal and iron are cheap for the blacksmith but tools are high. His products find a good sale and the trade is regarded as a profitable one. Wheelwrights are much in demand. Wood is cheap . . . carpenter's helpers are in demand, especially cabinet makers. (Karel goes into the kinds of workers that are much in demand and mentions that all artistic things such as musical instruments are expensive as they are all imported.) "Dealers of all kinds of wares make a good deal of money. He who has money to lend out can secure high interest. Merchandise is sold here at a gain of 30, 40, and 50 percent. Stonecutters have much work to do as do masons. Slaters are not needed as the roofs are covered with small, thin boards, much smaller than pieces of slate . . . feathers for beds cost 12½ stuivers (62½ cents) although most people sleep on mattresses made of wood shavings."

(There is the omission of another page.)

"Of the speculators, however, not expensive, just so the first will move and the others will sell or clear the land. The price of land is about three guilders ($1.20) the acre more or less. Yesterday we received a letter of Van Raalte in which he invited the friends to come and take the aforesaid articles along. (the articles are on the missing page. Ed. note) He admonished us to abstain from strong drink and also mentioned that Scholte was not inclined to join him. A month or so ago we were overjoyed to hear that Rev. Scholte was coming to join us with some 800 or 900 people. Day before yesterday we received a letter that he had arrived in Boston and after straightening out his affairs there he would join us. He had in mind to settle in Iowa or the northern part of Illinois. We are expecting him any day now. A month ago several Gelderschen left for The Colony among which were four families from the municipality of Heerde. Brink, Jan Boeve and Van Der Waa are here in the city. Day before yesterday a boatload of Hollanders arrived who went on again except two families which come from Deventer and Twello. At Baltimore we had to leave Smit of Zwolle and Jan Van Tongeren of Heerde, and at Cumberland Strenge with a sick wife and child and Sanders at Pittsburgh. You can realize why we are still here and why I have waited so long with writing because I could not write with certainty and because I did not know how things are or what is going to happen. I hope to resume writing but not before I know about conditions in The Colony and I am determined to remain here for the present unless special circumstances arise. I hope, however, that I may be able to leave soon. My intentions are, if my good health continues, to migrate with Scholte when he comes. Some of you may be asking, 'Blom or Karel, shall I come, too?' I hardly dare advise you. Pertaining to religion and education, in these our needs are not satisfied, yet, that might have happened in Holland, too. When our settlement has been established these matters will be taken care of. According to external circumstances many calamities have been mine . . . first, two dear children, then my better-half. It is a long journey on land and sea, so I must say, 'I can't advise you what to do.' The journey is expensive and a precarious one, on the other hand, we have spoken with some here who made the voyage in half the time, nor did they suffer the hardships or personal losses as I did. This I must say, the Lord does what is right according to His good pleasure. At present I am in such a state of mind that I can say what He does is majestic. I know of few times that I could be as submissive as I am now. I am rich, being in possession of my two children, who are now quite healthy, yet having no money.

If any desire to migrate and wish to settle in Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois or Missouri, I would advise them to come by way of New Orleans, unless they think that way too warm. The expenses would be much less . . . For provisions take bacon and meat, biscuits, commonwine, cheese, butter, sugar, coffee, tea, plenty of potatoes, a barrel of beer because there is a lack of water and it is not very good. Pertaining to religion we are here with several Christians in this city and we meet regularly every Sunday. We have two elders who lead devotions. The brethren partook of communion, the service being led by a Presbyterian minister. The Presbyterians have permitted us to worship in part of their church edifice. We exist on the best of terms with our Presbyterian brethren who are ready to help us and give us advice. When we came there were some families from Winterswijk here who had joined the Methodist Church who believe in a falling away of the saints and their doctrines are similar to the Remonstrants. When this was discovered, which happened soon, we held council together. There it was decided that they (the Hollanders who joined the Methodists) should separate from them . . . which they didn't relish at first. Still it happened some three weeks after our arrival. Pastor Joost was greatly astonished and it was little to his liking that he said the Hollanders were influenced by the Devil. Still he remained on friendly terms. With the Presbyterians we can find no fault and are at one with them in all matters. They are very much interested in religion and are affable. Their pastor married a couple, the ceremony being performed here either by him or the justice of the peace. However, this does not happen in public. If a couple wish to get married they go to a minister and are married after answering a few questions and the cost is one guilder, twenty-five cents, for the license.

. . . why do I stay in St. Louis so long? I had several reasons that I could not leave and did not care to leave because I had certain scruples against the emigration and settlement as well as the emigration from the Motherland. Because, according to my opinion, the welfare of the next generation depended on the right kind of a settling or a poor one. Think not that in saying this I am leaving the Lord out of consideration. After arriving in this country, we knew no better than that we were going to settle in Wisconsin or Iowa because we thought their soil and climatic conditions would be to our liking. To that end we would all assemble in the west. Because winter had set in, we finally arrived in this city with great difficulty. Intentions were to leave immediately for our place of settlement but ice and water did not permit. It was necessary to cast our anchor and await our opportunity. On our arrival we met several brethern from South Holland who maintained relations with Dominie H.P. Scholte. I was delighted to meet them and later to hear they wished to hold counsel with the Gelderschen and Overijselschen. Shortly thereafter we received a letter from Rev. A.C. Van Raalte from Detroit who seemed to be in great haste to come to a decision about a settlement so that the people could settle down . . . he was advised to remain in Michigan . . . we were advised to remain where we were because roads were bad and traveling was expensive . . . the earth was covered with a thick layer of snow."

(Karel Blom goes on to talk about Van Raalte's Colony inviting them to come join that group and that the letter also mentioned that if he needed money to join the group in Michigan, to contact Brother Baarendregt as there was money and could be repaid later. Here the letter abruptly ends mid-sentence. It is my supposition that perhaps at that point in his letter writing, Karel Blom heard that the Scholte entourage was arriving in St. Louis and he discontinued the letter.)

by Muriel Kooi

EXERPTS FROM THE ISAAC ROORDA DIARY

T4

Isaac Roorda wrote in 1853 telling about his journey across the Atlantic Ocean and the shipwreck he experienced. The next year he took another voyage, arriving in Pella in 1854. Translated by Pauline Van Zante and daughter, Bertha. Isaac was Pauline's grandfather.

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"Having often heard tell and having read many books and letters about America and especially since several from my community had gone, I grew very anxious to go to the land of hope and promise, thinking that in my youthful years I could make a much easier living. As several brothers as well as myself were being trained in our father's trade as painters, it was decided I could leave.

In the latter part of 1852 some of my friends told me that Herr O. Bonnema at Kimsawerd was going . . . to America . . . to Iowa . . . I urged my father to write . . . to ask him to take me along as a painter." (Later Isaac went to Leewarden to join Bonnema.)

"My worthy parents saw to it, as much as was in their power, that I was prepared for the trip. They also wanted me to become a member of their church before I left, which I did.

I bid my parents farewell on Friday the twenty-fifth of February.

Our company . . . consisted of ninety-two people of which, at Liverpool, England, five women and children returned to Friesland."

(Stormy weather hampered progress of the ship even before they reached the North Sea. Quarters for sleeping, etc., were even worse than anticipated and at Nieuwe Diep, sheep and cattle were loaded and passengers were compelled to share quarters with the beasts. Human passengers disembarked for a train to Liverpool where they signed on as passengers on the sailing ship *William and Mary* piloted by Captain Stinson. Anchor was lifted March 24 and they were into the broad Atlantic.)

"This ship . . . was 125 feet long, 30 feet

wide . . . built the year before . . . could carry 512 tons of merchandise. The wall around the ship was five feet high . . . 208 passengers, 87 of which were Friesian, the rest Irish, English and German.

Weather was favorable until March 27 . . . and we could still see the Irish coast the 25th. The 26th we could see only water . . . winds became unsettled . . . by the 29th the storm was so severe we were tossed about . . . we did not make much headway.

April 12 we saw whales . . . that relieved the monotony of the long trip . . . later flying fish landed on deck.

At the time we were nearing the American Coast . . . thrilled by beautiful sunsets unlike those in the Fatherland.

I was awakened about two o'clock on the third of May for land had been sighted but we were in great danger because there were many reefs near the shore. By seven we had sailed past the island. By ten we sailed past Stirrup Key and at 12 could still see land . . .

We heard a terrific rumble. The ship stopped, then seemed to leap six feet into the air . . . we lay still . . . two waves lifted the stern and set it upon a rock. A death-like fear gripped us."

(The lifeboats were so endangered that one returned to the ship. Isaac and some companions tried to board a lifeboat but their efforts were in vain. Isaac came close to drowning. He reached the deck of the ship again and helped pump water, asking God for help. Signalling equipment was missing. They were in water up to their knees. The ship lurched as neither sails nor mast were broken. As the passengers pumped water in the early morning hours, they saw a lifeboat lowered – on it were the captain, two engineers and six sailors. They had left their ship in that death-like position.

Isaac and others got into another lifeboat and waves drove it away from the ship as others tried to jump in and were floating about in the water. The lifeboat leaked badly and the Irish on board planned to throw the Friesians overboard to lighten the boat. The Friesians could understand that much of the language. The three Friesians held the Irish at bay with their knives, bailing water with the other hand! The sailors on board hoped to row to Florida but the sea was so wild they had to give up. However, the small lifeboat was spotted by another ship. They were rescued by the *Pollux* which was leaving New Orleans for Liverpool. They begged the captain to go back to the *William and Mary* but the danger of reefs made the captain refuse. There were 25 passengers in the rescued lifeboat. Their quarters had to be on the decks as there wasn't room anywhere else.

In the afternoon of the first day of June they were towed into Liverpool Harbor, ten weeks had passed since Isaac Roorda had left it. He returned home to Dantumwoude after an absence of seventeen weeks.

The other persons on the ship were rescued on May 5. The location of the shipwreck was right off the Bahamas, far to the south off their course. They were rescued by an English ship and arrived in New Orleans June 9. The Friesians who had been left on board in the precarious situation eventually went to Michigan. It was also heard that the captain who had abandoned his ship had been rescued.

O. Bonnema, head of the company, survived as did most of the Friesians. Two had died in Nassau, the Bahamas, one child died on the boat between St. Louis and Galena, Ill.

Isaac's companions who returned to Liverpool with him were Ulbe Bergsma and C. Wagnaar. Isaac Roorda's name appears on the ship records in 1854 when he tried again to cross the Atlantic. This time he was successful and went to Pella, Iowa.)

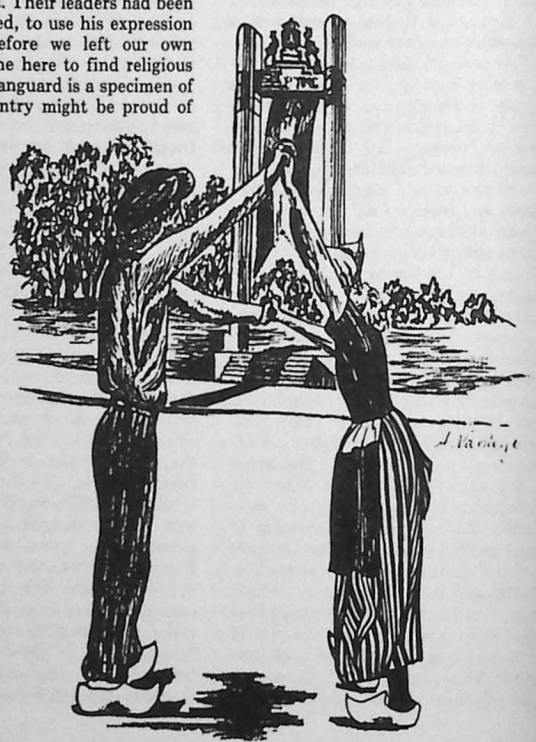
VALUABLE EMIGRANTS

T5

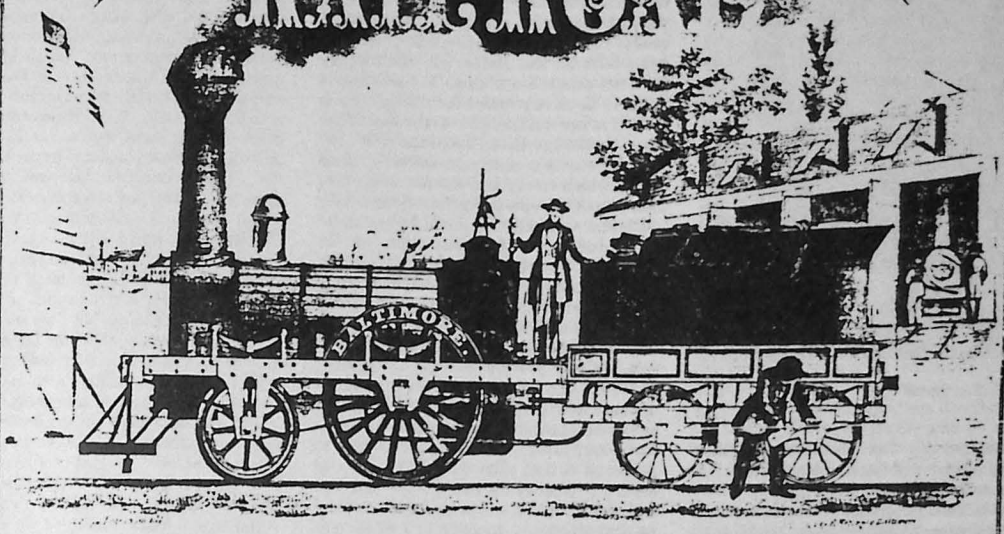
From the *Baltimore Sun*, Thursday Morning, May 27, 1847:

We have visited the fine ship *Catharine Jackson*, Captain Stafford, and have seen the passengers which he brought to this country from Rotterdam. We have seen many emigrant ships, but we never saw one more cleanly in its appearance than this, and we have never yet seen in any ship so fine a body of emigrants. They numbered one hundred and eighty, all Hollanders, and they have been remarked as beyond comparison superior to any shipload which has reached our port. They are in fine health, well clad, and have an abundance of money to locate themselves. On enquiry yesterday, we learned, that this body is but the vanguard of a colony of several thousand, who are coming here, and design establishing a colony in Missouri or Wisconsin – those now here are all on their way to St. Louis, which is to be their headquarters for the present. In a conversation with one of them, he stated that they had left their country in order to enjoy freedom of opinion in religious faith. They were opposed to the established religion of the King of Hanover, and suffered persecution on account of it. Their leaders had been imprisoned and fined, to use his expression "often" and "therefore we left our own country." They came here to find religious liberty, and if the vanguard is a specimen of the whole, any country might be proud of such citizens.

Een twee drie vier vijf
De bakker sloeg zijn wijf
Met een houte hammer
In de beste kamer
Om een suiker bolletje
Is dat geen mooi lolletje



BALTIMORE & SUSQUEHANNA RAIL-ROAD



The PASSENGER and BURDEN TRAINS of this Company,

ARE NOW RUNNING,

DAILY, BETWEEN

Baltimore & Wrightsville,

The termination of the *Philadelphia & Columbia Rail-Road*; connecting with that Road and with the Pennsylvania State Canals, at *Columbia*.

☞ This Line of Rail-Road is constructed in the most permanent and substantial manner, with the heaviest Rail used in the United States!! The Cars and Locomotives are of the best quality.

☞ The Hours of Departure and Arrival

Of the PASSENGER TRAINS, at present, are as follows, viz:

Leave BALTIMORE at 9 A. M. . . . arrive at YORK, at 3 P. M. Leave WRIGHTSVILLE at 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. . . . arrive at YORK, at 3½ A. M. and 41 P. M.
Leave YORK at 9 A. M. and 2 P. M. . . . arrive at WRIGHTSVILLE, at 7 A. M. and 2½ P. M. Leave YORK at 10 A. M. . . . arrive at BALTIMORE, at 4½ P. M.
In time for the Morning and Afternoon Trains for Philadelphia. *In time for the Afternoon Trains for Washington and Philadelphia.*

☞ PASSENGERS from the West, by taking the Stage at Harrisburg, for York, in the Morning, arrive in Baltimore to Dinner. Those going West, by leaving Baltimore at 9 o'clock A. M. arrive at Harrisburg the same Evening,—and take the Canal Boats the next day.

☞ The FREIGHT LINES of Messrs. J. O'CONNOR & Co. and D. LEECH & Co. between BALTIMORE and PITTSBURG, are regularly on this route. ☞ PRODUCE and MERCHANDIZE consigned to, and other conveyance, to Mercantile Houses in W[illegible]ington or Columbia, will be *forwarded to Baltimore* in the Cars of the Rail-Road Company.

D. C. H. BORDLEY, *Superintendent.*

Transportation Office Baltimore and Susquehanna Rail-Road Co.
BALTIMORE, June 1st, 1840.

The flamboyance of the 1840 poster-timetables was inversely proportional to the comfort offered by the railroads. From: "American Science and Invention," by Mitchell Wilson; publisher: Simon and Schuster (1954).

SJOERD AUKES SIPMA'S LETTER

T6

Sjoerd Aukes Sipma

Translated by Rev. Edward E. Fikse, Retired Minister of the Reformed Church in America, Feb. 25, 1964.

The following contains a translation of a historic document written by a Dutch immigrant, Sjoerd Aukes Sipma, who was one of the early pioneers coming to the Dutch colony of Pella, Ia.:

Pella, Sept. 26, 1848

To My Relatives, to All the Farmers, and to the Director of Youth at Bornwerd:

Dear Friends:

I shall begin now by answering your questions, even though I can only do this in a very inadequate way. I am not an educated person, just a common laboring man, just like you came to know me in Friesland, and besides that, as yet I do not have the necessary command of the English language to investigate everything properly. Just the same, I am completely willing to answer you as good as I can. I shall begin with giving you a description of the State of Iowa.

You must not pronounce this word as if it were a Dutch word. It is an English name, and is pronounced ai-o-wa in three syllables. On the east Iowa borders on the Mississippi; to the south on the State of Missouri; to the west on the Missouri River; and towards the north are the Indians. West of the Missouri River most of the land is occupied by the Indians also. Ten years ago there were no white people in Iowa yet. At that time the Indians were the only inhabitants here. Only three years ago Iowa joined the United States as a new state. This state is about one hundred thousand square miles and counts nearly one hundred thousand souls. One mile here is twenty minutes distance. The state is divided into counties. Thirty counties have set boundaries, and there are about sixty of them according to the saying of the Americans. The counties are divided into townships; each county has sixteen townships; the townships are divided into sections; each township has thirty-six sections, and every section has six hundred and forty acres. Every No. 16 section in all the townships is school property. In each county there is a man who sells the school property and he puts this money on interest. From this interest the school teachers are being paid according to the number of pupils.

The State of Iowa is very fertile; the soil is excellent. So far as I have knowledge there is about three to four feet of topsoil and beneath that a sort of reddish clay. The topsoil is black. In a few places in the forests, which has a higher elevation, the subsoil is sandy. The American people, who practically come from all the States, tell us that they have not seen a State which in the future is going to be as convenient for transportation as Iowa, since this State lies to the west of the large Mississippi River. From the west towards the east it is being intersected by three rivers, which empty into the Mississippi, so that it would be easy to dig the needed canals.

Besides this, railroads could be laid quite easily due to the fact that there are no mountains. However, you must not think that the land is as level as in Friesland. If that were the case there would be no drainage. The land is hilly, but the hills are not that high so that they cannot be cultivated. In fact, as a general rule, the hills provide the best arable land. There are also flat areas of about two hours distance in which places you will hardly find any trees. These fields lie between the rivers, just about halfway between, and they shed the water to both sides. Most of the wooded areas are found by the rivers. I have not seen a place in Iowa or it was possible, just the way as God created it, to get rid of all surplus water. Just about in the middle between the rivers, the elevation is the highest and is called the divide. Away from this divide are the valleys, which by and by have creeks in them or small rivers, which empty into the larger rivers. These rivers are: The Des Moines River to the south; then the Skunk River; and finally the Iowa River. In this State there is much more prairie than forest. There are not as many trees as one would wish for. In the first place, because much lumber is needed for building purposes; and then, there is so much needed to fence in the land; and finally, there is also a great need for fuel. However, if a person uses common sense there is always plenty . . .

During the winter the prairies are burnt off in order to get new grass for the cattle. This burning causes forest fires at times, which sometimes may burn for weeks. Not only does the dead timber burn, but also nearly all the surrounding trees. Usually the young trees suffer so much by the fire, that practically not one of them grows out again.

I cannot write you what kind of timber we have here, as I am not a timber expert. This I know however, that most of it is oak. We have about seven or eight kinds of oak; also linden trees and walnut trees. The wood is very hard and durable. For the purposes of fencing in the land usually nothing else but oak is used, which also splits much easier. At first the trees are cut in lengths of eleven feet; then they are split, after which they are used to fence in the land.

About livestock I cannot give much information. As a rule the cattle here is not as heavy as in Friesland, which according to my opinion, is caused by the fact that they are left to themselves throughout the winter. Not one animal is put into the stable, no young horses brought inside, which means terrible suffering for all the livestock during the winter. For the rest in the animal kingdom I cannot notice much difference. There are wolves, deer, and snakes, and I do not know of any other wild animals around here. The snakes are not very large, about three to four feet long. I have seen quite a few of them already. In the more populated areas of this State they have become as good as extinct. We have no rats here, but plenty of mice, and even bed bugs although I not seen any so far.

And now I shall write about vegetation. Oats, barley, buckwheat, wheat, rye, beans, cabbage, rutabaga, greens and all kinds of vegetables, much more than in Friesland, which I cannot explain to you because I can't find the names for them. Rapeseed, horsebeans and big beans were not here, but by now they have been imported by the Association. In the springtime here, wild flowers display a most attractive scenery. One colour stands in contrast with another. At that time the fields are covered with flowers. There is a time when the fields are completely filled with yellow lilies of the most beautiful colours. There is a certain kind of flower which looks like tulips, but they are a little smaller and entirely white; the bulbs in the ground are just like the tulip bulbs.

Flax, hemp and mustard seed are grown here, and maize (corn) in large quantities. Those who have fenced in and broken 40 to 60 acres mostly have 40 acres of maize, as this requires the least work; it is a crop which usually is being harvested during the winter at a time when there is little else to be done. As far as wild fruit is concerned, there is very little taste to it. The wild apples are good for nothing; the wild grapes stay small and are as sour as vinegar; wild plums are good and plentiful here; blackberries and hazelnuts also are plentiful here and taste good. During certain years the hogs are fattened by it . .

Now I am going to write something about the inhabitants here, concerning their wealth or poverty. Monetary wealth is not found here; as yet there is very little money in this State. There are many people who are rich in land, people who own hundreds of acres, yes, some of them have thousands of acres, and their wealth consists of that. Poor people are not found here at all. Every person who wants to work has a good livelihood, just as well as the farmers. If there happen to be orphans . . . that . . . cannot help themselves, these are taken into homes of relatives or of other acquaintances. They are obligated to remain in the home of those who take care of them until they have reached the age of 21 years. In fact, it would be considered a disgrace for children if they would leave their parents' home before their 21st year, provided the parents have work for them. But at the age of 21 years, they are free to go.

We have the following taxes here: Of whatever a person possesses, he has to pay 1 cent (2½ cts. Dutch money) on the dollar (2 guilders and 50 cts.). During the spring a man comes through the community who takes notes of your belongings. Taxes must be paid of all the livestock, cows, horses, sheep, and hogs, on everything more than a half year old. Everyone must make his own appraisal. For land that is fenced in and broken and considered to be worth 4 dollars per acre, one

must pay one dollar for each 100 dollar value. Also taxes are to be paid on all gold and silver, and on all the loose money a person has on hand. If the furniture has the value of 100 dollars, one dollar has to be paid for this. For a pocketwatch and a clock one cent per dollar is required. For the land, valued at four dollars per acre, the owner also pays 4 cents per acre. For money on interest also one dollar tax per 100 dollars. All male persons over 21 years old pay poll tax; if a person is able-bodied he pays 50 cents. This year I have to pay 60 cents. Other taxes than those already mentioned, we have none. We have no licenses here, everything is free here.

The population increases rapidly over here. Nearly every day two or three families travel through the Association and move further west. However, some of them stay in this area. To some extent, the farmers make their living on the incoming population in the State. Of course, you can understand that all those newcomers practically have to buy everything during the first two years. If this were not so the farmers could not make much, because we as yet have no transportation here. If merchandise is being shipped to the Mississippi from here, the expenses eat up all the profits, due to the fact the transportation from here will take 40 hours of driving. If a person lets his stuff be shipped by coachmen, it will cost him 75 cents per 100 pounds. By the time the Mississippi will become navigable for steamboats, which project has been started now and will be completed in three years, then it is quite certain that the expenses will be somewhat less, about 65 cents per 100 pounds.

About five years ago the first white people came to Marion. At first it was a hard life here, as my boss told me. Nothing could be sold because there were no other people than Indians. At that time there were hundreds of them yet. The Indian people mainly live on wild life, such as hares, rabbits, wolves, dogs, snakes, and pigs. They only grow two kinds of crop, maize and white beans. The field work is left entirely to the women. They have to do the planting and the harvesting, and they have to cut all the fuel out of the forest. The men do nothing else than hunting. Last fall about fifty of them were in Pella, men, women and children. We met them on the way when we came back from church on a Sunday. Those people look healthy, plump and well-fed. One could not notice that they carried hate in their hearts toward the white people. When the first white people arrived here, they (the Indians) were by far in the majority, but they always behaved themselves peacefully . . .

As I already mentioned before, the white people could not sell anything. They had to drive 100 miles to the trading post, and they had to go the same distance to haul their wheat and maize to the mill in order to have it ground. Eggs were sold for 50 cents a bushel. At that time the white people had a hard time here, but now they make a good living. Now we have two mills in our neighborhood that grind the grain for us; there are two saw mills, two brick kilns, one pottery and enough trading posts.

Most of the Americans still live on claim land. Each one has about three to four hundred acres. Very likely you already know what a claim means; settling on an unsold piece of land without buying it. A valid claim must be made with the State, which costs a half a dollar for each member of the family. A claim cannot be larger than a half section of land, 320 acres, and the claim right becomes void after one year so that the land is free again for anybody unless the person who had the claim buys the land. But nobody seems to be concerned about this. One helps the other to retain his claim or to obtain a claim. They just go to the woods, cut down some posts, set up a post on each corner, according to the size of claim they prefer, and that's that. And in case there is somebody who buys such a claim, which is anybody's privilege according to the law, such a person will be given a bad time. It happened during this summer in this neighborhood that a certain man had bought his own claim and paid for it, that he desired to have the claim of his neighbor. He went to the State and bought 200 acres of land which actually belonged to three of his neighbors. Those people became angry as you can realize. The news of this spread further and further. Several times people went to this man to persuade him to give up this land, but he refused. Just a few days ago, when I was coming home for a meal, I saw an army of people coming in the distance on wagons and on horseback. They waved their flags, they sang, they whistled, and they blew their trumpets. I thought what is going to happen? I asked my boss what this was all about and he told me that they were going to force that man to give up the land. He also went along himself, and all the Americans went along, too. They went to that man's house but they did not find him home; he had taken flight. They continued to look for him for two days and two nights, but they could not find him. Now the people really got angry – there were about 200 men together – because he did not come back home and reason with the people. They turned to malicious destruction around the house. The horse stable and the maize-pen, which still contained much maize, and a lumber pile near the house were put on fire. They also killed a few hogs. Very likely the man found out about this, so he sent messengers. He returned the land with title deed and all. The States do not furnish a bill of sale, such is usually being done in a business transaction. They give a deed of property, and then it does not matter through how many hands it goes after that, the same deed always remains valid to the bearer of the deed. Everything was over now, and each person went home. That's the way they handle a situation when someone buys land while somebody else holds the claim on it.

When there are a sufficient number of people living in a county, then the States begin selling the land in public. We have had two such sales here already this summer at the place of my boss, as he happens to be a notary public. At such sales nobody wants to take advantage of his neighbor. When they come together for such a sale, one person tells someone else, "This is my land, I live on it, and I want to keep it." Then the land is bought for one dollar and 25 cents, which is the fixed price for land of the State. For less than that it is never bought.

Now I am going to write something about the manner of life of the American people. All live in block-houses or rather log houses. The nicest and straightest trees are selected in the forest for this purpose. Some people are making these logs square, while other people don't do much to them. It goes here just like in Friesland, one builds a nicer home than the other. Most of the homes are 18 feet long and 16 feet wide, but there are smaller ones and larger ones. Only heavy logs are being used for this purpose, which lock into each other at the corners. The four-cornered building usually is built 8 to 11 logs high. The roof is not very steep and is being covered with a double layer of boards which makes it water-tight. Two doors are made in it, the one opposite from the other, and usually on each side of a door is a window. The chimney usually is built of stones from the forest. However, there are people also who make one of the sods of the prairie. Right here in the forest we have a good supply of rocks and stones. For furniture they have a nice clock, a mirror, a nice bedstead, and excellent quality of bedding. Most people have a small box under the bed which serves to keep documents or other valuable things. I am writing, one bedstead, but there are those who have two or three; it all depends upon the size of the family. Tools for everyday's use, as well as clothes, everything hangs up somewhere in the house. The American people have no toolsheds. The log house, as described already, actually is the only place on three or four hundred acres where to keep things. There also is a stable for horses and a shack for the sheep in which they are kept safe from wolves during the night; and also there is a pen for the maize.

The other grains usually are threshed with a machine. There are people who go around with such a machine, just like in Friesland with a rape-seed canvas. For their wages these men get one tenth of the grain. However, the owner must furnish seven or eight men. The American people don't go much for dairying; usually they have only two or three cows for home use. The calves suck the cows, not because the cows don't give milk otherwise, but only for the purpose to make the cows come home toward evening they are being milked first. Then they are tied on a rope after which the calves are turned loose so that they can suck the cows during nighttime. No one looks after a cow which has to calve. She is not brought to the house for this. She has to help herself. During the first fourteen days the milk is no good; it's all for the calf. The American people say that sheepmilk is no good either for people. Last year my boss had two sheep who lost their lambs. I told him that these sheep should be milked. "No," he said, "that milk is no good." I said, "Sheepmilk is good for me, and I can milk sheep." "You may milk them," he said, "but the milk is no good." We are still milking the sheep, and the milk is just as good as the milk in Friesland. When a horse gets a colt nobody takes notice of that either; and that goes for hogs too. Everything must take its own course.

For cultivation the Americans do not need much equipment. A person who has 50 to 60 acres under cultivation can work this land good enough with one man, two horses and two oxen. Once a year the land is plowed. The maize field is being weeded with small plows; the other grains are sown and then harvested, that is all there is done to that. The winter wheat is sowed early. At present it looks green already. We have finished all plowing and sowing for this year.

Now something else. Eating and drinking among the American people is done with utmost cleanliness. As the table is being set

it is covered with a white cloth. The dishes are being washed in warm water. There are always three courses served on the table; there is always wheatbread with it, and pork as much as one desires to eat. Coffee is also served with the meal, usually with sugar. When the meal is over the leftovers are gathered in the tablecloth and brought to the dogs.

. . . All the women can ride horseback. My boss, his wife and their two children, of which one is two years old and the other only three weeks, all of them ride one horse at a time. The women ride horseback sideways, and then they chase the horses as fast as they can go. The women wear their hair loose. Otherwise, so far as fashion is concerned it is about the same as that in the cities of Friesland. The way men dress out here does not differ very much from ours. Drinking gin is a disgrace here.

I was asked whether there is still more good land around here where migrants can settle at a reasonable cost. To this I can reply no otherwise than in the affirmative. There is still plenty room here for all of Friesland. With the Association one can get plenty of land, but also without the Association. Then I was asked whether a person can be certain of a good living here. This question is rather difficult for me to answer because I do not want to mislead anyone if I can avoid it. I don't know how soon the transportation conditions will get better, but in case the situation remains as it is now, and every farmer has his land broken, then they may get stuck with all their grain. Yet until now no surplus grain needs to be shipped out due to the growing and increasing population. Even though the grain price is not very high, the farmers have a good income at present. The farmers here need very little money, only for paying wages and taxes. Whatever is bought at the trading post can be traded for grain.

Some people want to know how much a good farm of 200 pondematen in size (Dutch measurement) would cost at purchasing price, with the extra expenses for clearing and breaking the land if such would be necessary. I shall try to explain this in every detail. For a quarter section so-called, or 160 acres, which is exactly 200 pondematen, one has to pay $200 to the State. One dollar as you know is two guilders and 50 cents in Dutch money. One dollar also is worth 100 cents just like the Dutch guilder over there. When I mention cents now I mean American cents. For so much land, I say, $200 must be paid to the State if there is no claim on it. However, usually there is a claim on the best land. But the majority is willing to sell the claim. If someone desires to do this something has to be paid for the claim right, often a half a dollar per acre, and sometimes a little more, sometimes less. When buying that much land a person should have no less than forty acres of forest. Land with a claim on it always has plenty of forest.

First of all a house has to be built. This can be furnished out of your own forest. If a log house is preferred the cost would come to $50. A brick house can be built also; bricks come to $4 a thousand and are a little larger than those in Friesland. Lime is not very expensive, but I cannot quote the exact price. A well has to be dug, which would mean work for three or four men for three or four days; then it will be all completed. Stones for that purpose can be obtained in the forest. The men earn 50 cents per day plus board. The next thing to do is to make fenceposts to enclose the land, because ditches are not being dug here. The fenceposts are taken from your own forest, which will cost one dollar per hundred when done by labor. In order to fence in forty acres at one time, which is always being done, about 7000 posts are needed. Then these posts must be hauled to the field, but a person can do this with his own oxen. One man can haul about 150 to 200 posts per day with a wagon and two oxen if it is not too far. After this the posts will have to be laid out next to each other, which is not too much work. A person can place about 700 to 800 posts per day. The field is now fenced in and must be broken, which is being done by someone else. There are men available here who will break the prairie for you. This is always done with oxen, usually eight or ten before the plow. This costs one dollar and fifty cents per acre, but sometimes two dollars. Now the land is ready for cultivation. If the land is broken in the spring nearly always maize is being planted in it then. But if the land is broken in the fall usually oats or summerwheat is being seeded then. Usually you are more sure of a good crop for production and that is enough to begin with. If a hired man or a laborer is obtained the farmer himself is not so busy so that he can fence in ten more acres every year. After the first field has been fenced in, the rest of the land can be fenced in with less expense. Between two pieces of land no posts are needed, all that has to be done is to set the posts out farther.

Two horses are needed for the land that is ready. One could do the work with one horse but two is better. Also needed are two good oxen, a wagon, not less than three plows, and a good harrow. A good workhorse can be bought for 40 to 50 dollars. Two good oxen with yoke come to 40 dollars; a very good new wagon costs 60 to 70 dollars, but a second-dhand one can be bought for 30 to 40 dollars. Plows are not expensive and are made in the cities. But sometimes they are for sale nearby for the price of six to seven dollars. I don't know the price of a good harrow. The Americans usually make them themselves entirely out of wood. A harness for two horses comes to about 20 dollars when purchased new.

By this time I have given the price of these various things so you can figure out the total cost for yourself. However, as good as I can remember, there still remains for me to give you the price of cows, sheep and hogs. Each person can buy livestock of this kind as much as he wants, even though he has broken only one acre of land. There are at least ten acres of unused land for every acre that is fenced in. A cow comes to about 10 to 15 dollars; usually the calf goes with it. The price of one sheep is one dollar and 50 cents, and a good sow with a litter of seven to ten pigs comes to four to six dollars. When a person has an equipped farm as described here, he has a good living, but he does not lay away any money. One could settle a little closer to the Mississippi River where still plenty of land is available, but the price is higher due to better transportation. That's all I can write about this.

Now I am going to give you the average price of various grains as they are being bought around here nowadays. Maize is 20 cents per bushel, wheat 50 cents, oats 15 cents, white beans 40 cents, and potatoes 20 cts. These are the main products grown here. There are also other products, but there is no market for them.

I have been asked how much interest is being paid in America. That varies quite a bit. Six percent is the lowest and ten percent is the highest. The State loans money here in Iowa for seven percent at present.

Another question asked is how much of an annual income one needs for an ordinary family to have a decent livelihood. I am going to let you answer this for yourself, because I cannot figure out the living costs for somebody else's family. But I'll write in every detail how much each item costs, then each person can figure it out for himself. First of all, let me say that the pounds here are lighter than in The Netherlands. One pound here is four Dutch ounces. Wheat flour costs two cents per pound; buckwheat flour one and a half cent, and cornmeal a trifle more than one-half cent. But if a person buys the grain and takes it to the mill the cost is less. The women here have to bake their own bread, but they soon learn. Dried bacon costs three to three and a half cents per pound; fresh bacon two cents. Already you know the price of potatoes and beans, but very likely you are not acquainted yet with the bushel. One bushel of wheat weighs 60 pounds, and a bushel of beans 65 pounds. More I can't say about this either. Rice costs eight to ten cents per pound, and coffee beans 10 cents per pound. Tea is more expensive here than in Friesland. Sugar costs seven to ten cents, salt two and a half cents, tobacco twelve and a half cents, soap five cents and syrup ten cents per pound. I can't give the exact price of oil, but it is higher than in Friesland. I believe that I have now mentioned all about most of the articles needed in a family. I cannot tell the exact price of clothing. To the best of my knowledge cotton costs from 10 to 20 cents per yard. The yard is longer here than over there. Three American yards equal four Dutch yards. Woolen goods are not used much over here, are much higher than in Friesland and of not near as good a quality. A pair of shoes costs one to two dollars and are not as good as over there. I think this is enough of this. Already I have written about taxes which are very low.

And now I am going to write something about religion and school conditions. In the United States there are many denominations, but all have the same privileges. Not one preacher gets his salary from the State. Every congregation, regardless of denomination, has to take care of her own minister. The States do not have a thing to do with it. I do not know the conditions of the most populated cities, but here in the far West the preacher cannot make a living by his office as a minister. Most of them around here are farmer and preacher at the same time. Every person has the privilege and right to take upon himself that office. However, the State has a good deal to do with the education of youth. I do not know the conditions in the States that were populated first, but in these new States of the West one thirty-sixth part of the land is being sold for the financing of the education of youth. The amount derived from the sale of this land is put on interest. The interest is being used proportionately toward paying the teachers; each teacher is paid according to the number of pupils taught. A teacher's vocation is not sufficient

for a livelihood so that most of them here also are farmer and teacher at the same time. Anybody who wants to may serve in the capacity of a teacher. Here in this State the knowledge of the English language is essential. In the Association at Pella we have two teachers, both of them give instruction in the English as well as in the Dutch language . . . I do not dare to advise anyone to come to the United States to be an instructor of youth and expect a good living here, unless he could come over with a group of migrants from The Netherlands who would retain him as their teacher, and that in addition he can be certain of a subsidy from the State over here. However, anybody who can speak and write the English language well can find a very good living here in some other way, although he should not come to the far West. He should stay in the big cities where he can find employment in some office, regardless where he goes. I have talked to someone about this who is better acquainted with this, and he told me that if anybody with the knowledge of the English, German, French and Dutch languages is coming to the United States, he can be sure of this that he is near to being a rich man . . .

Can a blacksmith, who knows his trade well, make a good living here? He cannot make it merely by his trade. If a blacksmith wants to make a living by his trade he has to be in the big cities. Here he has to be a farmer and a blacksmith. We need farmers and laborers.

Somebody wanted to know how the future would look for him if he would come to the United States with a capital of eight to ten thousand guilders. My answer to this is that, according to my judgment, he would be better off than in Friesland. You can get much farther here in the United States when you want to live on the interest of your money. Money brings a high interest, six percent is the lowest. When there is a scarcity of money ten percent is being paid. The school land, which was sold in Marion Co. brings nine to ten percent. Let us take the lowest interest for example, that is six dollars per hundred. After subtracting your taxes you still have five dollars left of your interest. After that you pay no more taxes for anything else, except for your gold, your silver and your furniture; and then also a half a dollar poll tax per person. Taxes for the support of the poor, personal taxes and property taxes you don't have to pay. There are no other taxes than those already mentioned. Prices of the various articles I have already given before. When you compare herewith the taxes and the cost of living in The Netherlands, there is that much difference that you can live here half as reasonable than in Friesland . . .

I think that I have mentioned enough about the purchase and the breaking of new land. Whoever wants to settle here in the Western States can, according to my opinion, instead of having his money bear interest, do better by buying land of the State that still lies open. Just leave that land alone as is until you get a buyer. There are many people in America with money who do just that. We have speculators in Iowa who already have bought many pieces of land for one dollar and 25 cents per acre in the east part of the State during the last five years. Now they sell it again for ten dollars or more. That is better than putting your money on interest. In a word, when this particular person would come to the United States with a capital mentioned above, he need not doubt for one moment but that he can have a good existence here . . .

I was asked how much it had cost me to reach the place of my destination. As yet I cannot give the exact amount. At this time there is no one yet who has settled with Scholte. But I am going to write to you as much as I know about this matter. Expenses from Dokkum to Amsterdam were five guilders and 85 cents. Meals for the sea voyage from Amsterdam amount to 40 guilders and 50 cents. As far as the cost of the sea voyage is concerned I must write that I have taken the word of somebody else; that came to 45 guilders per person. The trip from Baltimore to St. Louis was 11 dollars and 50 cents per person, no meals included. But each person was allowed to take along 100 pounds of baggage. All weight above this would come to one dollar and a half for each additional 100 pounds. From St. Louis to Keokuk traveling expenses amounted to one dollar per person, and 10 cents for every 100 pounds of baggage. Finally, from Keokuk to Pella the transportation came to one dollar per person and 75 cents for each 100 pounds . . .

You also wanted to know in what relationship I am standing with the Dutch Association. I can only write that it is good; it could not be any better. I have many good friends among them, but the Friesians seem to stick together the most. So far as religion is concerned it is fairly good. A large building was put up in Pella which is being used for school purposes during the week, and on Sundays we have church services in it. On Saturdays there is catechism for the children. On Sunday mornings from 8:30 to 10 o'clock catechism for the men folks who have come to years of discretion. We have church services at ten o'clock. Then at 1:30 in the afternoon catechism again, this time for the women folks. At three o'clock another church service. We have no minister here like you have in Friesland. The congregation is being led by elders and deacons. Scholte is one of the elders. We have five men who preach on Sundays and take turns to conduct the services. There is one thing I think is not right, and there are quite a few other people who agree with me on this. All holidays such as Christmas, New Year, Easter, Ascension Day and Pentecost, are not being observed. There are no church services on those days. Everybody goes about his work as he sees fit. However, not everybody is following this example. They defend their actions by telling us that there is no such commandment for such holidays in the Bible. They say that these days are merely institutions of the Roman Church . . .

You already know, when we were still in Friesland we had to advance the money for our traveling expenses, besides that for the purchase of land, which was to be used by Scholte to buy real estate for the entire Association. While we were in St. Louis he thought it advisable to take with him a few farmers from there who could look around with him for land they deemed best. This they did, for these men could judge the soil better than he. After that Scholte bought the land bordering on two or three townships, lying between the Des Moines and the Skunk Rivers, 40 hours distance west of the Mississippi River. Pella is lying right between these two rivers. These rivers run about four hours distance parallel with each other. Scholte bought all the claims from 30 Americans who already had the claims on this land, because no Americans were to remain in our midst . . . He bought for the entire Association, but now each person had to order a claim for himself. There were a good many of them who would like to do that, because then they had everything that was needed from the start. Scholte has bought those claims with the condition that the Americans had to leave everything on the place, horses, cows, hogs, sheep, plows, harrows, wagons, etc. Those who had paid the most money in advance got the claims, and Scholte told them what the price had to be . . .

In Pella we have about 40 homes I think. These homes are rather expensive. On each acre they have built three homes. That gives a person ample space. Such a home, when built on Main Street, which also happens to be the State highway, costs about $100. Those built on the other streets are a little cheaper. A good many of these homes have been sold, because every farmer should have a home in town. During this summer they have surveyed land near the Des Moines River for another town within the bounds of the Association. In Pella no American people can move in. Scholte has made it known that this other town is open for everybody, for Americans as well as for the Dutchman. This new town is called Amsterdam . . . The soil is excellent, the land has nice and gradual slopes, and we have no mountains. The water is clear, fresh and very healthy. I never tasted better water in Friesland. The air is healthy too and the summers are a little warmer than in Friesland with cool nights, so you can sleep well every night. We have not had a day this summer that I could not work on account of the heat . . .

Beukema has been saying that you lose weight in America, but that is not so as the Hollanders and Friesians look very healthy and well-fed. All the people in the Association have been very healthy during this summer. Michigan very likely is also a healthy place to live, but the Americans tell us that the soil is not as rich. There also must be much forest which means that clearing of the land requires more labor and money. The soil over there is quite sandy and the topsoil has a reddish color. The transportation over there is much better, but eventually that will improve over here. Along the Mississippi River the States have sold every section of land with uneven numbers, which is a strip five miles in length, both on the north and the south side of the river, for the purpose of eventually improving the transportation by means of the river. The proceeds of the sale will be used to make the Des Moines River a navigable stream. This will be accomplished by necessary embankments to keep the river flowing in one channel.

We still have the same house in which we lived when I wrote to you the first letter, and I also still work for the same man. I am hired by him until March next year. During the first two months, as I wrote before, I earned 8 dollars per month. But now I am earning $10 per month throughout the entire year during the winter as well as the summer. I also have free house rent and free fuel besides. Fuel is not expensive, but it means a lot of work to haul it out of the forest, but I have nothing to do with that. I do haul my own fuel out of the woods all right but I do

that on the time of my boss. Because I work for him we share the fuel together. We have no peat fuel here. The only fuel used here is wood and coal. Only wood is being used in the fireplace and we have plenty of that. I would not want to trade it for peat fuel for with that you need a lot of time to get the fire started. During the winter the American people start the fire two times a day, in the morning when they get up, and in the evening when the sun goes down. When there are two menfolks in the house they can help each other. Then they haul pieces of wood as heavy as they can possibly carry. The trees are cut in lengths of about four feet. That way without splitting they are laid in the fireplace. When it is cold the fireplace keeps burning brightly all night.

Here we work from sunrise to sundown throughout the year. In the morning we sleep till the sun is up. Then I feed the horses, milk the cows, and split as much wood as is needed for the day. Then we eat our first meal. It is the custom here to eat three meals a day. After breakfast I go to my work until noon when we have our second meal. I go back to my work at 1:30. I quit work at sundown. This goes on like that through the whole year. During the summer the days are long, but they are short during the winter. Then we can sleep in till the sun gets up. It is not the custom here to use lights in the house in the morning. I have no free meals. I have to pay for that myself. The houses are so close to each other here that as you step out of one house you can step right into the next one. We have a real good time together. They are all nice people. At first we could not understand each other; we had to make signs with our hands. At first my boss had to go with me to my work and then he had to point things out to me. Sometimes we nearly split laughing. He could not understand me and I could not understand him, but now we can talk to each other. The Americans who live around here tell me that I speak the English language quite well already. Occasionally they even use me as interpreter when they have Hollanders they can't understand. I can't tell you how much it is worth to me now since we had to live among Americans from the start. Now I learn the English language, I make good money, and I am never forced or driven in my work. The Americans are terribly afraid of getting wet when it rains. I think that at present one third of the laborers of the Association work for the Americans because there is no money in the Association . . . They have invested all their money in land so that they have not anything to pay for labor.

I have rented one and a half acres of land from my boss for two dollars per acre. That's three dollars altogether, and he plows the land for me. That really is less than the regular rent. We now have vegetables for ourselves, peas, beans, potatoes, carrots, and turnips more than we need. On the other part of the land we grow maize for our hogs. At present we have 8 hogs, one of them is a broodsow. If we have a little luck with this, we soon do not need to buy pork anymore. We have no other livestock as yet besides the hogs. It did not look good to us to have a cow this summer because I have been hired permanently. You have to run after a cow quite a bit, and besides we have plenty of milk from the two sheep owned by my boss. It is not because of lack of money as you can readily see considering what I earn. Even my wife earns quite a bit too. She mends clothes . . . She also mends for another Hollander who pays her eight dollars per year. Besides all this she spins a good deal. We buy the wool for 20 cents per pound and we sell the yarn for 70 to 80 cents. It is a good thing we brought a spinning wheel along for they cost $5 here.

I have to write so much that I almost forgot to write how much a dairy farm produces. Butter is worth six to seven cents per pound during the summer, and ten cents per pound during the winter. Until now the price of cheese has been six to seven cents. This summer a shipment of cheese was sent to St. Louis and that brought about the same price for the producer after deduction of all expenses. Right now another shipment is on the way and it is believed that the proceeds this time will be somewhat higher. They only make fresh milk cheese here because the price of butter and milk is the same. When cheese brings seven cents a pound the dairyman is better off than the grain farmer. We do not have a very good quality of grass here. Grazing land on the prairie gradually becomes poorer due to too much grazing and mowing the grass. When several cows graze upon a piece of land for 4 or 5 years the prairie grass disappears and nothing but weeds will grow in its stead. The Americans have some sort of tame grass but it is not the right variety. I cannot compare it with anything better than what we called "mollenstaarten" in Friesland. It grows as tall as oats. We can get clover here all right but practically nothing else than red clover.

If there are Friesians over there who plan to migrate to America I would not know what to advise them as to where they should settle in this country. There is room enough everywhere for immigrants to settle. In the State of Michigan, in Illinois, in Wisconsin, and in Iowa, everywhere there is ample space. But let me give these people this advice, do not join the Association in The Netherlands, just like we did. Travel at your own expense and do not turn your money over to anybody else. That way you will save many a guilder. You can make the trip much quicker by way of New Orleans, and it is the cheapest. When you have arrived in New Orleans you can go from there to St. Louis without packing things all over again, which costs only $2.25 per person. The cost for each 100 pounds of baggage I do not know, but that surely would not be more than 50 cents. When you happen to start out on your trip during the springtime of the year I would advise you, however, not to go by way of New Orleans due to the heat during the summer there. But if you leave during the fall, then I advise you to travel by way of New Orleans for reasons already mentioned. You surely can see many things new and wonderful there.

Friesians, formerly my co-patriots, I dare freely invite everyone of you to come to the United States. Wealth and splendor are not to be found here, but you can be sure of a simple, farmer's life. Do not count on gathering treasures here in the far West, but you can be sure of a good and abundant life, and that without too much work. A laborer, who is not afraid of work, does not have to work for many years here before he can start for himself on a small farm. However, a person who comes here with some money surely has an advantage. For myself I wish that my entire family would be here for I am sure that all of them would make out well, provided they would be in good health. But very likely there is no possibility for them to come here unless some well-to-do immigrants from your area would leave from there and be willing to take another family with them . . .

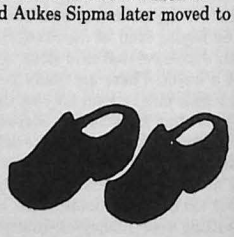
And now a few words to you, my old father, if you are still alive. To move all the way up here very likely might not be advisable. You may succumb on the way. There were a few aged people who left with us but nearly every one of them has descended to the grave. Two of them, however, were permitted to see Pella. During the last moments of their life, they rejoiced in the fact that they could bring their offspring to America; but it was but for a brief time. By now their remains rest in the dust.

Departing from you, dear father, was very hard on me, much harder than I let on. But I think it must have been much harder on you when you, as in a moment, had to say goodby to your nearest of kin. But, oh, dear father, we did not leave to get away from you, as you know very well. It was for the purpose of going to a country where we, by working hard, could expect a better way of life than in Friesland. And we have not been disappointed in this, for if we remain healthy, within a few years we can start on our own farm, which would never have become a reality in Friesland. Just to think of living on one's own land! The way we make a living now is so much better. Now we can always eat the best bacon and meat three times a day, and then we save money besides. What a different with Friesland! Considering everyone in his own trade, there is not one person who, by moving to America, does not earn more than a common laborer over there. If we had stayed in Friesland very likely within a few years we would have been reduced to utter poverty. If you bear in mind all these things, dear father, you need not be sorry at all that we left Friesland, even though you never tried to dissuade me, which to me always has been a real encouragement. We hardly ever talked about this matter, but oh, it was so hard for us to think of parting with you. But I am always happy just the same that I finally decided to leave Friesland. Undoubtedly, it must do you good, dear father, to receive news concerning us now and then, and to know that we are in a better country and that your children prosper, in spite of the fact that we may never see each other again face to face. I would like to be with you, father, and be near all my brothers and sisters, but I do not wish to live again in Friesland. Oh father, may our names be found written in the Book of Life, of which we now already should be certain to some degree on this side of the grave. In the hereafter we shall meet again.

Sjoerd Aukes Sipma
Jantje De Vries

My address is still the same: Pella, Marion Co., Ia., United States of America.

Sjoerd Aukes Sipma later moved to Sioux Co.



II.

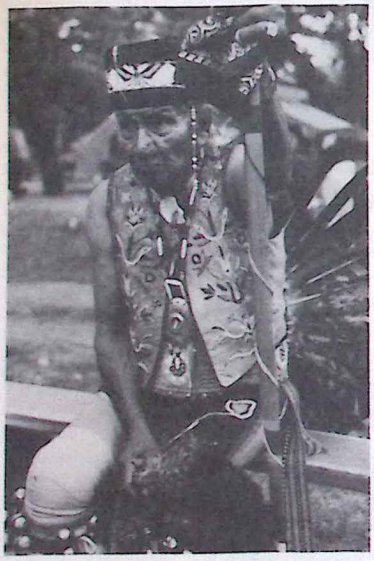
NATIVE AMERICAN INHABITANTS

Descendants of the Indians who once hunted in the Pella area.

NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE PELLA AREA

T7

This Indian necklace was traded by John Mathes and an Indian. John's dog was the other trade item. Agnes Mathes, pictured, now owns the beaded necklace



Ceremonial clothing at the Mesquakie Pow-Wow.

An Indian girl at the Mesquakie Pow Wow, where the Ver Meers met their Indian friends.

Mesquakie Pow Wow

Mesquakie Pow Wow

The number of Indians that have lived in Iowa can only be estimated. Probably from six to eight thousand Indians were here at the time white settlers arrived.

The Ioway Indian gave our state its name. The tribe moved along the Des Moines River. By 1836, they had moved west of the Missouri River and by 1838 had given up all claim to Iowa land. Our neighbor county has the name of their chief, Mahaska, a mighty warrior and great leader.

The Sac and Fox were the most prominent tribes in Iowa. They used Iowa primarily as a hunting ground. It is from them that the Federal government acquired most of the state's land. The tribes are two separate groups, but the government treated them as a single tribe.

The Fox were originally found by the French along the Fox River near Green Bay, Wis. The French gave them their Fox name. Their real name is Mesquakie . . . "People of the Red Earth." They were powerful and fiercely independent, very individualistic and held to the philosophy of every man for himself.

The Sac people, also living in the Wisconsin area, joined forces with the Fox in fear of the French and migrated through Illinois into Iowa. The Sacs of Algonquian stock, like the Fox, were shrewd, careful, and dependable. They were well organized and had a high regard for authority. They placed the welfare of the tribe above all else.

Being Algonquians, they were woodland Indians. The two tribes had similar yet separate customs, tribal organizations, and agricultural and hunting practices. The Sac and the Fox never had a village together. Even today, they worship Gitche Manitou or Great Spirit. They believe in one God, and He is part of everything around them, the land, the trees, the rocks, and the rivers. Some of their ceremonies so closely resemble those in the books of Moses that some Bible scholars believe that the lost tribes of Israel may have found their way to North America. The Sac and Fox Indians may be remnants of the Sons of Jacob.

For shelter, the woodland Indians built wickiups, not teepees as did the Plains Indians. The dome frame was made of bent tender branches and then covered with reed mats that could easily be transported from place to place. They also built a more permanent bark lodge made of bark stripped from elm trees.

Their food was simple. They were hunters and gatherers. Deer, then as it is now, was plentiful in Iowa. Wild fruits, berries, mushrooms, and edible roots were also gathered. Indian corn, beans, pumpkin, and squash are all of Indian origin.

The most notable feature of the Fox or Mesquakie culture is their language. The spoken form is ancient Algonquian dialect. The remarkable fact is that it became a written language nearly 300 years ago. Sometime in the 1600's, they adapted the French alphabet into a series of syllables. Even young children understand the art of writing and soon learn not only to speak but also to write their own language. It is truly a beautiful language to hear spoken.

The United States government was fortunate in the management of Indian affairs in Iowa. The reason for this was partly due to

policy, but more importantly due to the character of the Sac and Fox who controlled this area of the state. These two tribes had a higher sense of honor, integrity, and truthfulness than any other with whom white people came into contract.

Both tribes had outstanding leaders. Their names are very familiar to us . . . Black Hawk, Keokuk, Wapello, and Poweshiek. Black Hawk, born in 1767, led the Sac's hopeless struggle against the white man. He was a courageous, brave man who believed he had to fight rather than surrender. The Black Hawk War was fought along the Mississippi River. He was taken prisoner and finally returned to Iowa, no longer a chief. He died Oct. 3, 1838.

Chief Keokuk, the watchful fox, like Black Hawk was a chief of the Sac tribe. He was born in Illinois in about 1780. It was Keokuk whom the government recognized as chief of both tribes. He was known for his eloquence and diplomatic ability. He was a tall, graceful man, who had a good command of language and was fond of show. There were a few Marion Co. settlers who saw him. The Indian villages that were located up and down the Des Moines River were most likely of his Sac tribe. After 1842, he established his village some five miles Southeast of Fort Des Moines.

Poweshiek, whose name signifies Roused or Shedding Bear, was born in one of the Fox villages in Iowa in 1797. He was superior in rank to another Fox chief Wapello, but subordinate to Keokuk. He lived with his people along the Skunk River. Adeline Wanatee, a member of the Mesquakie tribe, who lives on their settlement in Tama, tells that it was customary for each clan of the tribe to hunt and travel only on specific assigned rivers.

Early Marion Co. settlers remembered a Fox Indian named Kish-ke-kosh. It was in honor of him that Marion Co. was first named. The county name was later changed to Marion because some people objected to the fact that Kish-ke-kosh was so difficult to pronounce. He camped on the northeastern part of Marion Co. (Lake Prairie Twp.) on the Skunk River. He presided over a village of not more than 15 or 20 lodges. Here the women, without horse or plow, planted and tended patches of corn. Here the men trained their ponies, hunted and fished. They lived here until 1843, when they moved to the area around Fort Des Moines.

Chief Wapello of the Fox tribe had his village along the Iowa and Des Moines Rivers. He, like Poweshiek, was second to Keokuk in the council of the two tribes. Because of his high position, his name is found on many of the treaties giving over Iowa land to white settlers.

According to Mesquakie tradition, it was their chief, Pawiskika, who was the real leader of the two tribes and not Keokuk.

The chiefs of the Sac and Fox, Keokuk, Black Hawk, Poweshiek, Kisk-ke-kosh, and 15 other chiefs, with the escort of General J.M. Street visited Washington, D.C. in 1837. Members of the Sioux nation were also present at the Council held in the House of Representatives. The Sioux were furious when they saw Kish-ke-kosh dressed in a buffalo hide he had taken in a war from a Sioux chief. Kish-ke-kosh stood in front of one of the large windows with the mane and horns of a buffalo as a head dress and the tail dragging on the floor. The chiefs toured New York and Boston before returning to Iowa.

The first treaty for Iowa land was made with the Sac and Fox Sept. 1, 1832. The second purchase was made Oct. 21, 1837. The last treaty gave permission for settlement east of Red Rock on May 1, 1843. At that time, eastern Marion Co., including the Pella area, was open for settlement. No settlement west of this line was permitted until Oct., 1845. The Sac Indians, with Chief Keokuk, left Iowa in 1845 and the Mesquakie followed in 1846. The Sacs now live in Oklahoma and Kansas.

The Mesquakies were not happy there and several groups came back to Iowa as early as 1850. Small groups never left and some reported that the Dutch helped hide them from Federal troops.

in 1856, the Iowa Legislature passed a law permitting Indians to stay within the state, but they were without the rights of citizens. During this time they gardened, hunted, begged, traded, and sold crafts to raise money. They lived on the land in the summer and scattered to hunt and trap during the winter. They slowly began buying land in Tama Co. and from their initial holding of 80 acres, it grew to over 3,200 acres. It was a new beginning for them. It is very unique for native Americans to own their own land. Most live on government reservations.

Stories From Pella Area Families

From Jacob Rus . . .

Peter and Gesina Kegel arrived with the first Dutch settlers in 1847. They lived in the Amsterdam area on the Des Moines River. At that time there were 50-75 Indians living 100 yards north of their log cabin. Grandma Kegel was very afraid of them. Many Indian died that winter from cold and disease.

From Erma Renaud . . .

Wellington Nossaman and his wife Sarah Welch came to this county in May, 1843. They settled along the Des Moines River about three miles south of Pella, built a cabin and started farming. This was in the Howell Station area. An Indian woman came to the cabin and asked for milk and eggs for her baby.

John H. and Gary Vermeer . . .

On the farm of their grandfather, Gerrit Vermeer (1843-1923), was a large cottonwood tree. It was taller than all the trees in the area. That farm is the present location of the Pella Nursery. This tree was a meeting place for the Indians and they often camped under this tree. The Dutch called it the "Indiaansche Boem," or Indian tree. This wonderful old landmark was pushed over in 1952 when the blacktop road was constructed.

Agnes Mathes . . .

Her father, John Mathes, lived north of Pella near the Skunk River. A small group of Indians came by the farm and wanted to make a trade for a little dog that belonged to the Mathes family. The dog was traded for a beaded necklace, that was about three-fourths inches wide and tied with a leather thong. The bead design was of little ducks. John Mathes later gave the necklace to his daughter Agnes.

Geraldine Dykhuis . . .

Six miles north of Pella and one mile west of T-14 there was a little Indian village called Stump Town. In the wooded area under the trees there are still mounds where the Indians buried their loved ones. There, the river was lower, and they could cross the Skunk with their ponies. Occasionally an arrowhead is found yet today and if you're fortunate, maybe a tomahawk.

Alice Mathes . . .

Her grandmother, Dirkie Toom, Mrs. Cornelius Van Lint, who lived in the Amsterdam area, remembered when an Indian woman rode up to the kitchen door on her pony carrying her papoose. She asked for a drink for her baby and some flour. Mrs. van Lint had just taken some bread from the oven. She wrapped a big loaf in a tea towel and gave it to her visitor. Later her grandfather, Cornelius Van Lint, bought a pony from the Indians for Alice's father, C.T. Van Lint. C.T. rode this pony over to "court" her mother, Eva Klein, every Sunday evening. Alice remembers this pony when she was a young girl. By that time the pony was pure white.

Pauline and Enid Tysseling . . .

From the time before Columbus the land ridge, that is the dividing line for the water flow between the Skunk and Des Moines Rivers, was an Indian trail for tribes as they migrated back and forth across the state. This ridge follows a northeast to southwest direction across the farms of Mrs. George Vande Voort, Gerrit Tysseling and Bill Vermeer.

Cora Van Willigen . . .

When William Hagens was a young man on a farm northwest of Pella, Indians would come by with their ponies and would want to trade small items they had made for food. One time Mr. Hagens traded food for one of their ponies.

Taken from Toom History prepared by Marie Roorda Toom, about 1959 . . .

The town of Amsterdam was situated on the bend of the Des Moines River. Dominie Scholte thought the Des Moines River would give the town of Pella an avenue of trade. This area had several interesting springs, which were frequented by the Indians and later by the first settlers. Here too, was Prairie Lake, which was about two miles long and about a quarter-mile wide. Prairie Lake was valued by both Indians and whites for its excellent fishing. Near Prairie Lake was the site of an Indian Village which was known as Keokuk's village. There were poles and stakes to show where the lodges had been. It is known that Chief Keokuk had a son who was noted for his splendid physical condition, who took sick and died while living in this village. There were about 50 lodges here, but after the territory was sold by the Indians, they moved beyond the Red Rock to the West.

In 1873, Mrs. John Toom who lived in the Amsterdam village, was home alone caring for her tiny baby. She turned to find the room filled with Indians. She feared for their safety, but soon realized they only wanted "sooker". She gave them sone of her precious sugar and they went on their way.

From the Kuyper history book . . .

In the fall of 1847, when Pella was surveyed, the middle block was the public or garden square. On this square stood a block house, in which Messrs. Wolter and Smeenk established a store. One Sunday a group of Indians visited the store and bought the entire stock of Gouda pipes which Mr. Smeenk had brought with him from Holland. Soon, the entire group, men as well as women,

mounted their ponies and began to smoke their pipes.

From Martha Lautenbach . .

Gerrit Jan Gosselink, Martha's grandfather, came from Holland in 1847 with the first group of Dutch settlers. His trade was a chair and wooden shoe maker so he did not want city land, but wanted woodland close to the Skunk River. The Indians came every year and often asked if they could store their dried skunk meat in Mr. Gosselink's woodshed.

Martha's parents, Gradus and Gratie VandeVoort Gosselink later lived on the same land. The Indians loved the boy papoose, baby John Gosselink. An Indian woman saw Gratie Gosselink making a shirt for Gradus and asked if she would bring material, would Gratie make a shirt for her husband. Mrs. Gosselink said yes and when her Indian friend brought the material, a shirt was made. The Indian woman watched baby John in the high chair, retrieving toys he threw off the tray. She never touched the baby, perhaps thinking that Mrs. Gosselink would not approve.

The Dutch and Indians got along well together. The Dutch were even known to take care of Indian possessions while they migrated during the winter season. The Indians trusted that their belongings would be where they left them when they returned.

From Reuben and Alfred Steenhoek . . .

They remember their father Hugo Steenhoek (1887-1985) telling the story that when he was a student at Battle Ridge School, four-and-a-half miles northwest of Pella, a small group of Indians would come every year and follow the fence line one-half mile south of the school. They would spend some time at the same spot and then go on their way. It was speculated they had buried a loved one there and came back to mourn their loss.

From Peter Zwank . . .

Jacob Zwank, Peter's father, was born in 1870 and grew up on a farm near the Skunk River on the Galesburg road by the Parker Bridge. Indians came every fall to trap and would set up a small village. Young Jacob spent many hours playing with Indian friends. One day he noticed that an Indian boy had a cloth wrapped around his neck. A few days later, Jacob came down with the mumps and then he knew what his friend's problem was.

From Norma Leydens . . .

Dad has told me that the Indians would come to his father's farm north of town to beg for food and that his folks always gave them chickens and eggs. My uncle Conrad, Jake Vander Veer's father, told me that one winter when he was a boy living south of town, some Indian women and children came to warm up in the school house. He said these Indians were living in caves dug in the sand hills.

My father's friend, Herman Swank, said that when he was a boy the Indians and Gypsies would come to their farm to ask for food. Herm said that the Gypsies would steal chickens but that although they would beg, the Indians would never steal. After Herm married he bought a farm next to the Skunk River, where each summer an Indian from Tama would come to camp and fish.

In the Harvey history book, someone wrote that when the first white settlers came to the area, the Indians were living on the hill above Prairie Lake. My father, who lived in the Des Moines River bottom after he was married, once fished in Prairie Lake and remembers when they drained it. If you drive in the Des Moines River bottom, east off of the tailwater road to the dam, you can still see where Prairie Lake was. There is now some water in a small area of it, because Dingemans made a sand pit there.

Stories told by Paul Ver Meer (1892-1969) . . .

Brant Ver Meer came to the United States in 1856, with his wife and family. The trip between New York and Iowa City was made by train. There they bought a yoke of oxen, a team of horses, and two wagons. The wagon pulled by the team of oxen set out long before the wagon pulled by the horses. Their son, Hendrick, eleven years old at the time, set out alone in hopes of overtaking the first wagon. He took a wrong trail and got lost near Montezuma. He ran all day, and finally was found by a group of Indians. They could not understand him but figured out he must belong to the company of Dutch they had seen traveling southwest. They returned him to his anxious parents.

In 1894, Hendrick sold the 80 acres, the first land owned by his father and purchased the Markel farm, one mile east and one-half mile north of Pella, now known as Plain View Farm. Indians came every fall and camped on the creek north of the farmstead. They trapped animals along the stream all the way to Thunder Creek and then on to the Skunk River.

The children of Hendrick Ver Meer and Johanna Coeling attended Plain View School. When Paul was a student there in the years from 1897 to 1905, Indian children came from their village and played with school children during recess.

The Indians would come up to the house regularly and get fresh water for their camp. They would often ask for sugar and Hendrick and Johanna would share extra produce from the garden. Pumpkin was always an Indian favorite. They would break them open and eat them like a watermelon.

The Ver meer family would also go to the Indian camp to visit. Mrs. Ver Meer often brought loaves of homemade bread. Paul remembered seeing the Indian women sitting with their children on furs laid over the ground.

One late summer day, the Indian group arrived on the farm yard and kept looking back down the road. A pony soon came cantering on the yard, with what first appeared to be two saddle bags bouncing on its sides. These saddle bags turned out to be a set of twins. The pony must have stopped to graze on the way and then had to hurry to catch up with the group.

Every summer the twin girls returned, always together. One year the Ver meers saw only one girl, then later they noticed the other. She was with a boyfriend.

When Paul was an adult, living on the farm where he grew up, his Indian friend from country school days came for a visit. Paul invited him into the kitchen for coffee. When the friend and his driver left, Paul gave him a side of bacon. The next year this friend returned for another visit.

In 1955, Paul and his wife Jennie Vander Ploeg, took four of their grandchildren, Andrea and David Ver Meer, Pauli and Marla Vogelaar, to the Mesquakie Pow-Wow. There his grandchildren met their grandfather's friend dressed in ceremonial clothes and together they watched the Pow-Wow.

This information on the native Americans around the Pella area was researched and compiled by Mary Ver Meer Borg, Plain View Farm, Pella, Ia.

by Mary Borg

INDIAN RELICS FOUND NEAR PELLA

T8

The following article appeared in the *Pella Chronicle* on April 28, 1938:

Indian Relics Found On Farms Near Pella Historical Society of Iowa Has Tried to Buy them, But Not For Sale

Oldtimers can tell you of the days when Indians roamed over the fields and down the country roads of this section, and that in later years they left behind relics or other evidence of their residence or wanderings in this section.

We know of at least two farms not far from Pella where such relics have been found.

The Van Hilten farm, six miles north of this city, occupied by the Dan Dieleman family, is said to have been at one time an Indian camping ground. Among the findings kept by the family are tomahawks and arrow heads. The Historical society of Iowa offered $5.00 for one of these curios, but the family, not desiring to part with them, declined to sell.

On the farm of Mrs. Ethel Andrews, whose husband, Tom Andrews, now deceased, was one of the active workers in the Democratic party in Marion county, are certain rock formations, petrified bark and wood, arrows, and other articles used by Indians, including the well known Indian smoking pipes. Mr. Andrews also found bones of a human body, leading to the belief that Indians were buried on that farm.

WHITE BABY - BEAVER SKIN TRADE

T9

Mrs. David Huber's mother once had some levity backfire. The mother was Lucy Goodall who lived near Selma Ia., below Eldon, where an exiled Chief Black Hawk made his home, his power stripped from him, his defiance having left with the dignity he prided. He was a sullen parolee of the U.S. government.

Mrs. Goodall was doing the laundry under a tree near the cabin, her little girl playing about in the yard. Black Hawk appeared and in sign language asked the mother how much she wanted for the little girl.

Black Hawk now suggested no terror for the white woman and Mrs. Goodall, in a teasing way, shrugged her shoulders. Perhaps she was just teasing the little girl. Black Hawk laid out a prize beaver skin and picked up the child. Only after much persuasive sign language, implying great grief, did Black Hawk relent. With the Indian glowering at her, the

child was placed into her arms. Then picking up his beaver pelt, Black Hawk strode off.

Soon after this incident, Black Hawk died.

Later, little Lucy Goodall became the wife of David Huber, long-time business man of Pella.

Although the incident happened elsewhere in Iowa, the characters involved in the "trade" were residents of the town and the story made good copy when it was told many years later to a *Chronicle* correspondent.

Courtesy, State Department of History and Archives

BLACK HAWK

III.

THE AMERICANS

Mary Todd, one of the Americans living in the area before the arrival of the Dutch.

DRAGOONS FOUND PRAIRIE COVERED WITH STRAWBERRIES

T10

(From A May 14, 1964 *Chronicle* Written By Henry Cox)

Pella is "holy ground" for all of us who were fortunate enough to be reared here. But how was this region made sacred? How and by whom was the present state of Iowa first traversed?

We can assume, with reasonable conviction, that the first dwellers on this plateau, and along the rivers on either side, were rather friendly (or at least peaceful) Indians. However, we are deeply interested in the history of our own race, as it touches this area.

The Palimpsest, a priceless publication of the State Historical Society of Iowa in its issue of Jan. 1963, reveals fascinating facts about those who "passed this way" before our Yankee settlers and our later, permanent Dutch residents arrived.

"In the fall of 1834, Lieutenant-Colonel Stephen Watts Kearney was ordered to establish winter quarters at the head of the Des Moines River. Kearney was instructed to proceed up the Des Moines River to the Raccoon Fork. The detachment of dragoons began an eleven-hundred mile march on June 7, 1835. Six or seven Indians with an interpreter, joined them at "Keokuk's town" near the site of Agency, Ia.

An unknown trooper wrote: "Marched 16 miles on June 15th., encamped on dry land, but at night had a hard storm of rain and wind, accompanied with much thunder and lightning. We left Opponuse or Iway town (the present site of South Ottumwa) six miles to our left."

Colonel Kearney had been leading his men along the watershed which divides the Des Moines and Skunk rivers. By the time they had reached the present site of Oskaloosa, they found themselves traversing prairie covered with strawberries in such abundance "as to make the whole track red for miles."

Turkeys, grouse, ducks, and prairie chickens rose in alarm before this unwelcome invasion of the dragoons. Many varieties of fish were found. Deer were plentiful, while a bear or buffalo sometimes came within range.

Thus Colonel Kearney, Lieutenant Albert M. Lea, after whom Albert Lea, Minn. was named, with the Dragoons, passed through, or near, what now is Pella.

by Henry Cox

KATE THOMAS NARRATIVE

T11

My family goes back to a day in England when my great-grandmother's grandfather, Roland Judd, was kidnapped and brought to America. He was the son of an English nobleman. He never did a day's work in his life, and we don't know why he was kidnapped. There were ships in the bay off the coast of England and he went down to see if they had any news from the new world. It was the middle of the 17th century, and they invited him to come aboard. Kidnapping was a common practice in those days as a means of recruiting seamen. He came to America, and having no money had no chance to go back. He married and settled down.

Kate Todd Thomas

My grandmother's people, the William Welch's, came from North Carolina. Her name was Sara Welch. She was born in 1826. They moved from there to Indiana and later to Illinois. The Black Hawk War broke out and several of their neighbors were killed. My great-grandmother, Elizabeth Judd Welch, was frightened and begged her husband to move farther west. He had a brother in western Illinois, so they came and stayed a while and then moved to Iowa (Wisconsin Territory) in 1833.

William Welch started the first pottery shop about one and one-half miles from Bonaparte. While there his shop burned down and he moved to Fairfield and engaged in farming. Sara came to Iowa at the age of ten. Among her neighbors in the Bonaparte area were many well-known Indians. One of them was Chief Black Hawk. She married at the age of 16 to Wellington Nossaman and they lived on a farm in Fairfield. She had a younger sister Caroline who married Levi Nossaman. Both had babies born about one hour apart, and both were named Mary Elizabeth. One of these babies was my mother. She was born in 1842.

The Nossaman families came to Marion Co. (Wisconsin Territory) in 1843. The first night they heard wolves howling on one side and Indians on the other. She was 17 and her sister was 15. The girls had babies only three months old. The men were 22 or 23 years of age. They settled and took a claim five miles south of town on the elevator road. They put up a shack. It was the 17th of May and they had to clear the ground and get it ready for planting in order to have food for the following winter. The Nossaman's, Levi and Wellington, were the first recorded residents and builders of cabins in Lake Prairie Twp. There are recorded letters written by Scholte acknowledging great indebtedness to those pioneers of American birth who aided them in the beginning.

My grandfather, Wellington Nossaman, operated a sawmill which was a necessity to the new Dutch settlers. The Levi Nossamans had the grist mill for grinding corn. My great-grandfather, William Welch, was a potter and provided this part of the territory with crockery for many years. The stone used in the early Levi Nossaman grist mill is now at the Historical Museum.

I remember my grandmother, Sara Welch Nossaman, saying, "It didn't take very long to get acquainted when they were the only white people for miles and miles."

In about 1845, a traveling missionary by the name of Moses Post came by. He held meetings in grandmother's house. She was the first woman baptized in this county. The baptism was performed in the Des Moines River. Moses Post was the one who brought the Hollanders to this area. The committee of Hollanders looking for land stayed at my grandfather's house. Reverend Post took them around. He suggested the Lake Prairie area. They bought 18,000 acres for $1.25 an acre.

My grandfather, Wellington, either sold or traded his farm and moved to Pella and bought the Franklin Hotel, the present site of the Marion County Bank. They were prosperous for a while because of the people going west. Later my grandfather built a hotel in 1868-1870 across from where the canning factory is now. He and his family went out to Colorado in 1882, and my parents, Jacob Welch Todd and Mary Elizabeth Nossaman Todd rented the hotel. I was born there on Dec. 15, 1882. It was called the Union House.

I was two years old when my grandparents returned from Colorado, and we moved back to the farm five miles south of town. I was raised on this farm, and went to school at North Porterville. It was a two-mile walk. It was very cold in the winter, and my two sisters, my brother, and I could walk right over the top of the snow. They had to have another school so they rented a log house until the new school was completed.

My mother taught school after she had the children and my little brother was three. The new school was only two blocks from where we lived and was named "South Porterville." How well I remember the good times we had at the old country schoolhouse. Mama, Maude, and Sara all taught there and I went to school to Mamma and Maude. There were no telephones, radio, or other entertainment, so Mary Todd began meetings of the neighbors in the South Porterville schoolhouse. She started a Sunday school, church, and meetings of the Literary Society. We also had box suppers and plays of all kinds. These gatherings were all promoted by my mother and two sisters, Maude and Sara.

There weren't Indians in my day. They were all gone by then, but I can remember, as a little girl, Indians from Tama came every summer to camp, fish, and hunt by the river. We were scared to death of them. Old Chief John led the lead pony. They lived in tents, and they would go out and beg. The women did the begging and farmers would give them chickens and things. They were not hostile. They all had horses and walked single file.

One Sunday morning my parents had gone somewhere and we were left home alone. There were three of us. We heard the Indians and were very frightened. They hid me behind the organ. Indian John came to the door. He wanted matches but couldn't speak very plainly. We offered him everything in

the house, but he only wanted matches. When we finally decided what it was he wanted and gave it to him, he went away. People came down by the wagon loads to see the Indians camped there.

One of the first churches was down in Eddyville. The priest would come up here when anyone wanted to get married. The first church here was called the Rural Baptist Church and was near the Porterville Cemetery. It was about six miles southeast of Pella, and the first minister was I.C. Curtis. He was not only a minister but a prosperous farmer. The Curtis' formed a wagon train and they went from here in 1862 – 40 wagons and 200 people. When the train left they were told to always camp in a circle at night. The horses and cattle put in the center to protect them from animals and Indians. About the third day out, they got careless and stopped alongside the road for the night. The Indians attacked and stole much of their livestock. One baby was born on that trip. Wyatt Earp's father and 16-year old Wyatt rode shot-gun on that trip. Mr. Earp was the Pella marshall during the time the family lived here.

The Mormons travelled though here when Mama was a girl around 1850. They had been driven from a settlement in Illinois called Nauvoo, and they finally settled in the State of Utah.

There used to be a lot of agents going through the country traveling with a team and buggies. They sold things such as books and spices.

We had a garden with cabbage and lettuce. In the winter we had dried fruits, peaches, apricots, and prunes. We always had sauerkraut. My father used to bury cabbage in the winter time. It was buried with straw over it. In the spring we would dig it up. We always had onions and lots of apples. At Christmas time we hung up our stockings and got an orange. Our Dutch neighbors didn't celebrate Christmas. They observed St. Nicholas Day on Dec. 6. They set out their shoes and got cookies.

We had a lot of music at our house. Lots of young folks would meet, from four or five families. We would meet at different houses. There was a fellow who played the fiddle. They used to have Brant's Hall over Boat's Furniture Store. They had public dances there. Mama would never allow the girls to go to Brant's Hall to a public dance but we could dance at home. We had an organ and my sister played the organ. Another sister could chord the guitar, and my brother played the banjo and sang Irish songs as well as an Irishman could. We used to have good times.

Kate Todd Thomas was ever ready to relate stories of Pella. She is deceased.

by Margaret Hoeksema

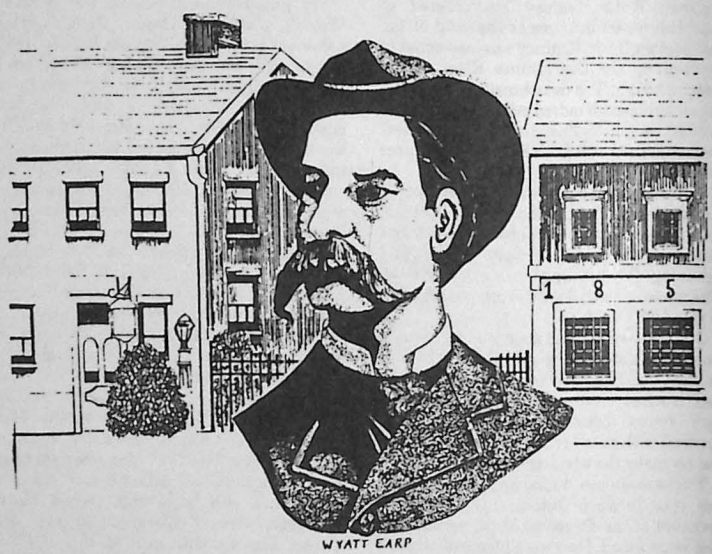
Curtiss, Isaac Crum, Croakly, David T. Durham, James M. Dweese, Jonathan Donnell, Alexander B. Donnell, Daniel Earl, Walker Finley, George Gillaspy, Samuel Gillaspy, Claiborn Hall, John B. Hamilton, Robert Hamilton, Charles Howard, G.W. Harsin, Daniel Hiskey, and Charles Harp.

Iler, Andrew Karr, George Karr, David Kinney, Asa Koons, William Karr, Allen Lanhead, Launsbury, O. Matthews, O. Matthews Jr., Simpson B. Matthews, Andrew Mets, John H. Mikesell, Miller, Elias Moore, John Mudgett, William McDermit, Wellington and Levi Nossaman, James Price, Elias Prunty, S.P. Parsons, Joseph Porter, Samuel Peter, and J.B. Poever.

Also, David Reay, S.S. Roberts, James O. Raynor, Rome, John Scott, Wilson Stanley, S. Stevenson, Thomas Tuttle, David and Allen Tice, William and John Welch, Dr. James L. Warren, Richard R. Watts, Conrad Walters, John R. Whaley, John Scott and Fremont Wilson, David B. Worth, John Walker, William Williams, and Mordichia Yearns.

East of Pella, in Black Oak and Richland townships, across the Mahaska line lived Dr. J.L. Warren, the Millers, and the Howards.

To these Americans the Dutch owed a deep debt of gratitude.



THE AMERICANS

T12

(Taken From Van Stigt's *History of Pella)*

In the early days of the LeCocq Harness Shop, it was easy to buy things on credit and pay after the harvest at the end of the year. LeCocq sold 12 saddles but since his bookkeeping was at fault, he could remember only that eleven had paid. Not knowing which of the twelve had not paid, he sent all twelve bills. Eleven were angry. They were appeased with a quality cigar. The twelfth quietly came in and paid his bill and the account was settled.

* * * * * *

THEY WERE HERE IN 1843 —

Here are some of the American settlers who were already in the area when the Dutch arrived in 1847.

They, with their various talents, proved a great source of know how in the early days for the colonists in the new and strange land...

Wellington Nossaman
Hotel operator – business, saw mill, grinding mill – pottery and lime kiln –

Robert S. Hamilton
Carpenter - Builder.

Mrs. Mary Todd.

Hon. Green T. Clark
Pioneer Farmer, S.E. of Pella – Elected many times to Iowa Assembly from Marion County.

Mrs. Mary Butts

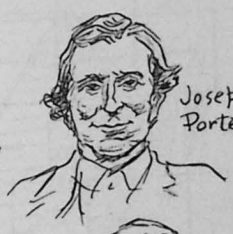
Robt. B. Warren
state Legislator – with his father, Dr. J. L. Warren, built Warren's Mill on the Skunk River 6 miles N.E. of Pella.

Wm. Welch
Father-in-law of Wellington Nossaman and business associate –

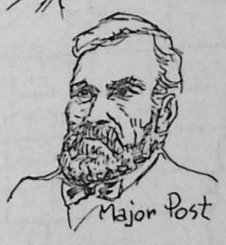
John Welch

Levi Nossaman

Mark Butts



Joseph Porter



Major Post

— PELLA AREA PIONEERS ALL —

Ed. LaCoco — 1970 —

THE MORMON TRAIL THROUGH PELLA

T13

(An article appeared in the 1981 fall issue of Brigham Young University Studies in which the author, Stanley B. Kimball, a professor of history at Southern Illinois University wrote of the Mormon Trails in Iowa.)

Thousands of Mormons crossed Iowa, developing a network of trails. Most of the focus has been on the Pioneer Route of 1846 and the Handcart Trail of 1856-1857. In 1853 most Mormons took riverboats up the Missouri River and by 1859 could travel by rail, both routes going to COuncil Bluffs, Ia.

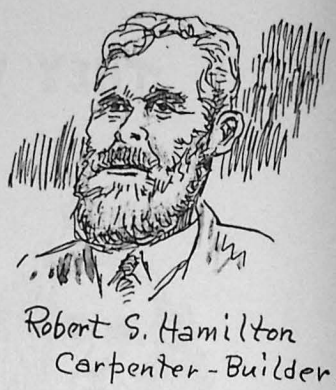
The Dragoon or Des Moines River Valley Trail from Bonaparte, to Lewis, to Des Moines, all in Iowa, 1846-1853, is the trail that included Pella. This trail did not begin with buffalo or Indian trails but was blazed by the Dragoons in 1835 under the direction of Col. Stephen W. Kearny, the dragoons being a military vangaurd to civilization. Their trails were often used by Mormons.

In 1853 Kearny was ordered on an expedition to locate a site for a new fort where the Raccoon and Des Moines Rivers converge, presently Des Moines, Ia. By 1846 this trace was an important road into interior Iowa Territory. In general, the trail followed the highlands of the Des Moines River Valley by way of Ottumwa, Oskaloosa, Pella, and Des Moines. The earliest account found in Mormon journals was of their going beyond Oskaloosa in 1849.

In a diary entry of May 29, 1850, Angelina Farley wrote of "Dutch Town". Mormons who knew the history of Pella could identify with the settlement as a city of refuge. There is a tradition in Pella that says the Mormons tried to get the Hollanders to buy their city of Nauvoo, Ill. and settle there.

The Farley diary also mentions that between Pella and Prairie City was a "paper town" surveyed for the capital of Iowa. This plat on paper never developed into a capital but did become the town of Monroe. (Earlier called Monroe City.) Angelina Farley, in her diary, recorded that her group used the surveyor's stakes for firewood.

The trail led on to Winterset, and to Lewis, Ia. Five markers on the trail were erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution but only one remains, that one in Oskaloosa.



EARLY SETTLERS - THE HAMILTONS

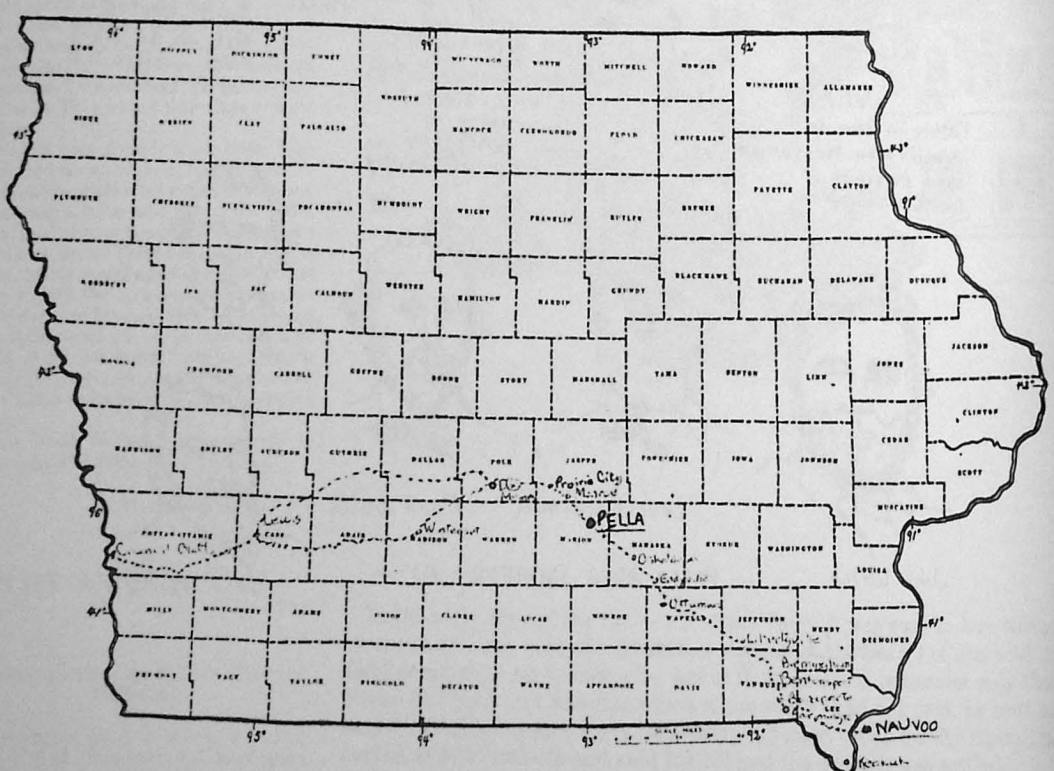
T14

(This narrative is from a letter written in 1939 by Emma Hamilton of Los Angeles, Calif. It was found in the Historical Society's Archives.)

Robert G. Hamilton was born in Bath County, Va., Feb. 2, 1824. The older brother, John B. Hamilton and Robert in company with G.T. Clark, Henry McPherson, Dr. J.L. Warren, Robert Tyler Overton, and Henry Miller emigrated to Marion Co., Ia., a few miles southeast of where Pella now is, on Apr. 26, 1843, being the earliest settlers there until they found Wellington and Levi Nossaman with their wives and babies. It has been told at reunions that they all came about the same time, May 17.

Two of the women went out walking and

A Mormon Trail That Went Through Pella (This followed the Des Moines River Valley)



A Morman Trail that went through Pella. (This followed the Des Moines River Valley)

heard men chopping wood. They rushed back to tell their husbands that white men were there. Then the men asked them how they knew they were white men. The women said, "White men chop . . . Indians hack" . . . which was true.

Then and there a friendship began between the two families that exists up to the present time, of which I have proof as I am living with grandchildren of both these families. My father was married to Rebecca Given Apr. 27, 1848.

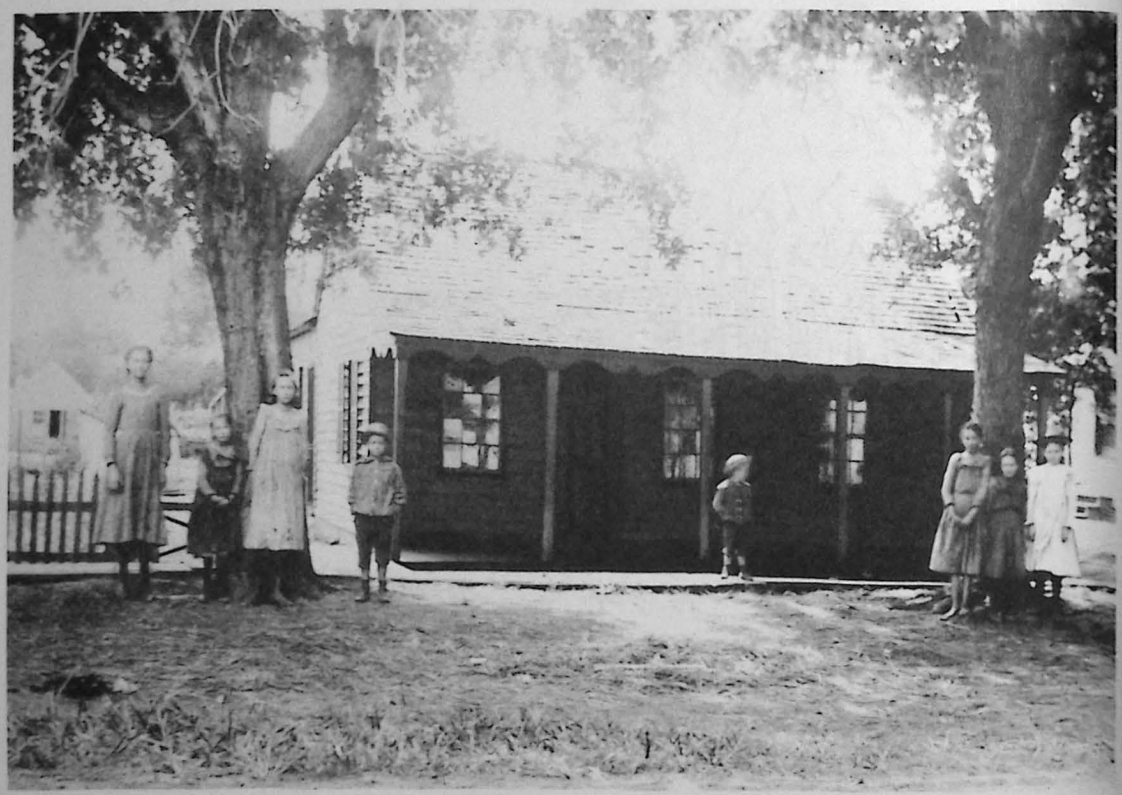
Each of the American men took claims and helped house many Hollanders until Dominie Scholte located them on farms. Again the friendship of the Hollanders is dear to me. My father's farm was the De Haan farm, later bought by H. Den Hartog.

My father donated one acre of land for a school house which was known for many years as the Hamilton schoolhouse. He also donated one acre of land for a cemetery known for years as Hamilton Cemetery. Later Mr. Porter bought a farm and added to the cemetery and it is now known as the Porter Grove Cemetery.

Later on, my parents moved into Pella. He was a carpenter and was elected as the second mayor. He was not yet twenty years old. He gave the first hundred dollars toward building the college, Mr. Nossaman did the same.

IV.

EVENTS IN THE COLONY



An early Pella home showing the American influence on Pella architecture.

HENDRIK PIETER SCHOLTE

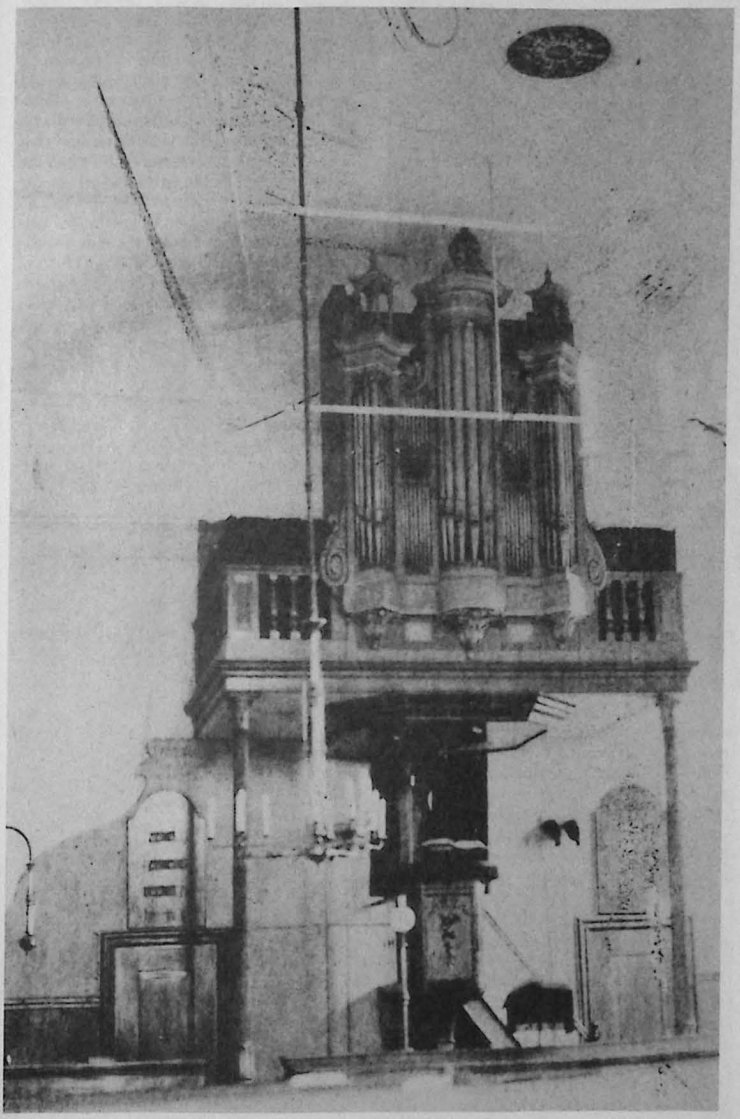
T15

They said he was independent, influential, eloquent, gifted, a man of the people, a religious leader. These qualities were evident when he became a fearless preacher, the leader of an emigrant association, a lawyer, banker, justice of the peace, realtor, businessman, newspaper editor and politician.

Hendrik Pieter Scholte was born on Sept. 25, 1805, in the city of Amsterdam. His father manufactured packing cases for sugar refineries and it was expected that the son would continue in the same business. However, his father died when Scholte was 17; his mother and brother six years later. He was free to sell and leave the business, financially independent.

He enrolled in the Amsterdam Athenaeum and two years later in the University of Leyden to continue his theological studies. During this time he was influenced greatly by a group called the Reveil (revival) which met regularly to discuss theological, philosophical and political subjects. Their particular concern was the liberal state Reformed Church which they felt had deserted Calvin and his teachings. Scholte's time at the University was interrupted briefly when he volunteered for service in the Belgian revolt in 1830.

He received his diploma in 1832 and very soon he was called to three small Reformed Churches in the province of North Brabant. He married Sara Maria Brant shortly after and the couple moved to serve their congregations. People flocked to hear him preach.



Interior of Scholte's church in Utrecht. Notice the pulpit, later moved to Pella. (Photos were taken by Robert Beard)

Mareah Scholte

Dominie H.P. Scholte

Scholte said that he stood firmly on God's truth, that the word of God was his only weapon. He preached against the powers of the national Church and for that he was suspended in 1834. He, with several other ministers and congregations, left the state church but Scholte, called the "Father of the Separation", continued to preach. He was fined, imprisoned and suffered many hardships. His magazine, "De Reformatie" published from 1837-1846, contains his views on the church, the government and, education during the period.

Great sorrow came to Scholte in the early death of his wife Sara in Jan. 1844. She had been a great help to him during his time of strife and sufferings. She left three daughters and many friends. In June, 1845 Scholte married Mareah H.E. Krantz, a young, pretty and cultured girl.

The religious, social and political conditions in Holland were no better in 1846; church gatherings were broken up by police; economic conditions were bad. Finally, a formal meeting was held in Utrecht for the

Exterior of the church in which Dominie Scholte preached in Utrecht.

purpose of forming an emigration society. Scholte was elected president and plans were made to leave The Netherlands for the U.S.

Scholte and his family left Rotterdam on Apr. 8, 1847, for Boston. He visited Albany where he was welcomed in the New York legislature, New York City where he was invited to preach in several churches, and Washington, D.C., where he says, "I was surprised by the civility of the government officials and provided with documents and maps showing the location of saleable government lands and given a letter of introduction to V.P. Van Antwerp, the Receiver of Public Moneys in Fairfield, Ia.

Scholte met the 800 Hollanders in Baltimore and supervised their journey to St. Louis where he said they were cordially welcomed. He and a committee of four traveled to Iowa to look for a good location for settlement. They found what they liked and purchased 18,000 acres of land. Scholte named the new settlement "Pella, the city of refuge". They returned to St. Louis where Scholte made arrangements for the colonists' move to Pella.

He had purchased the one log cabin which was in the present Central Park for his family. He began the construction of a large 22-room house which the family occupied eight months later. Shortly after their arrival Scholte engaged the county surveyor to plat the town and he named the streets and avenues.

Scholte felt that the colonists should engage in local government and become citizens as soon as possible. Through his influence the Iowa legislature granted the colonists the privilege of holding elections for township officers after they had taken the oath of allegiance – less than a year after their arrival. Scholte was elected justice of the peace and school inspector.

Religious services were usually conducted by the Reverend Scholte. When the colonists organized the Christian Church they reflected many of his beliefs: it was undenominational; it was founded on the "one whole and undivided word of God"; all those who believed in God were accepted as members.

The next few years were busy ones for Scholte. He supervised the erection of a church building, established a bank, encouraged the founding of Central University by giving land for the campus, and became the co-editor of the *Pella Gazette* from 1855-1860. He used the paper to keep Pella people informed about happenings in America and the world. His weekly editorials frequently dealt with the slavery question which was one of the important issues of the day.

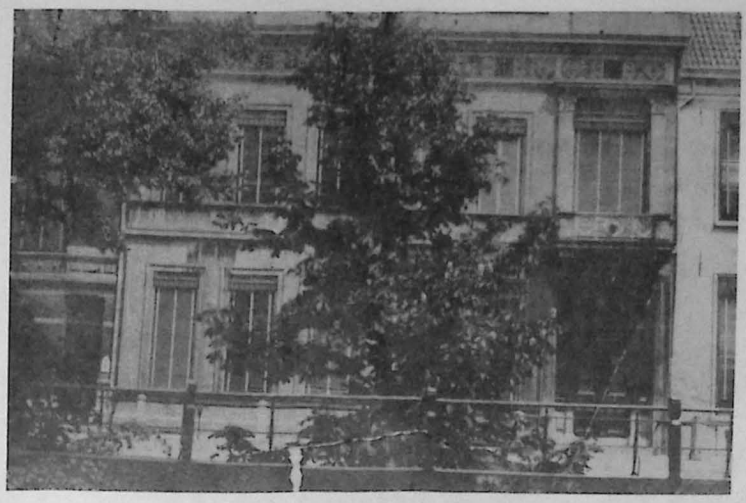
A serious dispute between Scholte and the people of Pella over the right of ownership of two lots of public lands ended Scholte's relationship with the original Christian Church. In 1855, he built his own church which he called the Christian Church II.

Scholte entered state and national politics in 1856. He became a Democrat because he was afraid that the abolitionists would destroy the union. He campaigned in Michigan for the Democrats and was received with great enthusiasm. But when he realized that the southern Democrats wished to extend the slave area he left the party and joined the Republicans. He attended the Republican State Convention in Des Moines in 1860 and was appointed a member of the state delegation to the national convention in Chicago, where he was elected one of its vice-presidents. He attended Lincoln's inaugural and carried on an extensive correspondence with him. Lincoln's appointment of Scholte as minister to Austria had to be withdrawn because he was not native born.

From 1866 until his death he published a small monthly Dutch magazine with Henry Hospers. They called it "De Toekomst" or "The Future". It was devoted to the proclamation, "The Lord is coming".

He died suddenly of a heart attack on Aug. 25, 1868, just 21 years after he had come to Pella with the colonists. He was survived by his wife Mareah, two sons, Henry and David, and ten-year old Dora.

by Alice Lammers



Scholte's residence in Utrecht.

FIRSTS IN PELLA

T16

Firsts are important in history. Firsts lead to seconds and thirds and on to indefinite numerical sequences. It is well to recall firsts in the history of our town.

The person we remember first in Pella's history is Dominie Hendrik Pieter Scholte. It was he who instigated the idea of emigration, he who made most of the preliminary plans and upon whose shoulders rested the success of the town.

Made of wood, John Lautenbach's design and construction of the first Tulip Toren was in 1940.

Anne Tysseling was first in directing the operetta, "Tulip Time in Pella" which brought the idea of a festival to local residents.

The first highway by which the Dutch came to Pella was the old State Road which wound through what was to become Pella. It went north from Oskaloosa St. on East Third to Union, then northwest to the corner of Liberty and East Second, on north to Franklin and west on Franklin to Main. It went north on Main to Washington and west on Washington to the limits of the town. East Third was then called Entrance Avenue. All north and south streets were avenues at first.

The first homes of the Dutch were log cabins they had purchased from the Americans who were here before the Dutch. It is important in the town's history that we credit the first people here, the Native Americans and the Americans. The first dwellings built by the Dutch were in Strooien Stad (Strawtown) which is now Oakwood Cemetery, where, incidentally, the first burials were made.

The town's first plat included 58 complete squares or blocks from east to west. Some sections were not occupied for many years, especially in the southwest.

The first winter was very mild followed by a tornado in May, 1848. The next winter of 1848-49 was the first taste of the reality of an Iowa winter.

The independent first church organization was the "Christelijke Kerk". The first church was built where the Church of Brethern is now located on Franklin St. behind Pella National Bank. It was also the first day school other than the homes in which children were taught.

The first election took place in the first log cabin (Tuttle's) in the center of Garden Square. It took place on the first Mon. in Apr. 1848.

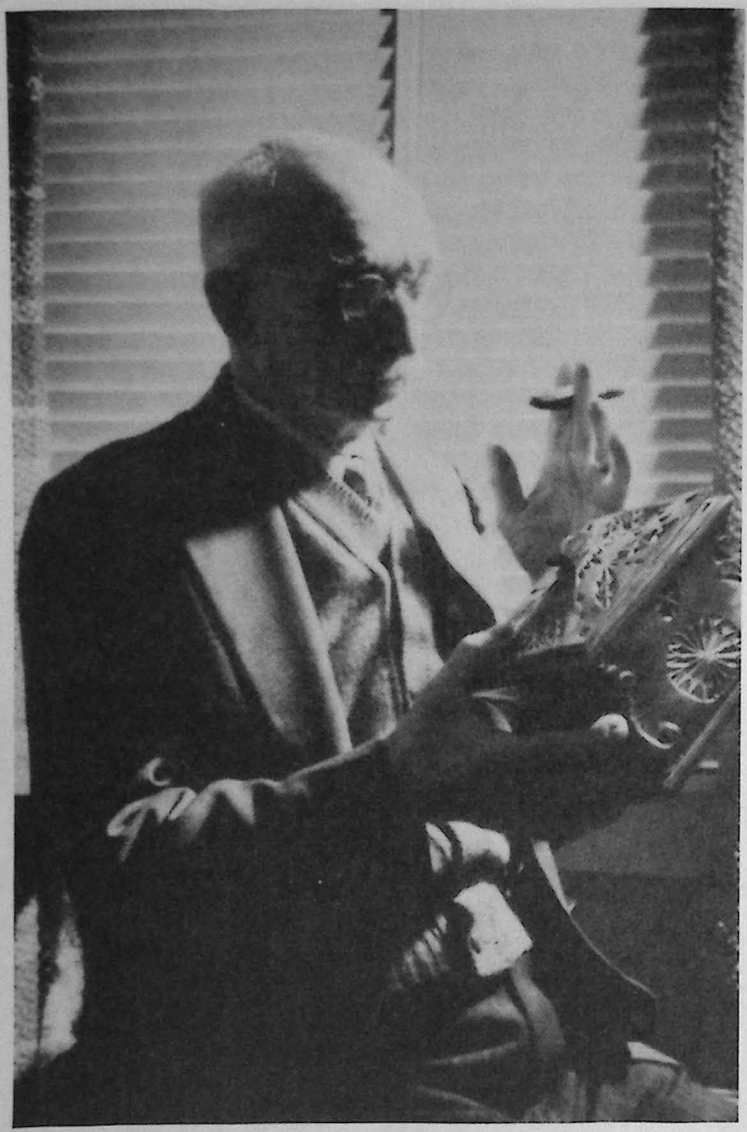
The first schoolmaster was Issac Overkamp; the first postmaster was Scholte.

The First Reformed Church was organized in 1856 and ten years later the First Christian Reformed Church was established.

The first newspaper was *The Pella Gazette*. Volume I, No. 1 was issued July 2, 1857.

The first mansion was Scholte House. After Scholte, A.E. Dudok Bousquet was the first philanthropist.

The town's corporation took place June 27, 1855, and the first mayor and aldermen were chosen for the three wards (later there was a fourth ward called the "Yankee Ward".)



George Heeren, local cabinet maker, made the first tulips out of wood for the first festival.

Pella's first "suburb" was platted as the Port of Amsterdam . . . soon to be disbanded because of floods.

The Aurora Missionary Baptist Church was actually the first church organization in the area, about six miles south of the Pella site at the home of I.C. Curtis. First religious denominations were Baptist and Methodist. There were, after all, 76 Yankee men in the region when the Dutch came . . . along with their women folk (who, unfortunately were not counted as was so often common in those early days.)

William Welch and his son-in-law, Wellington Nossaman, operated the first sawmill and corn mill. Mr. Welch was also the first potter.

Green T. Clark and John B. Hamilton planted the first fruit trees in this township in the spring of 1847.

First babies were: Albert Synhorst, first boy; and Nellie Kramer, first girl.

First car owners were: Dr. Payne; H.D. Wormhoudt; Heinie Kuyper's parents; and the Vander Zyls. Madge Vander Zyl was probably the first lady driver. Lucy Huber is remembered as the first electric car driver although she may not have been the first. She was, to all recall, the most spectacularly elegant driver!

The first campus building was known as "Old Central" many years thereafter until its death by fire.

The first bank was Pella National.

Made of wood, John Lautenbach's design and construction of the first Tulip Toren was in 1940.

Really authentic Dutch costumes were modeled by the Meulpolder families in 1937, having been brought back from The Netherlands in time for Tulip Time that year.

The first tulips were brought back from The Netherlands by Mrs. C.W. Visser in 1903.

In 1896, a Sat. saw the first game of football ever played in this vicinity. Held at the mile track, the game was between teams from Knoxville High School and Central College. Central won. "Owing to a lack of understanding in the rules, some goals were not counted!" Central's team was: Lankelma; Stoneaker; Bonger, Dickens; Livingston; Elliott; Swain; Gaass; Jenes; Mc Bride; and Bousquet.

The first independent basketball team were the Tigers who played without a sponsor and had to pay $2. a night to rent a gymnasium. Members were: Walker Sadler; Frank Den Adel; B.F. Vander Linden; Ed Gezel; Ed Van Zante; Paul Vander Zyl; and George Boyd.

The first television set was owned by Paul Vander Zyl. Pella residents would stand in the yard and look through the window to view the programs!

Central Park Cafe was the first business to be air conditioned.

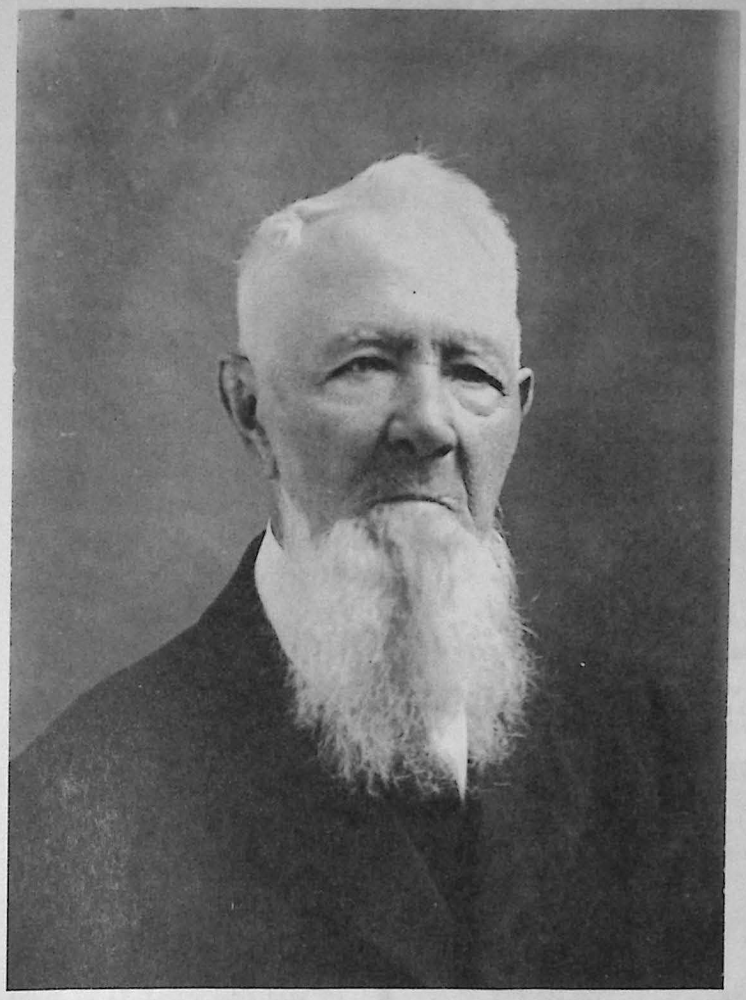
Dutch settlers who were stopping over in St. Louis in the years 1850-51 were among the first witnesses to see the railroad tracks being laid there.

John Van Veen was the first soldier in World War I to lose his life in battle. In 1935, Anne Tysseling, local music teacher, directed the operetta "Tulip Time in Pella" which brought the idea of a festival to local residents. The first tulips that year were made of wood as crafted by George Heeren, a local cabinet maker. He made one hundred twenty-five of them. They were four feet high and were placed in the flag display holes on the square.

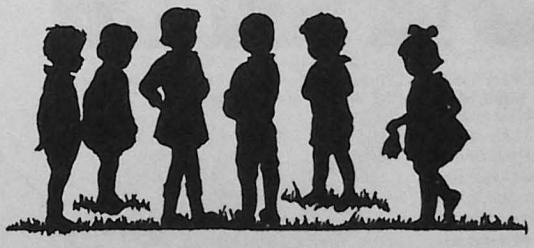
The first outdoor drive-in movie was at the Perry Klyn farm.

Kommer Van Stigt wrote the first history book about Pella in 1897 and his brother, Adrianus Van Stigt joined with Kuindert Van Klootwyk, to organize the first Sunday School in 1848.

There are thousands of firsts that could be mentioned but space limits us. Throughout the volumes of Pella History, many more firsts will be mentioned in family stories and in the numerous other stories on a variety of topics.

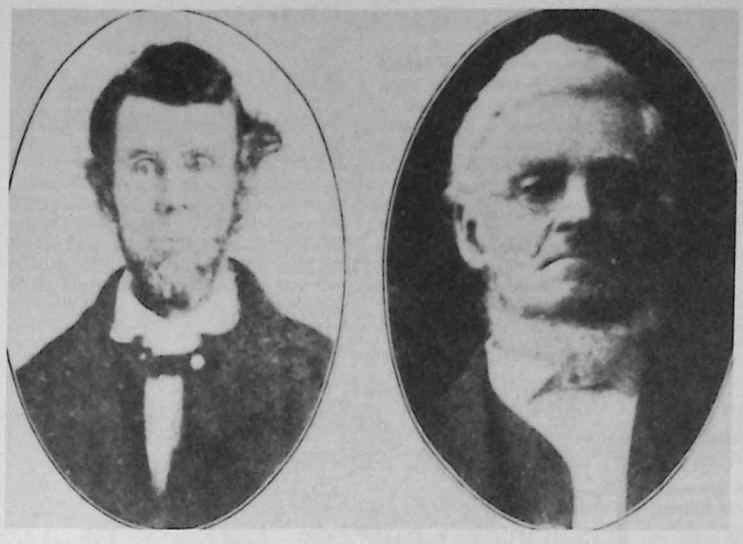


Adrianus Van Stigt, who with Kuindert Van Klootwyk, organized the first Sunday School in Pella in 1848.



In 1937 the Meulpolders had new authentic costumes which were brought back from The Netherlands just in time for Tulip Time. Back, l-r: Lane, Dan Ray, Dan, and Marinus. Middle, l-r: Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Dan; Front, l-r: Lorraine, Stuart, and Mary; They were truly "the whole Dutch family"

Tiger Basketball Team. Left to right: Paul Vander Zyl, Bernie Vander Linden, Frank Den Adel, George Boyd (and dog mascot Rex) Ed Van Zante, Walker Sadler, and Clarence "Skeets" Vander Linden.



William Welch and his son-in-law Wellington Nossaman operated the first corn and sawmill in the area.

FIRST BABIES IN PELLA

T17

As in any history, "first babies born" is always of interest to other generations which follow. In Pella, the first child born was delivered the day after his parents arrived with the colonists. Albertus Synhorst was born Aug. 26, 1847, on the site where Oakwood Cemetery is now located. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jan Synhorst who sailed on the ship *Nagasaki*. The first girl to be born was Nellie Kramer, daughter of Peter and Welmaud Kramer. She was born Feb. 7, 1848, in a cabin two miles west of town. Nellie's parents lived in a dugout in "Strawtown" and requested that they be able to have the birth take place in a more suitable setting, the J.F. LeCocq cabin being the place.

Albertus Synhorst was engaged in the meat business as an adult and for several years was city marshal. He moved to Orange City, Ia., where he lived until his death in 1911.

Nellie married A.G. Vander Meulen and after residing in Pella many years, moved to California where she died. Her body was brought to Pella and she is buried in Oakwood Cemetery which had been the site of her parents' first dugout home in Pella.

Honors of second born boy were claimed by Dirk Van Baren, son of Mr. and Mrs. Baltus Van Baren. He was born four days after Albertus Synhorst's arrival. Dirk was born Aug. 30, 1847.

The honor of being the first child born in the colony went to Albertus Synhorst born Aug. 26, 1847. He was born one mile west of Pella. The first baby girl to be born was Nellie Kramer who was born in a log cabin on the Lecocq farm southwest of Pella's limits on Feb. 7, 1848.

PELLA IN THE SUMMER OF 1848

T18

In 1967 Martha Lautenbach received an unsigned manuscript about the arrival of the Pella community in Iowa. It was found among the papers of Edgar R. Harlan, former curator of the Iowa Department of History and Archives. It was evidently intended for the Annals of Iowa publication but it cannot be verified that it ever was used. It is especially significant at this time in 1987 as we prepare the Pella History Books. The text of the story follows without editing. The author is unknown, the writing done in a pad.

"In the latter part of the summer of 1848 a steamboat load of wooden shoe Dutch was landed at the levee. The men were dressed in short coats and loose baggy trousers. The women wore short waists and full rather short skirts and they all wore big heavy wooden shoes. Germans tried to talk to them but they could not. Noboby seemed to know who they were nor where they came from. So we called them wooden shoe Dutch. My father asked my older brother if we did not want to take the big team and the big wagon and take a load of those people wherever they wanted to go. Well, of course we did. We had a fine big team and a big wagon with bows and cover on it. We hooked up and got back to the levee again in short order. When we got back Peter W. Potter, a resident of Keokuk, a large fine-looking man, was there dressed in a fine suit of clothes. He wore a tall silk hat and made a very fine appearance. Those people showed him as much respect as if he had been some very big official. They were all trying to talk to him and he was talking back to them as fast as he could. He was their interpreter. We soon made a bargain with him to take two families to Pella for $25.00. About 15 wagons were loaded in short order to go to Pella. Well, where Pella was nobody knew. There was no such place on the map and in fact I think there was no map to put it on. We were told that it was about 110 miles from Keokuk. I think that was about right. An old pioneer by the name of Jones was elected Captain and pathfinder for the train. We stopped at the Buck Horn Tavern in Charleston the first night. The next night we found a big house and a big barn away out on the open prairie. That place was called the Opossum Tavern, so called I think because they had a pet opossum. We got there a little while before sundown. When the sun was getting low we could look away across the open prairie and see Nixon's tavern five miles away. The next day we went on through Birmingham and through the colony (now called Libertyville) and past the Indian Agency and on to Agency City where we found a good hotel kept by James Caldwell. I think he was an uncle of Judge H. Clay Caldwell of Arkansas. The fourth day out we stopped at a small wayside inn just this side of Oskaloosa. The fifth day out about one o'clock we went down a hill to a small creek running through the prairie. Up the creek to the right and partway up the hill we saw some small hay stacks. We soon saw that people were bobbing up from under the hay stacks like prairie dogs. Those hay stacks were dugouts with prairie hay covers. The people came swarming to our wagons to meet friends and relatives from the old country. I

The trip to Pella as found in an unsigned document by the Iowa Department of History in Des Moines.

1. Keokuk
2. Charleston (Buckhorn Tavern)
   -passed by Opposum Tavern viewing Nixon's Tavern 5 miles across open prairie.
3. Birmingham
4. Libertyville
5. Agency City
6. Wayside Inn southeast of Oskaloosa
7. Pella

No caption

tell you they struck the glad hands. Some were laughing and some were crying and the men were talking. We waited a little while for greetings and then went on up the hill to the city of Pella. The city was there platted and staked off. There was one big, long two-story frame house with a porch all along the south side of it. This place we were told was the home of the founder of the city of Pella. I think his name was Scholten. There were perhaps 10 or 12 little huts. They set posts in the ground about eight or nine feet high and about two feet apart, then they took hazel brush and wove them in like basket work and plastered and covered them with prairie hay and with mud. That was Pella in 1848. If you were to see how the world moves and how the Hollanders have moved things in the world, go and see Pella as it is today. I think those Hollanders and their descendants were as good citizens as we ever had in this country. Many of them stopped here and helped to build up the city of Keokuk."

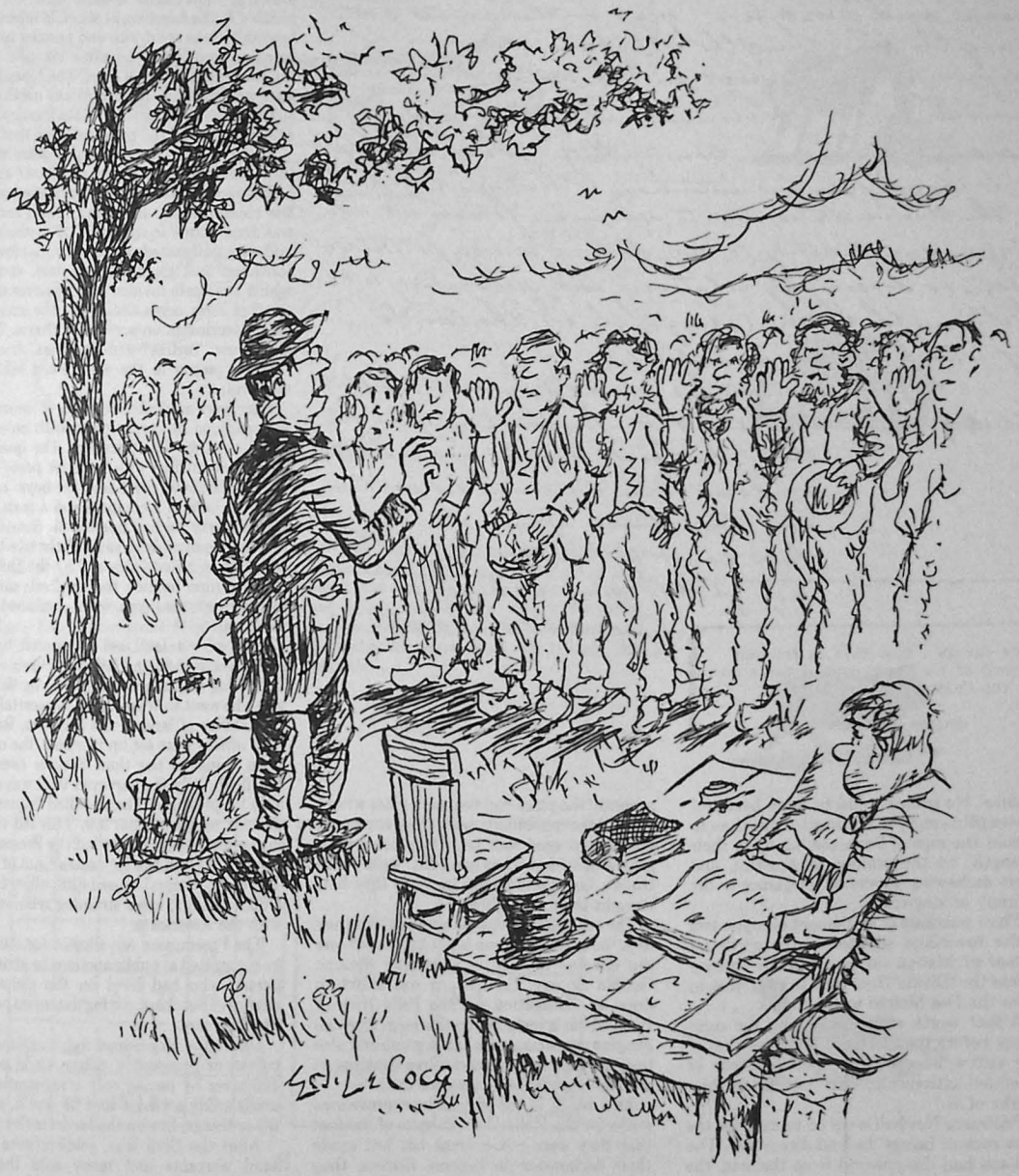
Strawtown as painted by Leonora Scholte, copied from a painting by an itinerant artist. This scene depicts what the unknown writer in the article saw in 1848 when he came to Pella.

SWEARING ALLEGIANCE TO THE UNITED STATES 1847

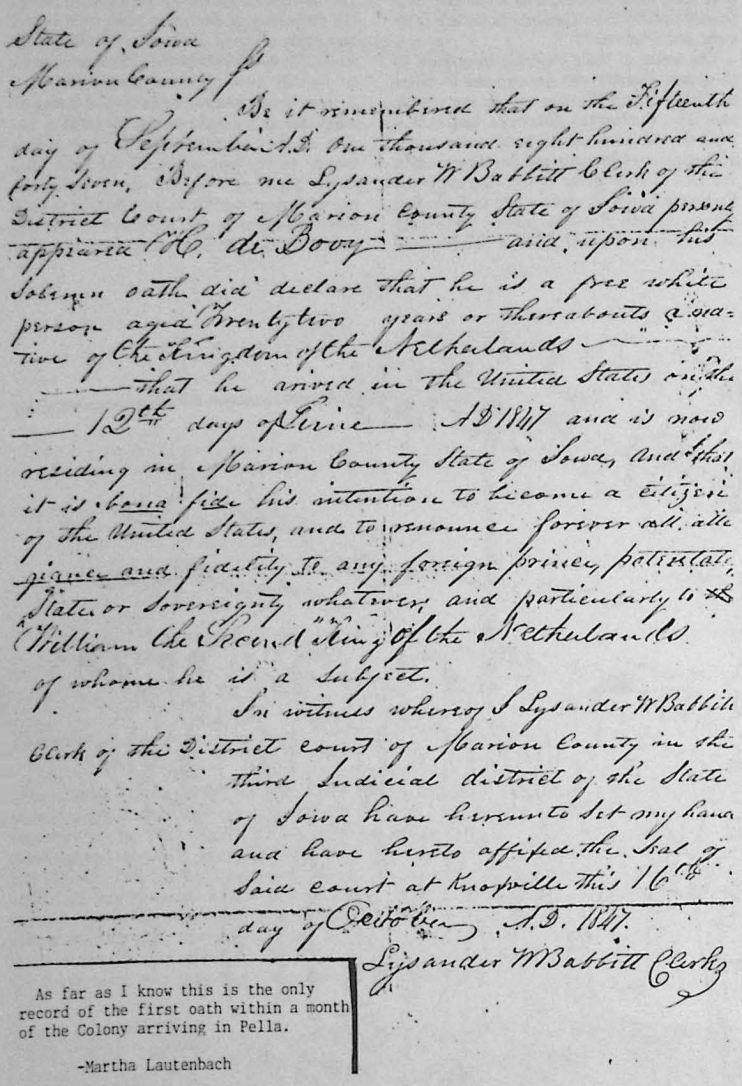
T19

The Hollanders of the Dutch Colony of Pella had asked immediately after they had reached their land that they would have the lawful right to select their own township officials. This was done through the agency of the Committee of Organization and was received from the State Legislature. They were then incorporated. The settlement was greatly indebted to Dominie Scholte's foresight and wisdom.

The scene of their swearing allegiance to their new country and denouncing loyalties to King William II group was an impressive one. The *Burlington Hawkeye* had sent a reporter out into the state to write about activities in settlements and developments in the Des Moines River valley. The reporter, Professor Newhall, made a trip to Pella and wrote at length about the colony. On the day of his arrival, Sept. 17, 1847, it was his good fortune to witness the proceeding where over two hundred male adults were going through the ceremony of declaring their intention of becoming citizens of the United States. He wrote, "It was an altogether impressive scene to behold two hundred men with their brawny arms upraised to heaven abjuring all allegiance to foreign powers, potentates, etc. And as they all responded in their native tongue to the last words of the oath "Zoo helpe mij God" no one could resist the heartfelt response, 'So help them God to keep their solemn vow.' All appeared to feel the weight of responsibility they were about to



200 Pella males declared their intentions of becoming citizens of the United States on Sept. 17, 1847.



State of Iowa
Marion County ss

Be it remembered that on the Fifteenth day of September A.D. one thousand eight hundred and forty Seven, Before me Lysander W Babbitt Clerk of the District Court of Marion County State of Iowa personally appeared C. de Booy and upon his solemn oath did declare that he is a free white person aged Twenty two years or thereabouts a native of the Kingdom of the Netherlands that he arrived in the United States on the 12th days of June A.D. 1847 and is now residing in Marion County State of Iowa, and that it is bona fide his intention to become a Citizen of the United States, and to renounce forever all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince potentate State or Sovereignty whatever, and particularly to William the Second King of the Netherlands of whom he is a subject.

In witness whereof I Lysander W Babbitt Clerk of the District court of Marion County in the third Judicial district of the State of Iowa have hereunto set my hand and have hereto affixed the Seal of said court at Knoxville this 16th day of October A.D. 1847.

Lysander W Babbitt Clerk

As far as I know this is the only record of the first oath within a month of the Colony arriving in Pella.

-Martha Lautenbach

assume. No tribute could be more beautiful or complimentary to our institutions than to behold the men of Pella coming up in their strength, on the prairies of America, and there aschewing forever all allegiance to the tyranny of king-craft.

Their purchase or settlement occupies two entire townships situated in the northeast corner of Marion Co. and extends entirely across the 'Divide' from river to river, that is, from the Des Moines to the Skunk . . .

A fact worth recording during the ceremony before the Clerk of Court was, that of the entire number that took the oath of intended citizenship, only two made their marks of X."

Professor Newhall went on to describe the 'new race of beings' he had discovered. The Indians had disappeared from the area, the professor assumed, and in their place had come a broad-shouldered race in velvet jacket and wooden shoes. And in the 'antiquity of a month' the place had become a place where most of the inhabitants were living in camps, the tops covered with tent cloth, some with grass and bushes. They had built "walls" with trunks, boxes and chests in which they had brought their belongings.

The exact location of the area in which they took the oath as a group is not known but one can imagine it to be in what later became Garden Square. Ed LeCocq was asked to draw an illustration for the Pella History Book which is included on this page. One can imagine the seriousness of the group and also imagine the women and children standing at a suitable distance as they watched.

As a result of the special legal provisions made for the Hollanders, in spite of the fact that they were not citizens but had made their declaration to become citizens, they were permitted to elect their own Township Officers and an election took place on the first Monday in 1848 in the log house that stood in the Garden Square.

Citizenship was granted the colonists five years after their arrival.

HOMESTEADING

T20

In "new" land areas such as in Iowa, land was surveyed in sections which were six miles long and six miles wide. From these were derived townships. There was an east-west baseline and a north-south line which was called the principal meridian. These were drawn at right angles to each other. On the parallel to the baseline, at six-mile intervals, township lines are drawn and parallel to the principal meridian, the same six-mile distances are called range lines. The townships were numbered by their locations north and south of the baseline and by their range line east and west of the principal meridian.

Each township was thirty-six square miles in size and was made up of 23,040 acres. Lakes, river, and state boundaries often made the measurements inaccurate. Each section was divided into four parts of 160 acres each and were designated as northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest quarters, each of which was again divided into "quarter quarters" of forty acres which was the smallest legal description on surveyor's charts. Thus the terms "forties" and "eighties" became familiar jargon in the early Pella settlers' vernacular.

Surveyors marked the corners of townships and sections by corner posts with numbers and letters for identification. The quarters were all identified with "quarter posts".

When land was purchased, the buyer could, with the help of a compass and a map, find the property he had purchased. Sometimes marks were made with an ax on the tree trunk which were called "blessen" by the Dutch.

Townships became the smallest units of local government and were combined into counties.

Mapped-out land was registered by the surveyors in the Land Office in Washington, D.C. This was the method used by Scholte when he went to Washington to ascertain the availability of land in the Midwest. Branch land offices were set up in states, the one in Iowa being at the time Scholte came, in Fairfield. Only the surveyed land was available for purchase. The so-called "squatters" did not recognize that law. This led to two important laws of the period the Preemption Act of 1841 and the Homestead Act of 1862. The early "claims" caused difficulties for the Dutch settlers, often straining relationships with the Americans.

The Preemption Act allowed for claims to be recognized at public auctions by giving the person who had lived on the claim first chance at purchase, paying minimum price of $1.25 an acre.

Under the Homestead Act, any American citizen or prospective citizen could possess 160 acres by paying only a registration fee and signing a pledge that he would, among other things, live on the land for five years.

After the Civil War, soldiers were given land warrants and many sold these to developers, the soldiers often selling for a profit.

In 1847, Scholte was able to buy many

pieces of farmland already under cultivation with livestock. He bought out many American farmers.

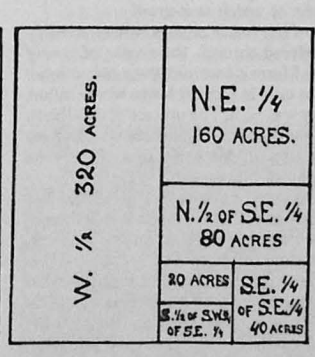
We found an interesting bit of information in the book *Dutch Immigrant Memoirs and Related Writings* by H.S. Lucas.

At the time of homesteading in Pella, section numbers available were put in a box and the names of people wanting land in another box. One slip was taken out of each box at the same time. The man whose name was taken had to live on the northeast quarter, and he could choose three people for the other quarters from his friends and relatives.

N.

W.

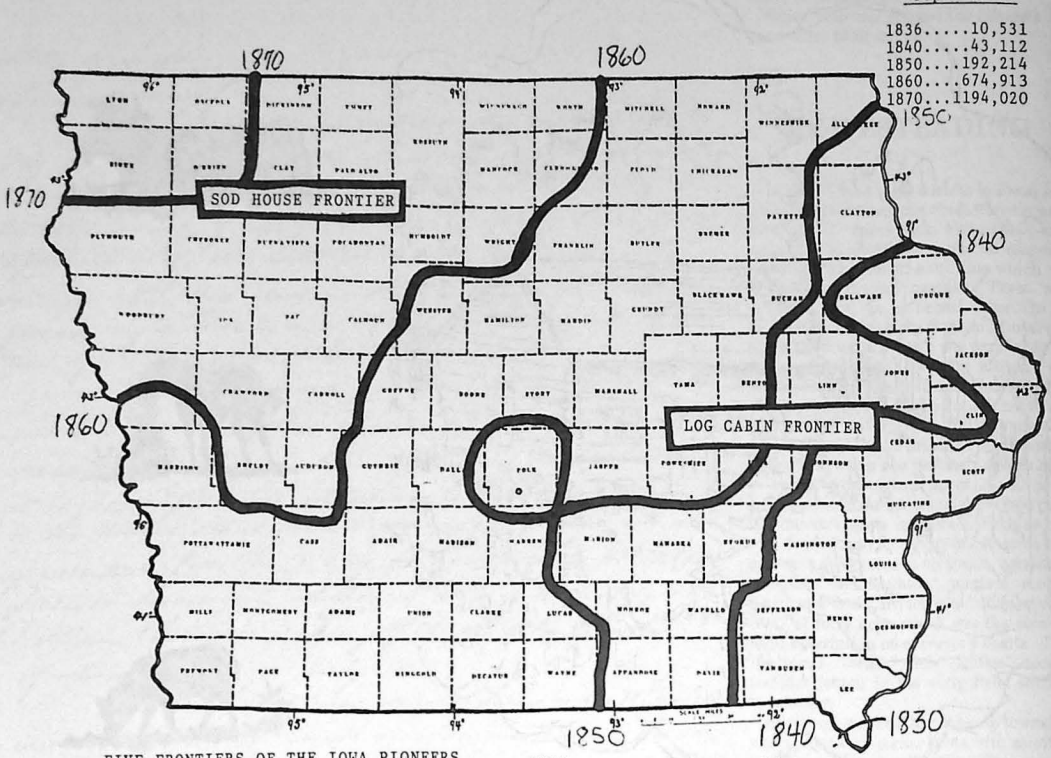
6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36



E.

S.

A section and its further division.



FIVE FRONTIERS OF THE IOWA PIONEERS

SETTLEMENT FRONTIERS

T21

A RELUCTANT PIONEER

T22

Mareah Scholte, wife of the town's founder was indeed a reluctant pioneer. She was, it was said, a stranger in a strange land. However, she lived most of her adult life in Pella. To say she lived a life of regret as historians seem to persist upon doing, seems unfair to Mareah.

We sympathize with her at the sad leaving of her parents whom she would never see again. Thousands of other emigrants left parents behind. We grieve with her at the loss of the first child she was carrying when the news came to her that she was expected to accompany her husband, Dominie Scholte, to America. She had no desire to leave. Uncounted others left home and hearth, left their hearts in the homeland and they survived. So did Mareah.

She was better educated, more refined, and of a higher level of social class than most of those who came to Pella. Mareah was said to be aloof. She did, however, find many her equal in the social amenities, in talents. Surely all her days were not miserable. She found joy in the beauties of nature, in music, art and literature. True, the Iowa prairie was not Paris, but there were many events going on in which she participated. There was, after all, a town to watch as it grew!

Many of her fellow pioneer women in early Pella suffered through the deaths of young children. Mareah's sorrows were not unique. It was not only in pioneer towns where infant mortality was high. The process of childbirth with infant deaths and mothers' deaths were sad statistics in Mareah's time. Grief was companion to pioneers.

Mareah loved and lost. She loved and lost babies, her husband, friends, a young daughter. But she was loved again by a young, handsome man who wooed her in a May-December romance, a second marriage that lasted as long as her first. Joys certainly abounded as her sons married and gave her daughters-in-law . . and subsequently, grandchildren. Her step-daughters' families were surely delights in Mareah's life.

Her home was "her palace", filled with lovely furnishings; the grounds were a place of beauty. Her delft dishes were found broken into pieces as her spirit was said to have been. Surely time healed.

It is surprising that she never returned home to The Netherlands, but neither did the majority of the other Dutch pioneers. Mareah could have gone. She agonized over recalling seasickness and preferred not to make another sea voyage. It was her choice. Her niche was in Pella, her forte the family and circle of friends.

Mareah's beauty never left her. She dressed in the latest fashions and enjoyed the wealth she had inherited. Her life was filled with luxuries other pioneer women were denied. She was spared the hard labor, the degradations to which so many pioneer women were accustomed. Surely Mareah was wise enough to realize her good fortune.

She saw the birth of the new town, although she had had other ideas of what that birthing would be. Little did she know her first American home would be a crude log cabin! As the town grew, so did Mareah. Ever the aristocrat, she was not the sterotype of pioneer women but she was tenacious. She endured. Reluctant she may have been, but she was a pioneer, and in her own way a legend, not in her own time but in ours for we can view her life in retrospect. Her legacy to the town lies in her lovely home so tastefully preserved; her spirit pervades the premises

Mareah Scholte in the last years of her life was a strikingly beautiful woman. She died at age 71, in Sept., 1892.

and we treasure the memory of that reluctant pioneer.

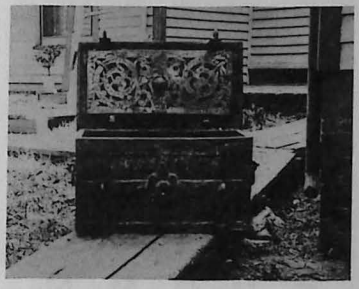
THE IRON CHEST

T23

[Taken from the description given in the *Souvenir History of 1922.*]

In the front of the box is a keyhole, into which the great iron key fits perfectly, but upon turning the key the box fails to unlock. That keyhole is a "blind", the real one being in the center of the lid, concealed by what appears to be the head of one of the large rivets. A smart tap on the side of this rivet head causes it to turn on a pivot, revealing the true keyhold. One turn of the key moves eight bolts – three on each side and one at each end – that fit in sockets in the wall of the chest. This old box is one of the highly-prized relics of Marion County.

The iron chest or strong box, in which the money of the colonists was brought over from The Netherlands, is still preserved in the Pella National Bank. It was handmade by Dutch blacksmiths in the old country, and is an ingenious piece of work.



THE GARDEN SQUARE CONTROVERSY

T24

It is unreal to even imagine Pella without the beautiful Garden Square. We do not think of it as it would look with businesses on the lots or with a courthouse centered in it. But this could have been. We perhaps should appreciate it even more when we think of those suppositions.

Dominie Scholte, in platting the town of Pella, reserved two market places, one in the west and one in the east. Also set aside was Block 26 which was from the beginning known as a garden square. It was thought that it would always remain a public domain. Lots around the square, across from the reserved area, sold for $100, the other lots went for $50.

From 1847 to 1874, Dominie Scholte and his wife held exclusive possession and control of the square. They had it planted and had it tended. They also paid the taxes on the property which is important to remember before we preclude an opinion further on in the tale.

It is said that Scholte envisioned Pella as the county seat and kept the square (Block 26) with this in mind as he would have offered it for a building site. This, we know, did not materialize.

In 1868 when Scholte died, Mareah inherited the square and decided to sell lots on it. Needless to say, the town was in an uproar insisting that this block had been set aside as a public garden when Scholte and the board decided on how the city should be planned.

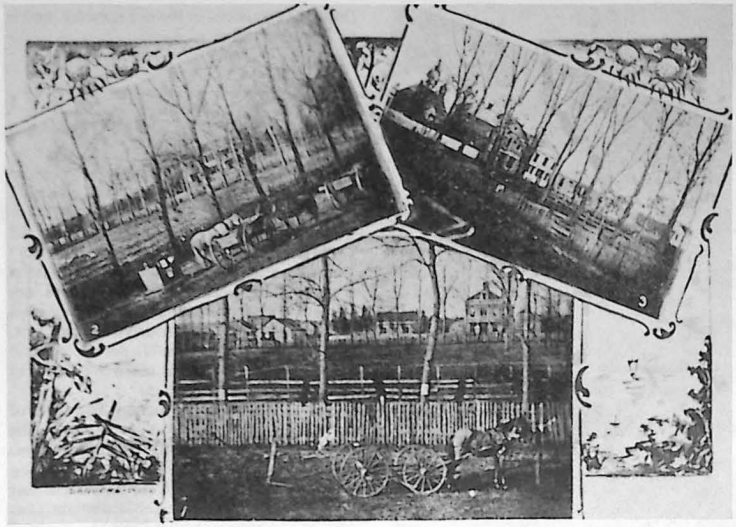
After dragging on for some time, the Supreme Court of Ia. in Dec. 1874 ruled in the case of William Fisher vs. M.H.E. Beard (Mareah had married Robert Beard by that time). Judge E.S. Sampson ruled that the Garden Square would be used as public place and M.H.E. Beard would pay court costs.

Many people from Pella had been called to testify through the years of court action. By 1874, Scholte and several other witnesses were dead but their previous depositions were used as testimony. The decision stated the Garden Square would now be used only for the use of the public . . . not for anyone's private use.

The East Market area now houses Fair Haven and the Pella Manor. To build there, a decision was voted upon and agreed to by Pella residents and Scholte heirs. West Market remains an open park for townspeople to enjoy.

The east and west open areas were market places. The open space called Garden Square was exactly as stated . . . it was to be a garden and not a market place.

(See photo next page.)



Garden Square as it appeared when it was fenced before 1874.

STUMPTOWN

T25

Today, to find the area once called "Stumptown", one heads out of town west on Highway 163 and turns north at Ron's Yamaha. Driving a few miles north one will find where the old Bethel Church once stood although no remnants of it are found. An intersection clocked about six miles from Highway 163 is roughly your guideline to the boundary of "Stumptown".

Here, at the turn of the road, stood a log cabin built of rough logs built by an American, Andy Cradle. The Dutch Van Oostrums bought the twenty acres for $300 and it was where Henry Van Oostrum lived. As an elderly man, Van Oostrum wrote an article for the May 2, 1940 *Chronicle* in which he told of life in that little settlement.

Two miles east was another boundary of "Stumptown" now on the Galesburg road where lived Nicholaas (Charlie) Van Vliet. Nicholaas' father became a large land owner.

Many Yankees had their cabins in the woodlands and by chopping down trees, had a trail throughout the woods. John Boot, Dutch, tried to extend the trail to his home but the road was never marked with anything but wagon tracks. Other landowners were the Akkermans, J.Rosiersz (who lived in town but bought and sold land) and many of the "Boskippen" or "Timber Chickens" as the Dutch labeled the Americans.

Elias Shaeffer lived there with his family. They were adept at cutting trees, making stringers for bridges and rails for fences. Brother Levi was a smith, handy with tools. The women made fine cloth. Others were Amos Parker, John Hevelin, a squatter who owned no land, the Schoonovers, Stukesberrys, Maugnets, Bowens (the ford of the river was near his cabin), the Abe Scott family (who ran a ferry) and James Parker who lived near what was later called Parker's bridge. Near the John Boot farm lived Tom Bell. The Dutch were the C. Den Burgers, Henry Den Beest (who had a saw mill and quarry near the river at the base of a big hill) and the previously mentioned Boots who had rich bottom land soil.

Americans near what was later the De Goey farm, were the Bakers. They lived on a high ridge farm jokingly called Granny Baker's nose. Simon Simonse lived on what was the De Goey farm. South a bit lived G. Roorda and southeast a Buwalda family. Herke Terpstra and Herman Hasselman lived there on the road as did Gerrit Vander Wilt. A bit east on the road lived Philip Koeleman and Hap Swank who lived near what was Bell School.

The acres were cleared of the timber, cut a little at a time, leaving a multitude of stumps which were the derivative of the place's nickname, "Stumptown".

In the early 1870's a smallpox epidemic settled there which claimed eighteen lives. William Van Oostrum and Simon Simonse became "angels of mercy" and dared care for the sick, ministering to them and burying the dead. They changed their contaminated clothes before going home and upon return, changed clothes again. Neither took the sickness. A little plot of land west of where Gerald Terpstra lived in 1940 was the burial ground.

A Teddy Bowen who lived in the area was once accosted by ruffians searching for liquor. When he gave the ruffians water instead, having no whiskey, they three times hanged him, letting him down and repeatedly asking for whiskey. Near death, Teddy was rescued by John Boot who heard the noise and investigated.

Most of the people were fine Americans who mingled with the Dutch . . . all seeking a new frontier. Gradually the "Stumptown" land was acquired by Akkerman and Boot and the "Boskippen" left the scene, many moving to Lower Grove. Much of the land was sold, the Rietveld family acquiring much of it.

THE "SPITE HOUSES"

T26

John Voorhees Home

The stately three-story home that stands four miles east of Pella on Highway 163, was built in 1871 by John Voorhees, an enterprising farmer who moved to Mahaska Co. from Ohio in 1853.

Mr. Voorhees married Margaret Canine in 1854. Their family consisted of five sons and one daughter. Two daughters died early in life and are buried in Black Oak Cemetery, located about a mile from the Voorhees home. Mr. Voorhees came to the area with $800 which he invested in real estate. His investments enabled him to purchase and develop what was called one of the best-improved and largest farms in the area.

Final cost of the Italianate-styled home was from $10,000 – $13,000, twice the amount that Mr. Voorhees had originally intended.

Besides his grain farming, Mr. Voorhees managed a large livestock enterprise, Black Angus cattle, horses, and hogs. *The Iowan* magazine of fall, 1964, recorded that "Mr. John Vorhees of Black Oak Township sold 226 head of hogs averaging 340 pounds each, and received for them $11.00 per hundred at the pen — the lot bringing $6,462.40! We call this first rate. If any have done better let them report and we'll give them a notice sure."

In the book *Proud Mahaska* by S.A. Phillips, Mr. Voorhees is quoted as being "a great reader, and, we are informed, takes more newspapers than any other farmer in his section of the country. He is modest and retiring in disposition, and though he shows a commendable pride in the appearance of his home and surroundings, there is nothing of ostentatious display."

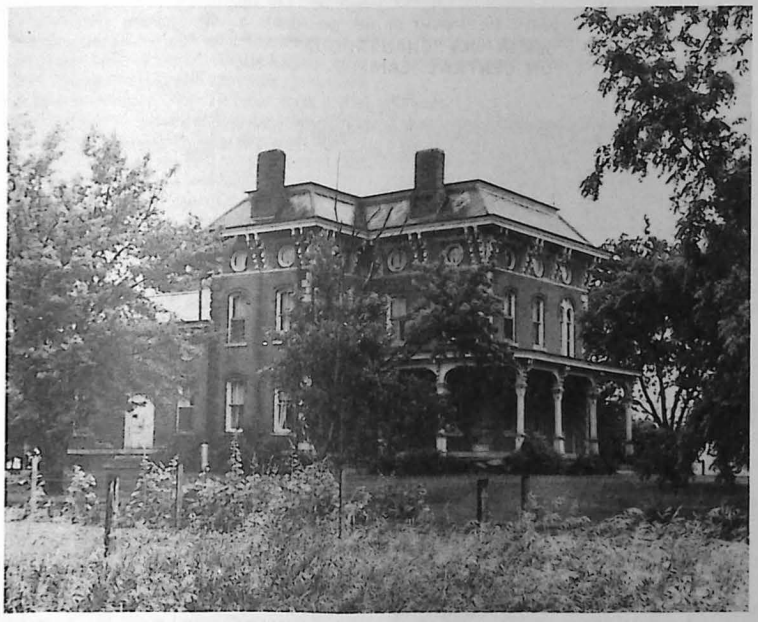
In "Memories of the Voorhees," from the Voorhees Geneology, written in 1971 by Elva Voorhees Minish, (granddaughter of John Voorhees), the writer tells that in the summer of 1870, her grandfather made a great many bricks from clay found on the farm, with which he planned to build a large house. She writes, "In 1871, one hundred years ago, a very large house, 68'x54' was built and finished late that year. This house still stands and one can still see in the slate roof on the front of the house, the numbers of the year it was built. He also built a brick house for his father-in-law just down the road a little way. Two years before, John Smith had built a fine large wooden house about one mile south. This one had a cupola on the top with six windows on each of the four sides from which one could see for many miles.

For some reason or other a spite story got started about these two men, that Voorhees built a larger, more elaborate house than Smith because Smith had received the prestige because of his new home . . . these stories always made my mother, Allgenett Ryan Voorhees, very angry for she says there wasn't an ounce of truth in them. She should have been qualified to know for the Mr. Voorhees was her father-in-law, she lived in that neighborhood for a number of years, and one of Smith's daughters married her brother. She says her father-in-law did not make the new home just because Mr. Smith had, but because they needed one this large. Mr.

The home built by John Smith in 1869 on what is now Highway 163 between Pella and Oskaloosa. Photo by Joan Liffring-Zug 1961.

Smith and Mr. Voorhees were very good friends and neighbors."

The writer also goes on to describe the house in some detail: "The front double doors of the Voorhees house opened into a hall with a beautiful curved walnut banister up along the long flight of stairs around the corner and along the length of the upstairs hall. The parlor was at the side of this hall in the middle front of the second floor; beyond this the parlor bedroom. A back stairs led up to the boys' bedrooms from the sitting room an a back-back stairs to the hired help quarters. The sitting room was in the middle front of the first floor, a large dining room-kitchen, pantry and large summer kitchen was back of this. There was a large, low closet back of the cook stove, used as a boot closet, warm and dry. On the other side of the house were two bedrooms, one for John (?) and Margaret and one for daughter, Dora. The front porch wrapped across the front and both sides of the house, while out in the back was a very large porch, at least 12'x30' where much of the family life took place in the summer."



John Voorhees' house, completed in 1871. The two houses are called "The Spite Houses". Photo by Joan Liffring-Zug 1961.

Voorhees-Minish continues, "The third floor of the house was actually in a high attic. Round windows were spaced around the outside walls. In between some of these were pipes through the wall, behind which were placed beehives. The bees could come in and out, making their honey. When Grandma wanted honey, someone simply went up into the attic, removed the back of a hive and helped themselves. The top of the attic was flat, reached by a trap door. Originally, the housetop had a railing around it with round sphere-like tops capping the corner posts. These were also around the front porch. Some of these can still be found in the attic, along with the original outside shutters. These were very heavy and at least two inches thick.

"All of the woodwork on the inside of the house had to be made by hand with hand-powered tools. Much of the window woodwork was grooved and had fancy designs on it. The carpenter stayed all winter in the Voorhees home, receiving his board, room and washing, and only got the sitting room finished. The upstairs parlor, front hall and parlor bedroom were to have more elaborate woodwork made. But when it had taken so long to make the sitting room woodwork, Grandpa John said, 'No! This is good enough for anybody and so you make the rest of the house like the sitting room.' "

The Voorhees family was of Holland descent, but had been in the United States a good many years, coming west from New York and New Jersey in the very early times. Grandpa always needed more help to run his big operation. He would pay the transportation (boat and rail) for Dutchmen to come to Pella from Holland and live and work to repay this money back to him. Many young farmers in later years would give credit and thanks to Grandpa for their start in the United States. The newest 'green Dutchman' (as the boys called them) always sat next to Grandpa at the table, so he could help them and also teach them the English language. He would hand them bread, say the word, and they repeated it. Needless to say the Voorhees' boys did their share of making life miserable for these green hands. There was a large ice-house adjoining the back of the woodhouse which joined back of the house. This was always filled from the Skunk River each winter with the help of the neighbors. In the summer the young folks enjoyed many freezers of homemade ice-cream. My sister, Stella, who was the same age as her uncle Fred Voorhees, told about having ice-cream on Sunday afternoon. Everyone gathered on the large back porch to help make it. One Sunday the Voorhees boys dished up a large bowl of it, gave it to one of the new Dutchmen, along with a large spoon. They told him to take a big spoonful, because it was very good. Of course, when he obliged the cold went to his head. Dropping the dish, he grabbed his head and ran out into the orchard, east of the house, crying, 'You kilt me, you kilt me!'

Grandma was a fine housekeeper and managed her home and family in the best manner. But she always had a neighbor girl or one from Pella to live in and work for a

small wage. These girls learned to keep a good house, cook and sew, but never were they allowed to sit and waste time. Always there was sewing, mending, knitting, or if that was all done, carpet rags to sew or quilts to piece.

In 1898, Grandpa had a stroke while out in the field working and died shortly afterwards. The older boys were gone and the younger boys couldn't seem to manage the farm and stock. In two years, Grandma decided to sell out and move to Pella and be a 'lady,' So the lovely brick house was sold and out of the family.

Grandma wanted to be a town lady all the way and even wanted to be buried in the town cemetery. So she had Grandpa moved from the country cemetery to the one in Pella. Later she married a widower, Mr. Gardner, a nice, quiet, gentleman without much money. He didn't live too many years. She got so she needed someone to look after her, so she visited around in her children's homes for a few years and finally lived with her son, Frank, and his wife, Nellie, until she died in 1921. She had become entirely blind in her last years."

The granddaughter also tells that the curve in Highway 163 came about because of Mr. Voorhees' influence. His farm was on a diagonal road from Oskaloosa to Pella, but he decided his house was too far from the road, so he talked the county supervisors into curving the road to pass right in front of his house.

A story that has long circulated over the years is that a tunnel existed between the Voorhees and Smith homes. Many people believed that the tunnel was built as part of the Underground Railroad. Even though the house was built after the Civil War and therefore it seems unlikely that the tunnel was part of the Underground Railroad, it is nevertheless true that Mahaska County history records actual skirmishes between carpetbaggers and recently freed Blacks; some of the local people were sympathetic with the Blacks and tried to help them. During the last few years a resident of Oskaloosa told of being in the tunnel as a young boy and described the tunnel as being deteriorated even then. He stated that a friend who worked for the highway told of the tunnel being filled in during construction of the present highway. This story remains an elusive but interesting mystery.

The Voorhees home is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The exterior brickwork is true tuckpointing, executed by Mr. Binns, an English immigrant, who served as head mason for the Voorhees. This tuckpointing technique was used extensively in Europe but rarely in the United States.

The house features seventy windows and thirty-five doors; forty-four large decorative brackets help create the ornate exterior appearance of the house.

The home was sold by the Voorhees family to the Ver Meer family at the turn of the century. It was Antonie Ver Meer who purchased it. His sons Tunis, Jake, and Otto lived there as did Brandt and Ed Ver Meer. The Virgil Terpstra family lived there, Mrs. Terpstra being a Ver Meer. Thus it was in the Ver Meer family until 1979 when it was purchased by Glen and Lila Turnbull who are working on the restoration of the home.

The Smith House, one of the famous "spite" houses, is on Highway 163 between Oskaloosa and Pella. The frame dwelling was built by John Smith, a farmer of French descent, who came to Iowa 20 years before from Indiana. Legend has it that John Smith, a rich Frenchman, wanted to build the largest, most pretentious house in the county. The house was started in 1869, and followed the mid-century idea of a large American home. It was a 42x44 feet two-story frame building with an attic, 14 rooms and a tower or cupola.

The outstanding feature, Smith's pride and joy, of the house is a circular, walnut staircase four flights high. Each rung of the balustrade was turned by hand. At the top of the staircase is the cupola with 23 windows. Legend has it that it was used for spying, probably put there because of the magnificent view of the countryside and possibly as a sunny play area for the children.

Another legend hints that a tunnel once joined the two houses (Smith and Voorhes) a quarter mile apart. Supposedly it was used as a part of the Underground Railroad to aid escaping slaves who were traveling north. Since both houses were built after the Civil War, this legend would seem mostly speculation. However, when J.C. De Bruin dug out some more room in the basement to put in a coal furnace, he did locate a small recess in the dirt wall which he thought might have been used as a hiding place for valuables.

A fairly large family, many hired hands, and household help lived in the house. Rooms for the teacher and preacher were also necessary. Travel was done by buggy when the home was built, only short distances could be covered in a day, and a weary traveler needed a room to spend the night.

As all nine J.C. De Bruin children grew up in the Smith Mansion they have many memories. Some can remember how it attracted the attention of travelers; many have stopped to inquire if they might take a tour of the Smith Mansion. How we played an the staircase, dropping objects from the topmost flight. In moments of extreme daring, we slid down the turning bannister.

About 1891 Smith sold the home to H.A. Tysseling. Then in about 1909 it was sold to J.C. De Bruin, who lived in the house and farmed the surrounding 196-acre farm until 1936. In about 1960 it was sold to Albert J. De Bruin, son of J.C. At the present time Bruce De Bruin, son of Albert De Bruin, is living in it.

by Lila Turnbull and Frances De Bruin

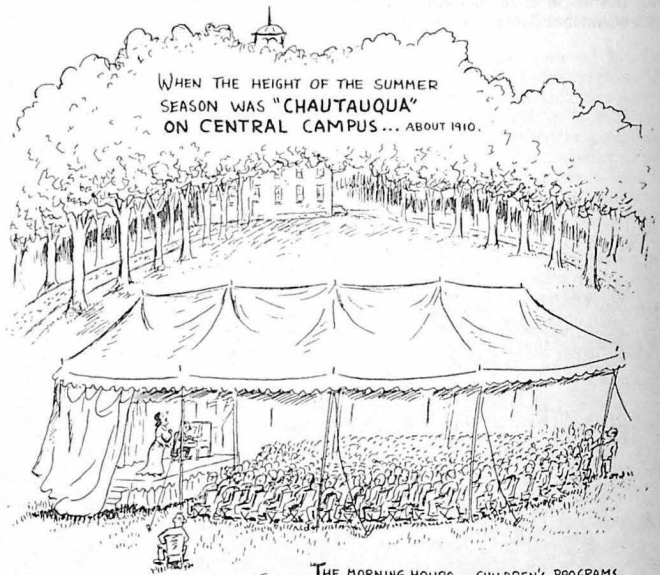
PELLA'S CHAUTAUQUA

T27

Pella! Pella! Why did you wait
For this Chautauqua 'til 1908?
Pella! Pella! Isn't this fine?
Come again, come again in 1909.

This verse introduced the *Pella Chronicle's* story of the first Chautauqua held in Pella. Chautauqua, the traveling cultural event which originated in New York, ran for about ten days of June or July. The programs included speakers, musicians, and entertainers. Many of the performers would arrive by train, and accounts indicate there were some late arrivals. Performers who arrived on Sunday may have had to walk part of the way when some trains were not running.

The Central College campus was the site for the main program tent and the sleeping tents. A detailed program of the 1909 second



The Pella Chautauqua tent, 1908.

assembly says one could rent a 14 by 16 feet tent for ten days for $4.50. Season ticket admission was $2.00 or single admission 25¢.

Chautauqua provided the chance for people in Pella and across the country to hear musicians like the Royal Hungarian Orchestra, or hear the Fiddling Senator Bob Taylor who was described as the highest priced man to entertain a Pella audience. Many of the speakers were politicians or preachers. William Jennings Bryan and Billy Sunday were noted speakers on the circuit, but there is no record that they appeared on Pella's Chautauquas. The Rev. Robert MacArthur, billed as the "greatest Baptist preacher in the U.S." did come to Pella.

C.C. "Buck" Buerkens had many fond memories of his nine summers as a tent man or platform manager for a circuit out of Topeka, Kansas which took him into most of the states west of the Mississippi. In the early days the seating in the tent was planks laid on concrete blocks, but in later years it was folding chairs. Upon arrival in a town, the tent team got the main tent up rapidly because that was the best advertisement that the Chautauqua was coming.

While Pella's early Chautauquas were successful, attendance was not always strong. To book good programs for ten days was not easy and there were comments that it had moved to the level of vaudeville shows rather than being "the peoples' university."

In 1915 the Federated Club decided to promote ticket sales and that year's program boasted a $200 profit. For the next seven years the Federated Women continued to promote and sponsor the annual event. The 1920 Chautauqua was such a success that over $600 of season tickets were sold for the next year.

In 1921 the Chicago Light Opera's "Pirates of Penzance" drew a record crowd. However, at the end of week's events, the Federated Club was facing a $200 deficit and they would not sign a contract for the next year. The Chautauqua platform manager did not want to leave town without a contract so he contacted the Chamber of Commerce Board. The Board discussed it but was of the opinion that not enough people of Pella appreciated Chautauquas. The *Chronicle* commented that the Board felt "it was hardly proper for them to attempt to take the matter out of the hands of the club women, who have had it for a number of years."

Thus Pella's Chautauquas were ended, but for many years the "culture under canvas" had been an important part of the life of the community.

by Bette Brunsting

CEMETERIES OF PELLA AND VICINITY

T28

Pella has a number of cemeteries located in the town and within four or five miles from the city. They were established before the turn of the century and came as an adjunct to the settlement of the area. Most are still used for burials.

Pella's largest cemetery, Oakwood. Located on Columbus Street in northwest Pella. (1987 photo).

Graceland cemetery is located just north of Pella on Main Street. It is on the east side of the road down a gravel lane. (1987 photo).

The largest and most active is Oakwood, a beautiful and well-kept facility in the northwest part of the city. It originally was a part of the Strawtown area where the Dutch pioneers spent their first one or two winters in Pella. The southwest corner of Oakwood still yields bits of pewter, pottery, an occasional piece of silver tableware, plus other artifacts from another time. To the north of Strawtown was the burial place for many of the early settlers. On the west side of the graveyard and about two hundred feet north

T'Lam Cemetery Aid in the 1930's.

Korean and Vietnam War Memorial dedicated in 1983 at Graceland Cemetery. (1987 photo).

Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery is located north of Pella on road T14, on the right side. (1987 photo).

of Columbus Street are the graves of Rev. Henry P. Scholte, leader of the colonists, and some members of his family. In this general area, many early graves were marked by an etched upright walnut slab, but the elements of nature took their toll, and the old markers had to be discarded.

In later years, much more land was purchased and landscaped, roads and walkways were laid out, and then grave sites were sold on a perpetual care basis.

In 1947, the Pella Veterans organizations erected a memorial to the veterans of all U.S. wars.

Graceland is located just north of Pella, one quarter mile off the main highway, in an attractive rural setting. It was established by the First Reformed Church on ten acres of land purchased from William Van Asch for one hundred dollars. Originally named the First Reformed Church Cemetery, the name was changed later to Graceland. Additional tracts of land have been added, keeping pace with demands for burial sites. The cemetery is administered by a manager and a Board of Directors from the Church.

The Pella veterans organizations erected a memorial in Graceland to honor American Veterans of the wars in Korea and Vietnam. It was presented to the Cemetery Board in a beautiful dedication ceremony on Memorial Day, 1983.

Saint Mary's Catholic Cemetery is located about a mile north of Pella near the Graceland Cemetery, on the north side of the highway. It is the parish cemetery for Saint Mary's Church. It is an old cemetery, but is still used regularly for burials. It is well fenced, clean and orderly.

Black Oak Cemetery is in a rural setting in the extreme west end of Mahaska Co., north of Highway 163, and about three miles east of Pella. It is predominantly a neighborhood burial ground as the names on many of the monuments suggest. It continues to receive excellent care, and some improvements were made to the entrance recently.

Sand Ridge Cemetery is located in the north end of Lake Prairie Twp. of Marion Co. As its name implies, it is a sandy area high on a bluff overlooking the South Skunk River bottom. There is speculation that it was at one time an Indian Burial Ground, used before the pioneers came to Iowa. This cemetery is still in use.

Porter Grove Cemetery was named for Joseph Porter who gave some of this farmland for its use. It is a community or neighborhood cemetery, incorporating the early settlements of Porterville and Red Brush, and other areas of western Mahaska and eastern Marion counties. It is in excellent condition, and recently a new section was added for burials.

T'Lam Cemetery, about four miles southwest of Pella is a small burial ground for many of the Hollanders who lived in that neighborhood. It, too, is well-kept and still has an occasional burial. The cemetery is on a high bluff overlooking Lake Red Rock. It has a new entrance on the north side and is now located on a relocated county road. The old road and entrance on the south side was abandoned when the Lake Red Rock came into being.

There are some private burial places within a few miles of Pella. Often in the early years, when a member of a family died, the neighbors would get together and bury the remains near the family home. These sites are still on the county records, but are not maintained and are inaccessible.

In his publication, Geschiedenis Van Pella, Iowa En Omgeving by K. Van Sight,[1] the author relates much information about Hendrik Barendregt, a member of Rev. Henry P. Scholte's Vanguard of 1846. Barendregt was the first of colony leaders to pass away. Van Stigt tells that Barendregt was buried on a farm one mile northeast of Pella. Historical records place that farm as being just across the road north of the new Pella Middle School. However, the exact location of Barendregt's grave is unknown. He died in 1851 at the age of 44, just four years after Pella was settled.

Automobile drivers are sometimes frustrated trying to maneuver the roads in most of our cemeteries. One must remember that they were all established before 1900 and the coming of the automobile. The teams of horses pulling the horse-drawn hearses, carriages, buggies or perhaps a landau owned by one of the more affluent families, could easily negotiate the square corners and narrow roads. Newer additions show evidence of roads designed for large hearses, limousines and standard size cars. At the very beginning of the coming of the 'horseless carriage', some cemeteries banned the use of automobiles on the grounds.

Some of the information for this article came from *The Marion County Cemetery Book* published by the Marion County Genealogical Society in 1976. The society members covered each cemetery in the county in a thorough and complete manner, making their publication a valuable asset to historians.

NOTE – 1 –

Geschiedenis Van Pella, Iowa Em Omgeving Door K. Van Stigt

(History of Pella, Iowa and Vicinity) Author K. Van Stigt

Weekblad Drukkerij 1897

Weekblad Printers (Print Shop) 1897

American Language translation by Elisabeth Kempkes

by Loren Vanderzyl

Porter Grove Cemetery Aid in 1942.

CUSTOMS OF BEREAVEMENT

T29

The Aanspreker

It was once in Pella, a custom inherited from the Holland ancestry, that when anyone died, a man called an "aanspreker" would dress in his best black suit with a band of crepe on his arm and on his hat and, wearing white gloves, would go from house to house announcing the deaths. He would knock at the door and, when someone answered, in a very serious voice he would tell of the death of so and so, his or her age, and the time of the funeral. In the event of a death in the community, a bell would toll six times. After the funeral services as the procession was on

A funeral in the early days at the Keables' home. This house was on the north side of the square in the general location of the driveway of the First Financial Savings and Loan.

Garden Chapel, Mr. Forbes, early in the 1930s.

Memorial cards were distributed to those who attended funerals. (These often included pictures of the deceased.)

A tin-type picture of (left) Gertie Shudma from Orange City and (right) Bertha Vander Meulen (Mrs. Epp Roorda) wearing mourning clothing for her brother Henry.

"Mourning pictures" of the deceased were displayed, framed in black. Jan Rietveld, 1844-1915.

Died

On Friday, October 20, 1922, at 5 o'clock, A. M., at her home on West Washington Street, Pella, Iowa,

Mrs. Kryn Ver Steeg,

aged 85 years, 11 months and 10 days.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, October 21st, at 2 o'clock P. M. at the home.

Interment at Oakwood Cemetery.

"A letter edged in black" was sent to announce deaths.

its way to the cemetery it would toll the age of the deceased.

OAKWOOD CEMETERY

T30

In 1848 H.P. Scholte granted to the city of Pella a parcel of land to be used for burial purposes. On May 4, 1867, an association was formed and articles of incorporation were presented. Members of the first association were William Fisher, J. Markel, R.G. Hamilton, W.J. Ellis, R.S. Anderson, John Nollen, Amos N. Currier, M. Keables, P.H. Bousquet, E.H. Keables, Henry P. Scholte, J.B. Cotton, Joshua Armstrong, E.H. Scarff and B.G. Bowen. The name of the corporation would be Pella Cemetery Association.

The object of this incorporation was to purchase ground, then used as a burying place, from the city, as well as adjacent ground from time to time as may be required; to lay such grounds into lots; to sell the same to private individuals; also to keep places for the use of the public to bury the dead; and to erect and maintain a good and substantial fence around such grounds and to keep the same in good order so as to make them an ornament to the city. The capital stock of the Association would be $1,000 with shares of five dollars each. P.H. Bousquet was instructed to survey the ground now used for burying purposes and to make a plat thereof.

In 1870 the Association received a deed from the estate of H.P. Scholte for ground purchased of him for the cemetery. That same year, Eli N. Thomas and his wife, Margaret, deeded ground to the Association. That same year a reward of $25 was offered for the conviction of a party or parties for any misdemeanor upon said grounds.

In 1872 a committee set aside a suitable area to be used for a potter's field.

The first building to house tools and equipment was erected in 1891. The first sexton of record was J. Tollenaar. Arrangements were made with him to cut the grass (hay) and take it for his pay for cutting. In 1897 he became a salaried worker. After his death in 1898, Gerrit Kaltenberg was appointed sexton.

The first reference that the name of the cemetery is Oakwood appears in the 1903 records. The association, in 1904, authorized a plan that would empower them to accept some gross amount from the lot owners to form a fund to permanently care for the lots — perpetual care.

In 1909 a sign was erected at the gate, prohibiting automobiles from entering. Also, three or four signs were put in various parts of the grounds, with "No driving faster than a walk." Also this year, the corporation gave a Quit Claim Deed, all personal and real estate, monies and credits to the newly formed corporation. The new articles of incorporation stated that the affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a board of five trustees. This rule still applies.

We have been unable to locate any record of the meetings of the Association from November 1909 to May 1921.

The Van Veen – Van Hemert Post 89 was granted a plot in 1946. This plot is for the use of those veterans whose bodies will not be returned to the States for burial. The sexton this year was James Van Nieuwenhuizen. He was succeeded by S.J. Steenhoek in 1949.

A new hollow-tile building was constructed in 1950 to store equipment. The following year our present sexton was hired to assist his father. In 1955, after the death of his father, Jaybe Steenhoek assumed the full-time duties of caretaker.

The City of Pella granted a Quit Claim Deed to the Association for the roadways of West Fifth St. and Lincoln Avenue in 1953.

Permission was granted to the Corps of Engineers in 1964 to make reinterments in the cemetery of the graves which must be relocated to facilitate operation of the Red Rock Dam and Reservoir.

Improvements in recent years include brick columns and bronze markers replacing the entrance gate, and a new metal building. The old hollow-tile building was dismantled; the trustees voted to give the American Legion Post $300 for a memorial to be erected at Graceland Cemetery for those serving in the Korean and the Vietnam conflicts.

In 1983 the cemetery plot plan was reviewed and new drawings made of all lots. The following year a new baby section was added. Garden Engineering was hired to survey the undeveloped property in the fall of 1985. They placed corner markers and plotted the contour of the land for grading. The grading project was completed in 1986.

The present members of the Board of Trustees are Peter G. Gaass, Martin Heerema, Tony Stravers, Warren Van Sittert and Harlan Van Vark. Plans for expansion are in progress.

by Warren Van Sittert

OLD LANDMARKS

T31

Joost DeBruin, born and raised in Pella, wrote in 1939 from his home in Chicago telling about some old landmarks as he remembered them from his youth. He was the grandson of Dr. Roelofs.

Joost said, "If you were here in the earlier days of Pella, you would not stop to drink at our modern fountains but would take hold of a crank, let the bucket down in the well, and draw it up again . . . There were three deep wells, all in the middle of the street. One was in front of Vogelaar's hardware store (present day Livery Building) the other was in front of Vander Meulen's (Stravers today) and the other one in the 800 block in front of Slob's store (Dr. Vander Peut's office).

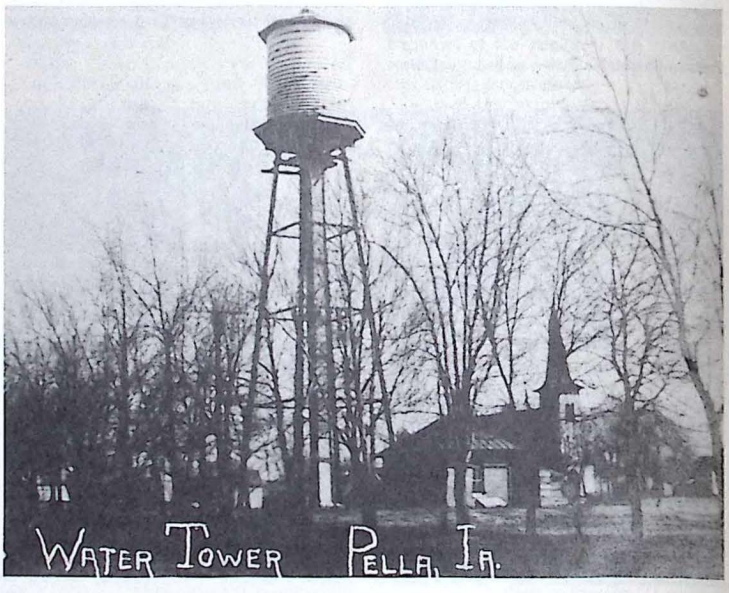
DeBruin had been born in a log cabin near Warren's mill, northeast of town and lived in a log house on Sandridge after he was married. He also recalled the hedge and rail fences which enclosed Garden Square during the time of a controversy about who owned the property, Scholte or the city. (This was later settled in court after many years of proceedings and the property judged to belong to the city.)

Joost's father-in-law was Guert Thomassen, Pella merchant who had come with the original settlers.

PELLA FROM THE WATERTOWER IN THE EARLY 1900'S

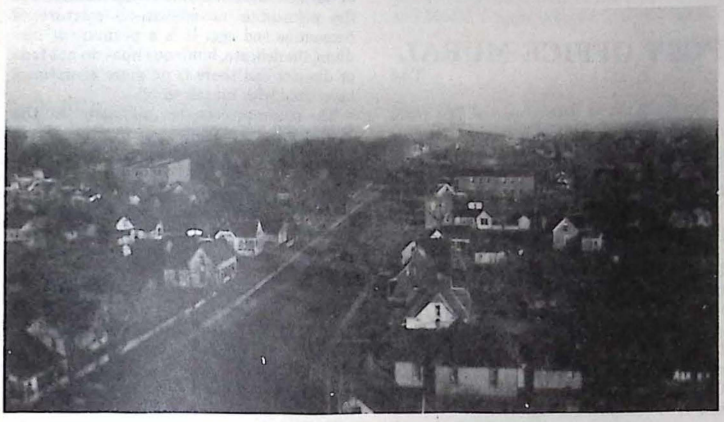
T32

Three photographs were found in the Pella Historical Society archives regarding early



Pella's first water tower located in West Market Park. Church in the background is the First Christian Reformed.

Picture 1 is a view of south and east of the water tower.



Picture 2 is looking to the east toward town from the water tower.

View 3 looks north from West Market

Pella. A note on the envelope said, "Early Pella taken from the old watertower in West Market Park by Bert Kempkes and myself." Date is estimated at the very early 1900s.

Since the old First Christian Reformed Church is very much in the foreground, one can attempt to identify the places in the photographs. Position yourself in West Market Park. Picture 1 is a view of the south and east as seen from the top of the tower. Picture 1 also gives a view of Old Central. Picture 2 is looking to the east toward town from the tower. Right of the street (Franklin St.) in the background is "Old Brick" (Park School). Closer in on the next corner is the brewery. The buildings to the left of Franklin and on Broadway were the general stores. Picture 3 is looking north from West Market; West First in on the right. The white house at the left hand corner with the sloping roof is the old Pete Ten Hagen house.

LOWER MEXICO AS SEEN BY A CHILD

T33

Carol and Bertha Carson kids in "Lower Mexico"

Come with me back to 1926 through 1933 in south Pella. The boundaries are south of University Street and the city limit line from east to west. Believe it or not, it was almost another world. Most of the citizens were of American descent and blue collar workers. Nearly all the wage earners were employed at the Woodrow Washing Machine Company. When the Depression came along it was a bit rough to "make do". No government agencies for help, only the churches, when they could help, did so.

They used to call us the "Wild Little Indians" from Mexico. In the summer we ran barefoot and were all suntanned until we looked like street urchins. We were happy.

We would play baseball in the street in front of our house on Carson Street. Sometimes the farmers would drive herds of cattle, sheep or hogs to market. That ended the game. The stock yard were half a block over the tracks and of course they came past our house. When this happened, we would run like deer for the house and after the dust had settled, many was the time Mama would go out to find her vegetable and flower garden trampled to bits.

Hobos used to get off of the trains and within an hour some would be at the door asking for food or some item to put in their stew to make it tasty. We had six to seven trains a day going through Pella. Boom Gregory's wife, Molly, used to cook for the railroaders. When she ran out of food, she would advise the hobos to see if the ladies in the neighborhood had some vegetables left

over in their gardens they could spare for stew.

On Sunday afternoons all the kids headed for the old corn crib behind the canning factory to play basketball. On the way home on a cold winter afternoon, Mama would be at the back kitchen door with a dish pan of homemade popcorn balls. "Thanks Aunt Dora, thanks Aunt Dora" could be heard all up and down the block.

Another great Sunday afternoon pastime was to go for a walk down the railroad tracks with Dad's single shot 22 rifle. We were all taught to shoot before we were ten years old. If we took five shells, fine, but you had better bring back a rabbit for each shot fired or the shells.

The rag bag was a fascinating treasure. You could find material to make doll clothes, quilts, rag rugs and, if you were lucky enough, material to make an apron for Mama or a child's blouse.

The not so fun thing was the old gray painted bucket which contained socks to be mended, plus whatever else needed repairing. Yuk!

One of the highlights of those years was when a friend of the family gave us kids a homemade "Crystal Set". We didn't have a radio. Then we would have "words" as to who shared the head phones so we could listen.

We had some interesting neighbors. Judge, a widower, and his sons lived on the corner. It was a place where the menfolk would congregate to talk and play cars. Pitch and cribbage were most popular.

About a block away we had one of our south-end bootleggers. He did a right smart business until the sheriff came one day and closed him down. His reward for his business enterprise was thirty days in the Marion County Jail.

No one had much money, but in times of trouble, many wonderful deeds were done.

A death? Ladies would all go and pitch in to help clean the home so the funeral could be held in the parlor or the front room. Chairs for the mourners were obtained from the funeral parlor. Homemade bread, stewed chicken and kettles of soup found their way to these homes. Always three or four folks of the neighborhood would come about nine o'clock in the evening to sit up with the deceased and visit with the family for the night.

A Baby? That was also an occasion. Handmade baby clothes, flannel diapers, and extra bedding appeared if needed. Lots of times the doctor arrived after the "party" was over.

We had the canning factory for excitement at harvest time. Corn, beans, pumpkins, and tomatoes were processed. The best of all was the spicy smell when they made catsup, late at night, end of the day run. Perfume from Paris couldn't have smelled nicer.

Uncle "Havers" and Uncle "Cope" had truck gardens just southeast of the canning factory. We all helped harvest the crops. The one thing I really didn't care about was scooting along on my bottom dragging my crutches behind and picking beans. Scrubbing pickles or "cukes" didn't make me smile either.

All in all, it was a good family life. We never forgot we were born and raised in the shadow of the smoke stack of the light plant.

by Carol J. Van Dusseldorp

POST OFFICE MURAL

T34

[In the Apr. 28, 1938, issue of *The Pella Chronicle* we researched material regarding the beautiful mural in the local post office. Additional material was in the July 28, 1971, issue of the same newspaper.]

Pictured in the 1938 issue were workmen placing the mural on the west wall of the then – new post office. Below the workmen was Byron Bennett Boyd, the artist who painted the picture. He was supervising the gluing of it to the wall. The statement was made at the end of the article, "If we can project ourselves fifty years in the future and imagine a schoolboy in 1988 entering the Pella Post Office and glancing up with pride at the mural there and saying, 'Those were my ancestors', then we can appreciate the full significance of this excellent work of art."

Vernon Bobbitt, then Professor of Art at Central College, wrote the article for the newspaper saying that mural painting is one of the most progressive forms of public art.

Mr. Boyd, an Iowan and resident of Des Moines, chose a historic theme for the mural of the founding of Pella. On the left are shown the Hollanders in The Netherlands being persecuted because of their religious convictions. Behind them are pictured typical Dutch dwellings of the period and class. On the right is found the old Scholte Church, symbolic of pioneer religion, against the background of rich prairie farmland. The bow of the sailing vessel was used as the central motif. On board is the figure of Dominie Scholte praying with the colonists who have set out for America. (In this detail Mr. Boyd was not accurate in being authentic as Scholte did not sail with the other colonists but came ahead of them, with his family, on a steamer.)

Mr. Boyd searched for the authentic as all figures were sketched from living models in his Des Moines studio. Costumes were researched from the Des Moines Public Library, the Library of the Art Institute in Chicago and from private sources in Pella. Historical data was obtained from the *Marion County History* published in 1872 and from the *Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa* published in 1922.

The mural is painted in egg tempera, one of the most ancient methods of painting. The dry pigment is mixed with a mixture of turpentine and egg. It is a permanent medium, the delicate, luminous hues do not fade or discolor and there is no glare sometimes associated with murals in oil.

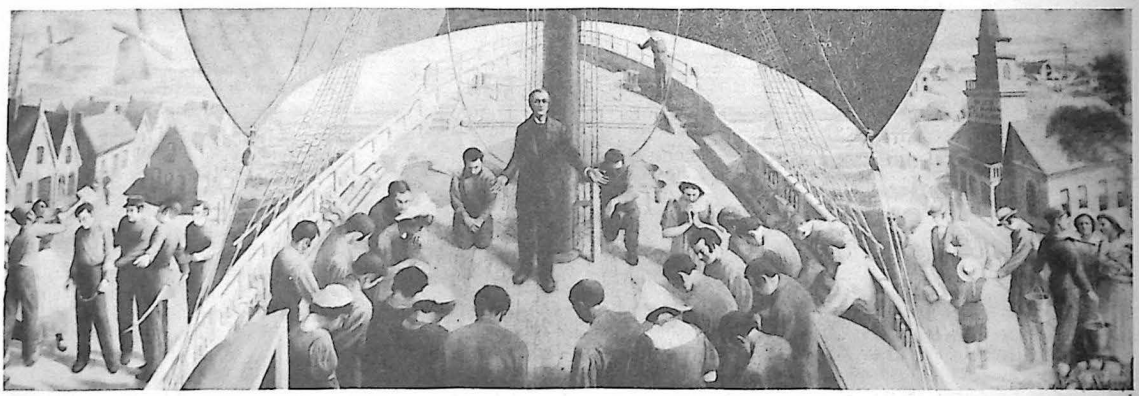
The mural project was sponsored by the Procurement Department of the U.S. Treasury. This department sponsored similar projects in new post offices and federal buildings throughout the United States.

Boyd was an architect and designed many of Pella's buildings and homes as well as many in Des Moines and Iowa City. He retired from architecture and studied painting, having a special interest in mural design.

For many years the mural was left untouched, but in 1971 Marion F. Iserman, an artist from Denver, Colo., was commissioned by the General Services Administration to restore murals. The government had come to realize the value of the murals, not only from a monetary standpoint but also historically and sentimentally.

The mural had been financed by the Public Works of Art Administration for two years and by the Treasury Department until 1942. Many of the best artists participated in the program.

Mr. Iserman, in 1971, cleaned, oiled, and retouched the mural and then sprayed it with varnish. All of the murals should have been varnished after two years according to Mr. Iserman and after his restoration was complete, he made the statement that the Pella



The mural in the Pella Post Office was painted by Byron Bennett Boyd in 1938.

mural should be good for another thirty years.

In 1987 the mural was again cleaned, this time by Tony Rajer.

And now we look at the mural with pride as was predicted fifty years ago. "Those were my ancestors," we often muse to ourselves. The mural has served its purpose in generating pride in our town's heritage . . . just as Boyd had imagined in 1938 as he worked his artistic genius on our post office wall.

Pella Fair horse race. The Fair Grounds was located at the east end of South St.

PELLA FAIR

T35

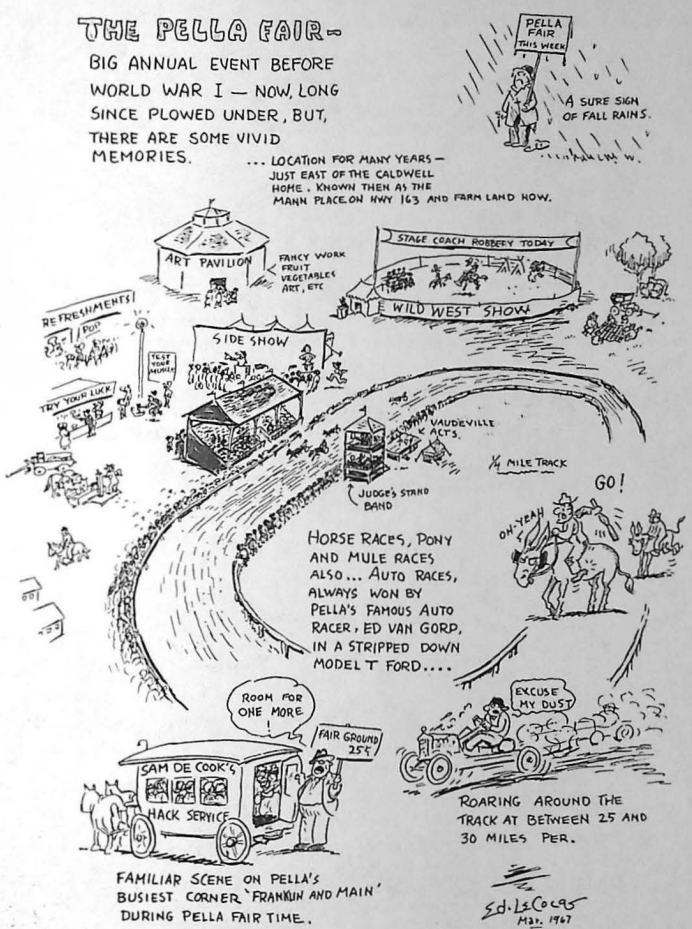
The Lake Prairie Fair, generally known as the Pella Fair, was an annual fall event in the late 1890's and early 1900's. The fairgrounds were located east of town on the Oskaloosa road in the area of Wal-Mart and three to four days of September or October that was a busy place. As Ed Le Cocq's sketch shows there were several buildings — livestock, poultry, foods, art, and a grandstand and quarter mile track. Besides horse races, mule and Model T races seemed to be favorites.

The Pella Band was one of the featured attractions and was billed as "no better band of the same size can be found anywhere." One year the movie, "The Great Train Robbery" was a special attraction.

The fair was an opportunity for people to display their finest produce, crafts, and livestock. In later years it was reported that it went to more vaudeville and less of an agricultural exhibit. That may have been an effort to draw crowds, but that was not the result. The reports of the fairs of the 1910's made frequent mention of rainy weather which hurt attendance.

In spite of the competition of the Iowa State Fair and the Marion County Fair, Pella's Fair continued through the fall of 1919. The fair grounds were then sold.

by Bette Brunsting



A sketch of fair by Ed LeCocq

PELLA'S FIRST BANDS

T36

Murray Cox organized his Light Infantry Band shortly after the Civil War. (Actually this was the second Pella Band.) The first was an all-brass band of ten men with bell-over-the-shoulder instruments. These instruments were designed for bands which led

The 2-story circular band stand in Central Park.

Cox's C.R.I & P. Railway Band

2 Front, L-R, Roy Roorda, Jack De Bruin, Elva Mae Heerema, Dorothy Grant, Geraldine Gosselink, Marjorie Baron, Irene Boot; Middle, L-R: George Ramsey (Director), Dan De Vries, Bert De Bruin, Orville Dykstra, Jean Kuyper, Don Dykstra, Bob Baron, Russel Sturman; Back, L-R: Mansford Versteeg, Bog (Willard) Langeraak, Laurel Boot, Leonard (Coachie) Van Ee and Hugo Kuyper. Others not pictured were Henry Kuyper, Andrew Boot, Jerry Sturman, Don Waechter, Earl Van Rees, Ruth Dykstra, Marian Frush, George Wetzel (soloist). Photo 1930.

military troops. Instead of directing their playing straight ahead, the over-the-shoulder instruments directed their music to the troops following the band.

Cox's Light Infantry band of 21 men was a handsomely-uniformed marching-playing organization. All of the members were skilled musicians and received wide acclaim. Naturally, they were especially popular in Pella and the surrounding towns.

But it was Cox's Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Band that enjoyed notable distinction. It performed with brilliant success from Nebraska to the great conventions in St. Louis and Washington, D.C. and to the World's Fair in Chicago in 1896. It performed frequently at the Iowa State Fair and on one occasion it escorted the first American horseless carriage around the race track.

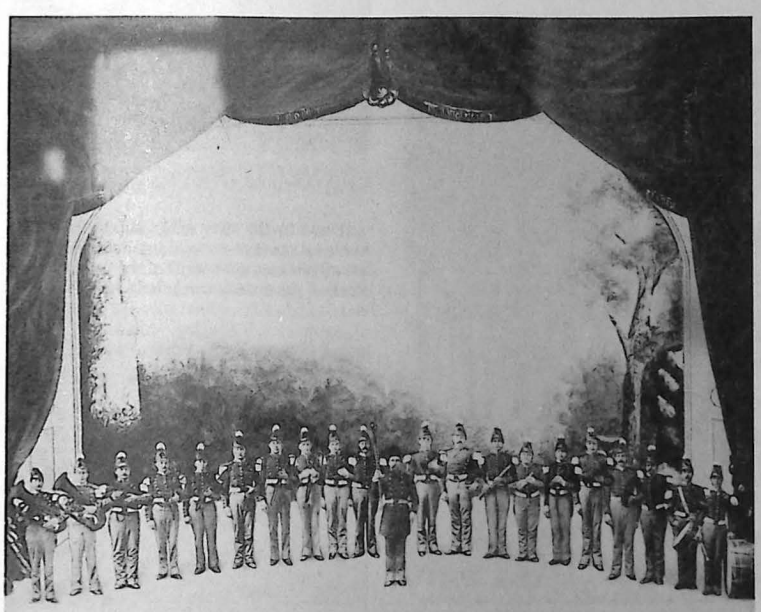
According to the records, the band was the first American band to be attired in gorgeous uniforms: old gold, double-breasted, long plush coats with triple gold-buttoned blue satin fronts, single ostrich-feathered knight's chapeaus, white corduroy breeches with high patent leather leggings.

A beautiful band stand was in the center of Central Park in those days. It was a two-story circular structure, built of wood, painted white. Sometimes two bands played — one on each floor — alternately for special occasions.

Saturday night band concerts were special occasions. This was where the boys frequently followed the girls on the cinder paths around the bandstand and often ended the evening at one of the ice-cream parlors, sometimes with a girl, sometimes without, depending on the success of the "going around."

Later the Park Commission built a substantial brick bandstand in Central Park and dedicated it to Murray Cox. This was razed later when the present Tulip Tower was erected.

by Alice Lammers



Cox's Light Infantry Band.

THE REWARDS OF RESTORATION

T37

Nestled in secure sanctuaries, many old buildings in Pella have been restored. These old homes and business houses refute the idea of destroying the handicrafts of artisans of previous generations. Many treasures in Pella have returned to a semblance of their former states. It is more difficult to preserve and restore than it is to tear down and go modern.

Pella gained momentum in the Restore Our Past Movement during the Bicentennial in 1976. Bob Klein can be singled out as being one person of many to seek and carry out preservation projects.

The Klein's home is only one of Bob's preservations. It was rescued from anonymity in the 1950's with the help of two other "preserve Pella people," Bob and Martha Lautenbach.

Built in 1853, the house was nearing its centennial. The exterior of the old McClatchy place appeared abandoned with windows boarded over, wood rotted, and paint peeling. Originally, this place had been the beautiful home of the owners of one of Pella's larger woolen mills, the business being located behind the home and south to the next street. It was then the outskirts of the town in the northeast section.

The Lautenbachs, having learned to know William and Cora Van Dam Maasdam who had owned the house for many years, realized how distressed the Maasdams were that their once beautiful home had fallen into disrepair because they simply could not take care of it. Remembering that Bob and Doretha Klein had expressed an interest in it, Bob Lautenbach told the Maasdams that if they would sell the house to the Kleins, he would help them build a new little cottage on the other

The old McClatchy house, at 1008 East 2nd St., as it appeared in the early 1950's.

side of the woolen mill. This all came to pass . . . and after a tremendous amount of hard work and much tender, loving care, it was restored and became the lovely home it is today.

Beneath the dilapidation, many beautiful remnants of the house's more illustrious past could be seen. Having lost its original loveliness, the walnut staircase was still intact, all 126 balusters marching up three stories with a handsomely-carved newel post standing guard below.

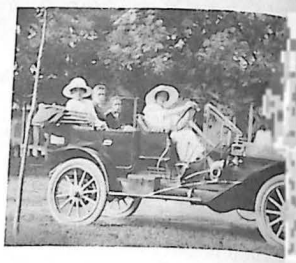
The house is now centrally located, the town having grown around it. As new housing sprouts, the old place settles back, assured a place in the present and certainly in the future.

Looking back is not merely nostalgia; it is history quietly presenting itself.

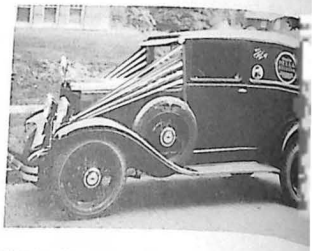
Edited from a feature story in the *Oskaloosa Herald* November 15, 1975.

by Muriel Kooi

A 1908 Touring Car with five passer Pella. L - R: Mrs. Jim Hammer (Abele the wheel, Mrs. Jess Barber (Kate Van Seth Mann (Kate Van Rees daughter Rees), Mrs. Martin De Wit, (Gertrude and Mrs. Arnold Vander Beek (Jo Rees).



L-R: Junella Thomassen, Roy Vander Cassa Clark and Lois Strain(?)



Ulrich's Chevrolet delivery truck

It was in the very early 1900's that horseless carriage was making its inroads a few Pella men got a whiff of that clean, f smell of gasoline, turned their horses out

The Bob Klein home after restoration.

General Motors truck of early vintage.

pasture, and became the proud owners of automobiles.

Among the first automobile owners in Pella were Dr. Payne, who drove a two-cylinder Glide five-passenger car; A.C. Van Houweling with a two-cylinder five-passenger Moline; and William Howerton, who owned a two-cylinder Holsman Buggy with high wheels. Two ropes to the rear wheels transmitted th power for the Holsman. This car had so much clearance that you could practically drive over a pedestrian, who couldn't get out of the way, without hurting him.

Simon Vander Zyl had his two-cylinder Reo touring car. Tunis Klein also drove a Reo and so did P.G. Gaass. The latter owned a Mitchell Touring car, a six-cylinder machine. Herman Rietveld had a one-cylinder Orient buckboard with a wood frame. One of the most beautiful cars of the day was the six-cylinder Thomas Flyer. It was the first of the six-cylinder models and was owned by W.H. Fowler.

G.H.Waechter first owned a White Steam Car, which he later traded for a Cadillac. P.H. Kuyper, while visiting the Chicago Auto Show, fell in love with a Speedwell, which he drove for a few months.

D.S. Huber owned a Milwaukee Steam Car. He would have someone steam it up for him as payment for a free ride now and then. Mr. Huber's daughter, Lucy, drove the streets of Pella in an electric car. It was powered by batteries and steered with a handle. It was quite a treat for the children when she came silently into the neighborhood to visit friends.

Other makes of cars appearing on the streets of Pella in the early 1900's were: Buick; Cole 30; Studebaker; E.M.F.; Franklin; Rambler; Abbot-Detroit; Overland; Essex; Star; and Willys Knights.

The automobile, however, was just beginning to lose its out-of- the-egg-shell look. Tillers were giving way to steering wheels, engines had moved up front, but the driver's seat on most cars initially was still on the right.

Nearly all cars were open to the sun and the sky - and also the rain and the cold. The hardy pioneers who rode them had to wear long, waterproof clothing, furs, goggles, masks, veils and gloves. These special costumes made their wearers look like tarpaulin-covered hay stacks, bank robbers, or hairy beasts.

In 1905 automobiles were expensive. The Reo Motor Company had their popular Runabout at that time. This model has its engine under the seat, cranked by a small handle near the rear fender. The eight to ten horsepower engine had but one cylinder. It had direct chain drive and a speed of up to 25 miles per hour and gave 15 to 25 miles per gallon, which helped it win several prizes in economy tests. The price was $650 which included a pair of oil lamps and a set of tools. Tires alone cost $50 per 1000 miles of use.

Trucks too were starting to replace the horse-drawn wagons but, in the early days trucks were patterned much after the wagons. Everything except the chassis was then made of wood. Bodies, stakes, cabs, and wheels were all produced in shops where carpenter's tools shaped them. The all-metal truck was slow in arriving, and it developed in a piece-meal fashion as various parts made of wood were gradually replaced by metal. Truck styles did not develop as rapidly as passenger cars.

Although automobiles and trucks were changing rapidly after the turn of the century the world around them was hardly changing. Roads were still miserable and better traveled by a horse-drawn vehicle than a motorized one.

The Reo seemed to be one of the more popular models in the early days. This car got its name from the initials of Ransom Eli Olds of Lansing, Mich. Ransom Olds was never short of ideas. He built his first horseless carriage in 1886 and in 1899 the Olds Motor Works of Detroit was making a car to be celebrated in song as "My Merry Oldsmobile."

As cars became more popular and more available, dealerships started cropping up in Pella. Ed Van Gorp, Wally Fowler, John Van Hemert, A.B. Van Houweling, and White Way Auto were some of the early peddlers of autos in Pella. It was not uncommon in those days to take a team of horses as a trade-in. J.B. Van Hemert tells of teaching customers, who had purchased a car from his dad, how to drive their new purchase when he was only 12 years old. He advises too that when he was only 14 a car was sold to someone in Wisconsin and it had to be delivered. He did the driving of the car to the customer and returned on the train much to the concern of his mother who had remarked "That boy will never come back" . . . but . . . he did.

After the early experimentation in the car industry it soon settled down to the familiar names and models we have today with White Way Auto Co. selling Chevrolet and Oldsmobile, Star Auto (northwest corner Franklin and Broadway) selling Fords and Mercurys, A.B. Van Houweling, southwest corner Franklin and E. 1st) selling Plymouths and Dodges, and Gary Vogelaar in the old livery building on the northeast corner of Franklin and E. 1st St. selling Pontiacs. Hudsons and Kaisers were at one time sold in Pella by Schippers Bros. on Oskaloosa street and Den Adel's on West Washington St. one block west of Strawtown Inn.

In 1935 the Ford dealership was taken over by Ulrich Motor Co. and was later moved west of Pella on Highway 163. Leydens Chev-Olds now sells the Chevrolets and Oldsmobiles at the same site; Kingma has assumed the Plymouth and Dodge dealership and has moved their operation east of Pella on Highway 163. Jeeps and American Motors cars are being sold on Main St. by Leydens Auto Sales.

by Herb Vander Waal edited from *Bucksaw*

THE ROELOFSZ - VIERSON HOUSE

T39

The only doctor who came with the colony of Scholte's was Dr. Joost Roelofsz, together with his wife and six children. He came at the urging of his cousin, Dominie H.P. Scholte, leaving a well-established and profitable practice in The Netherlands.

His first home was in one of the log cabins but as soon as the town was laid out he acquired a lot on which to build a home for his family. It was built in 1848, on what was then called Reformation Ave., the location is now known as 1008-1010 Main St. He, himself, designed the house and supervised the workmen who built it.

In 1862 his wife died. A daughter who had married Auke H. Viersen, and her family, came to live with him. After Dr. Roelofsz died they continued to live there and later it was

Lily Viersen home—earlier, Dr. J. Roelofsz.

the home of their daughter, Lily A. Viersen. She sold it in the spring of 1934, after which it was demolished to make way for two new residences.

A partial description of the house appears in an article written by a grandson of Dr. Roelofsz. It reads:

"Dr. Joost Roelofsz erected one of the first brick homes to be built in Pella. It was a substantial residence facing the west, with a wing on either side. A side entrance, enclosed with lattice-work led into the spacious parlor room; to the rear was the dining room. The right wing was the kitchen, while the left wing with a private reception hall, was the doctor's office or consultation quarters. Roomy bedrooms were located on the upper floor, and in the rear a "studio room" was reserved where Dr. Roelofsz spent his leisure moments in oil painting. In later years the exterior of the house had been stuccoed. Dr. Roelofsz lived here until his death."

A replica of this house was constructed in 1975-1976 with the help of photographs from the Library of Congress-Historic American Buildings Survey, Washington, D.C. The builder was Paul Vande Noord. It forms part of the Pella Historical Village, Franklin Avenue, East First to East Second St., Pella, Iowa.

by Martha Lautenbach note to National Park Service

SKUNK RIVER PICNIC

T40

This delightful picture is dated 1894. Having a picnic was great fun in those early days. Couples would pack lunch baskets, hire a surrey and team from one of the local liveries, and make a day of it. Sometimes they used a hayrack.

As in the present, picnicking was often done on the banks of one of Pella's nearby rivers. A favorite spot in 1894 was on the banks of the Skunk River near the Mathes Bridge.

Sometimes some fishing was done. However, in this picture, the group is not dressed for fishing. Other sports were soft ball, wading, and group games such as "Drop the Handkerchief" and "Blindman's Bluff."

This group hired a carriage called a surrey large enough for 12 passengers plus a seat for the driver who in this case, was Bas Andeweg. Bas was 16 at the time and worked for the Thomassen Livery.

Lucy Huber (far right) was the daughter of David Huber who had a wood, coal, feed, and grain business. She was an artist and drove one of Pella's first, if not the first, electric automobile. John Nollen pictured third from the right became President of Grinnell College. His sister, Sarah, left of the girl holding the hat, was a long-time teacher in a private school in Des Moines. The Hurt girls helped their mother in a millinery store. Laura Hurt married John Keables whose father operated a drug store in Pella. John is sitting at the left in the surrey. Laura has her hand on the surrey. Ada married John Vander Linden. Mary Hamilton was the daughter of Robert Hamilton who settled in the Pella area before the Dutch in 1843. Her sister Maggie taught at the School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs. Mrs. Brown's husband was local agent at the Rock Island Depot. John Forsyth's relatives were connected with the railroad. No one, not even the late Kate Thomas, could identify the two men with the canes. They remain a mystery and a lesson to persons possessing photographs. Label them so persons them in the future will know who

Picnic on the Skunk River Banks. Sitting in the surrey; l-r: John Keables, John Forsyth, Bas Andeweg, the driver; Front (l-r): Ada Hurt, Mrs. Charles Brown, Mrs. John Keables, sister of Ada Hurt, two unidentified young men, Sara Nollen, Emma Hamilton, John Nollen, Maggie Hamilton and Lucy Huber.

from B

HOTELS

The early settlers of the Pella Co realized the need for a place for salesmen to stay, eat their meals their wares to the local businessme were the answer.

The oldest and the one that operation for the longest period American House, later known as Hotel. The building still stands but converted into a commercial estab known as the Red Lollipop. It is lo the south side of the 600 block of Fra There is reference to the American a story about an 1848 storm in Pell then a wooden structure and w converted to a brick building abo Even though the name was changed Hotel the name "American" is still in in the concrete step at the entrance building. The door to the east of t entrance is marked "Ladies Entran

The primary customers at the Pel in the early 1900's were traveling s who would come to Pella on one of trains coming into town each day. Th met regularly at the depot and w brought to the hotel where they wo while they displayed the goods in packed suitcases to the Pella mercha

The hotel at that time was being m by Mrs. Betsy Cox who had been widc the death of her husband in 1909. S well-liked by all, an expert manage everyone would attest to her abilities kitchen. Salesmen all fared well at the

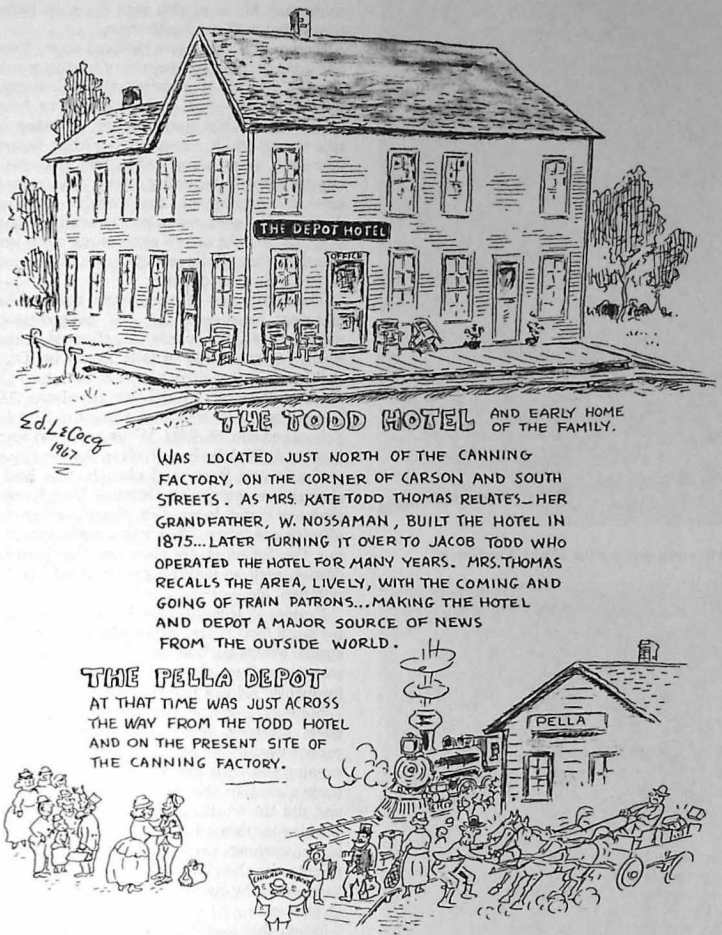
Mrs. Cox would go to Plette's store the street every morning to order the ies needed for the day. Breakfast was early for the convenience of passengers early morning train but would also c those on the last morning train at nine

Breakfast included: fruit that w season; oatmeal; dry cereal, ham, bac sausage, with eggs; wheatcakes; and There was no written menu. Wait would advise what was available.

Dinner was served at noon at the r of a bell. College students would he serving when trade was unexpectedly The noon meal consisted of: soup; roast roast pork; fish or chicken with side dis mashed potatoes; gravy; asparagus; ca salad; peas; etc. Generally there would choice of three kinds of pie and straw shortcake in season, or pudding. S included: a choice of beef steak; pork c chopped beef with cream; and meat Served with it possibly were: escall potatoes; creamed corn; macaroni and ch baking powder biscuits; cake; and ca fruit. Meals were served at 60 cents per and no one was underfed.

On Saturday the traveling men w board the train for home but local pe would fill the dining hall on Sundays. many as 200 people would eat a Su dinner at Hotel Pella.

After Greyhound bus started its daily between Des Moines and Ottumwa the I



Hotel was the local headquarters for those services. In later years there were several changes of ownership and managers for the hotel and it became permanent living quarters for some, instead of catering to the traveling public. Automobiles had become popular and the salesmen's visits became more frequent and shorter in length. The overnight stays were no longer necessary and, if so, motels were being found a more convenient place to stay than the hotel.

It was converted to the red Lollipop in 1976.

Another Pella hotel from past years was the Schubring Hotel. It was located at the N.E. corner of Main and Liberty, where Leydens - Chev-Olds is now found. The building was constructed by E.H. Schubring in 1877 and was torn down about 1919 to make way for the White Way garage.

Mr. Schubring was born in Prussia, in the city of Broemberg, and it was there he was raised and received his education. He apprenticed himself to learn the blacksmith trade and, after doing so, came to the U.S. in 1854. It was not until 1861 that he arrived in Pella. It was apparent that he wanted to see some of the country before settling in one place for he worked for short periods in New York City, Detroit, Colorado, and back to Michigan before coming to Pella. It was in July 1861 that he purchased a blacksmith shop in Pella.

In 1864 he and two others started the Pella City Brewery which was located at the corner of Franklin and West First where the Beerends apartments now stand.

After three years he sold his interest in the brewery and bought the corner lot at Main and Liberty on which there was a blacksmith shop and a dwelling. He worked at the shop for two years. Then he decided he needed a change and he built the hotel.

Here he and his wife Margaret served the public well for at least 25 years. She worked in the kitchen and dining room; he worked in the office. The rooms were comfortable and at two dollars per day were well worth the money.

The building was one of the earliest of its kind to be equipped with electric lights and heated with a central furnace. There were two large sample rooms for the salesmen who made the territory rounds regularly.

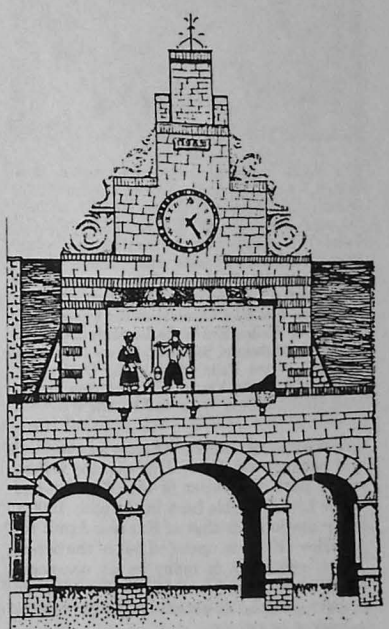
The hotel changed ownership in the early 1900's and Morris Ver Meer advises that the White Way Auto purchased the corner lot and building from a Van Skike family who had operated the hotel until about 1919.

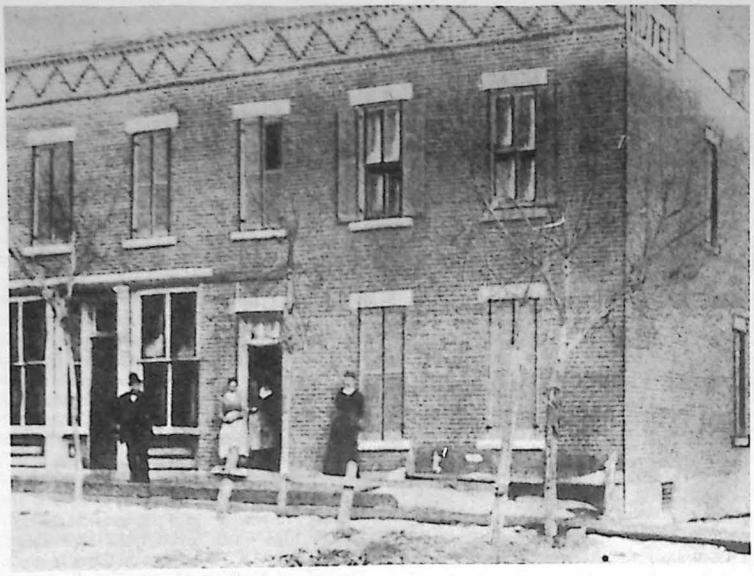
The structure was then torn down so a new building could be built to accommodate White Way Auto Co.

The other two hotels which have hosted travelers to Pella were both started by Wellington Nossaman, a very prominent person in the Pella area when the Colony started. Mr. Nossaman was here when the Hollanders arrived, for he had come to the Pella area in 1843 where he had taken up a claim and built a cabin near the Des Moines River three miles south of Pella. George Stout's 1922 History reports that Nossaman opened the Franklin House on Franklin St. in 1851 and operated that for four years. This building was later destroyed by fire.

His next venture into the hotel business was in 1875 when he built the Nossaman Hotel north of the old depot on the corner of Carson and South St. He operated this hotel until 1880 when he rented it to his son-in-law, Jacob Todd. The name was then changed to the Todd House and was operated under that name until it was destroyed by fire in the early 1900's. Mrs. Dave (Kate) Thomas was a daughter of the Todd's.

(See photo next page.)

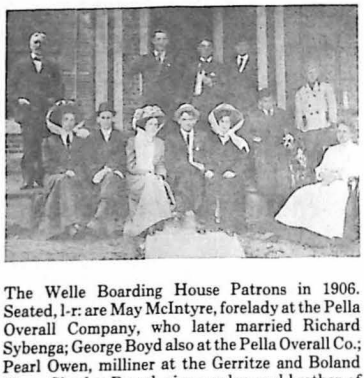




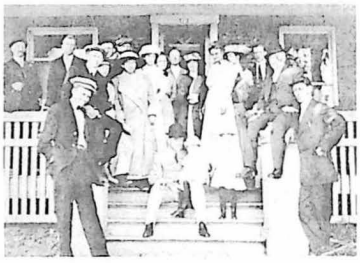
The Schubring Hotel built in 1877. Torn down in 1900 to make way for the White Way Garage.

WELLE BOARDING HOUSE

T42



The Welle Boarding House Patrons in 1906. Seated, l-r: are May McIntyre, forelady at the Pella Overall Company, who later married Richard Sybenga; George Boyd also at the Pella Overall Co.; Pearl Owen, milliner at the Gerritze and Boland Shop; Charley Brand, cigar maker and brother of Mrs. Welle; Ada Wallace, office employee at the Pella Stacker Co.; Les and his dog Rex (a Dalmatian given him by a Carnival owner whose group boarded at Welles) Eva Welle, landlady and brains of the establishment, Standing, l-r: are J.W. Boyd, manager of the Pella Overall Co.; Davis Barr, carpenter for John Visser Co.; Gerrit Van Velzen, from Holland; Dave Welle and Helene Welle.



A group of boarders taken on the newly remodeled front porch of the Welle House in 1915. Left to right at the top are: J.W. Boyd, Dr. E.W. Warren, Dave Welle, George Boyd, Les Welle, Charm Stubenrauch, Charlotte Boyd, Helen Edmund, wife of Dr. Paul; Mrs. James Veenman, James Jelsma, Grace Finley, Mrs. Welle, Cornelia De Geus, (unidentified), John Van Rheenen; Bottom of Stairs: Charley Brand and Dave Breen; Frank Stubenrauch, on step holding James Jelsma, Jr., with Mercedes Jelsma standing.

The story of the Welle family experiences and background. Peter J. Welle, the father, was a parttime owner of the Wheeler and Welle Livery Stable back in the early 1900's. His main job was that of Express Agent for American Express operated out of the depot. There were then as many as six passenger trains a day, and it was his duty to meet all trains to process all express packages coming in and or going out.

Mr. Welle married Eva Brand whose parents had a farm a mile west of Pella on the highway. This was in 1893, and three children were born of this marriage.

In the fall of 1904 Mr. Welle contracted consumption. Dr. Allen of Pella prescribed a warmer climate. Arrangements were made to move to El Paso, Tex. and they left Pella on Oct. 20, 1904. His illness grew worse enroute so they made a stop over at Oklahoma City where he died after a two-week illness.

The Welle family then lived on the Brand farm west of Pella for one year. Mrs. Welle soon asserted her independence and decided the family should "go it alone." In Nov. of 1905, she cashed in proceeds of her husband's insurance estate of some $1000.00 to make a down payment on the Isaac Overcamp house at 832 Franklin. This was an ideal location for a boarding house which she started from scratch. The children helped make this all possible. Helene was seven, Les nine, and Dave old enough to pitch in and help, and help they did.

Dave worked for his uncle Dell Hendricks as a tobacco stripper at the factory. Les worked at Sybenga's bakery as a delivery boy. Bread, cookies and cakes had to be delivered to Slob's grocery and Yankee Wielards in south end. Much of this was done on ro skates and with a wheelbarrow.

Mother Welle was an excellent cook. E Saturday evening her brother Gradus w bring a basket of goodies that Gran Brand had prepared, such as loaves of f bread and freshly-made butter, a dozen two of eggs, milk, cream and either ho made cookies or pie or cake. This becan regular Saturday evening event. These v used to supplement the regular Sun dinner. The word soon got around so besides the eight or ten regular roomers boarders, Mrs. Welle sometimes had as m as 30 for Sunday dinner.

The family got up very early on Sun mornings because of all the preparat necessary of these meals. A gallon of ho made ice cream was usually made by D and Les in the woodshed. Dave also had *Sunday Register* to deliver to about homes, but they still had time for Sun School and church. Mrs. Welle who had s hearing difficulties had to sit in the front of the Second Reformed church. She h special agreement with Dominie Van Ke that she could leave the church after offering was taken. This was done in ord put the finishing touches on the Sur dinner, such as making gravy, mashing potatoes, etc.

Besides all this, Mother Welle took or for angel food cakes, which she prepared special events such as weddings, parties receptions. Special events of this kind w frequently held in the Welle home.

Monday morning was really the "e riser" morning. Mrs. Welle would fill copper washboiler at ten o'clock on Sun evening and light the kitchen range fire. three o'clock in the morning they all got and did the washing with a hand-oper washing machine. Dave and Les would turns washing each load which took minutes by the clock, back and forth, f to back, all by hand until the job was c at 5:30 a.m.

When the washing was done they w start serving breakfast at six o'clock. Fac workers in those days started at seven A worked until six P.M. with one hour off lunch, a ten-hour day at 15 cents an ho $1.50 per day. Maybe that is why H Ford's $5.00 per day made such an impa the American working man in 1908.

The Welles had one of the first Ma washers sold in Pella. It was sold to the H.D. Wormhoudt who operated the clot store on the corner where the Ideal Pharm now stands. Imagine buying a washing chine from a clothing dealer. One pos explanation is that H.D. had an ag contract through his brother "Dump," also had a clothing store in Newton.

Les and Dave also operated one of the vacuum cleaners sold in Pella. This w hand-operated machine calling for back forth hand motion to create the vacuum

Several people asked for rug cle service so the boys spent many ever cleaning rugs in the homes of relatives other people in town. This service got quite a sideline.

The boarders at the home crossed all of life. In many cases, transients or sea employees like tailors who worked for Sack, and harness makers employed by Kreuger made their home there. Then

were the milliners who came every spring and fall to work for Mrs. Thomassen who had her store on the corner where the Post Office now stands. In addition, there was office help who worked for the Pella Stacker Co. and other businesses in Pella. J.W. Boyd was brought up from Georgia to manage the Pella Overall Co. He lived at the Welle house for six months before moving his family. Dave Breen who came to Pella to help build the lines for the first electric plant was a long time boarder of about 15 years. There was Dr. T.G. Fultz who came in 1906, a young veterinarian fresh out of Ames, who later became Pella's long time mayor, as well as Billy Stout of the *Booster Press*.

When Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Fassen went away for two or three weeks, they arranged for Joe and Fred to take their meals there. The same was true of Mr. and Mrs. A.N. Kuyper who had Pete and Lou eat there during their absence. Another patron was the Central College coach Dr. Elbert Warren, star Drake quarterback, who came to Pella to practice medicine and coach the Central team in 1913 – 1915. When the biggest game of the year was to be played with Penn College at Oskaloosa on Thanksgiving day, he always had the team eat at the Welle house. He wanted a substantial meal but one that digested easily.

The original owner of the property was Mr. Isaac Overcamp. Dominie Scholte held Mr. Overcamp in high esteem, which was evidenced by the fact that, in Oct. 1848, he conveyed to him the lot where the Welle house stood for a consideration of service rendered to the Holland colony. Overcamp built a small two room brick dwelling on the property with rooms added later. As a boarding house more space was needed, so the Welles added the upstairs with a hip roof in 1911, and remodeled the front porch in 1915.

When Overcamp died in 1896, the property was deeded to his only surviving daughter Aartje. She and her husband John D. Gaass lived there for some time before moving to a residence on N. Main St. in about 1898. Their children were: Love; Louise; Lucille; Amelia; Hattie; and Isaac.

Love (Mrs. Paul Scholte) recalled when she lived in the house. Among her memories was the celebration of her parents' 25th wedding anniversary on July 25, 1896. Murray Cox, city band director, brought his band to the home after the regular concert in the city park to serenade the couple who were married in 1871. Love's sister Amelia Gaass was married to Ed Buerkens in the old house.

The old house is torn down now. A huge bulldozer needed to be called in to level the large solid brick walls and excavate its massive foundation, and in 1973 Harold and Wilma Van Dort Den Besten built an apartment house. The last wedding performed in the old house was when Wilma, who had lived there since 1948, married Harold on Jan. 15, 1960. Wilma's father, William Van Dort, boarded at the Welle home upon his arrival in the States and returned to live in it as a private dwelling from 1948 until his death in 1971. He would often recall the hospitality enjoyed at the Welle boarding house.

The house may be gone, but many fond memories linger in the minds of many people of early Pella who lived and boarded there for a while. For a bit more information on the old house check the Overcamp and Van Dort family histories.

Mrs. Welle lived in the he home till her death in 1947, and the Van Dort family moved there in April of 1948.

by Wilma Den Besten

Another story is said to have happened at the time of Lincoln's death. Dominie Scholte had become a staunch Republican and when Lincoln died, he draped his pulpit with the American Flag. A woman whose husband was a staunch Democrat but who wished to hear Scholte's sermon, came to church but covered her face with a shawl so she could not see the pulpit, but could hear the sermon!

* * * * * *

Dutch stories are usually told in a rather droll manner and are much more effective when told in the Dutch language. Often the gist of the story is "lost in translation" and does not seem funny. The Dutch love a good story.

The trunk belonging to Pieter Welle in which he pached his belongings to take to America. He and his family sailed on the *Pieter Floris* in 1847.

A Dutchman in business on the west side of Pella's square kept two pairs of wooden shoes in his store. One pair he kept behind the stove to warm them; the other he wore until his feet got cold, then he would exchange them for the warmed pair.

* * * * * *

In the drought years of 1894–95, a rainmaker arrived in Pella. He parked his railroad car on the siding near the depot. A pipe extended through the roof in contact with the upper strata. Many of Pella's religious citizens considered this a sin to mock God. They turned their rain barrels upside down . . . just in case it did rain!

* * * * * *

GOOD OL' DAYS

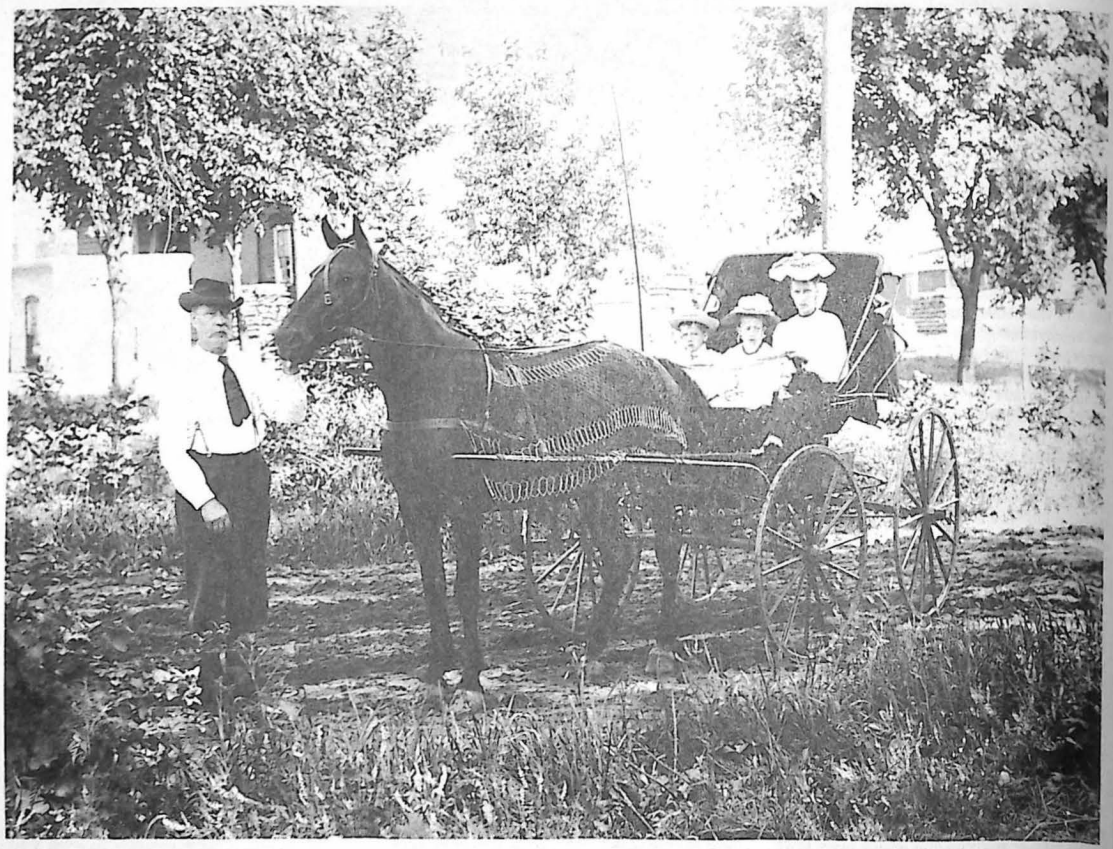


Photo from Mrs. G. Bosma

REMINISCING BOYHOOD DAYS

T43

Ed LeCocq

My boyhood and teenage years were spent at 507 S. Main St., in a home across from the Buerkens wagon factory, the block which is now the location of Country Kitchen, AMC Motors and Hardees. I went through all the grades from first through fifth, except seventh and eighth at Lincoln and high school at Webster while living in the Main St. home. The last year high school was still in the upper floor at Webster. I came back to old Webster for the eighth grade which was on the southwest corner, upper floor. The prep grade before high school entry was a bust. Frequent supply teachers and just general chaos in deportment was the rule. My grade teachers were Lilly Viersen, first; Miss Braam, second; Miss Harmsen, third; Miss Wormhoudt, fourth; and Mrs. Brooks, fifth. Then to Lincoln, my sixth was Miss Van Zante, later Mrs. Antone Van Houweling, and seventh which was the generally adored Dora Boatsma. My impression of my grade teachers: the best, Harmsen, Van Zante, and Dora Boatsma. High school teachers were not too popular except for Prof. Frank Frush who was also Superintendent.

Main St., my locale ten years before World War I, was the busiest street in the town. It was still unpaved, so the neighborhood kids and I witnessed a lot of excitement. During periods of muddy roads and bad weather, all horse-drawn vehicles, wagons especially, had a tough time getting through that block. The block was the low one for drainage, coming down from the south. Mud holes were always in that block. It was the scene of many runaways. Whenever the Buerkens foundry whistle blew at noon or one o'clock, and a farm team happened to be near the clock, they would startle and be off and running with shoutings of "Whoa!" from the driver and other occupants. This was always great sport for the kids to watch, especially when the runaway approached the turn east at the depot, just before going over the railway tracks.

The fire station and jail in the area brought a pack of interest especially during Pella Fair time. The jail would be running over with drunks and other misdemeanor subjects. Winter time was also attractive for us, catching rides on bobsleds of farmers who were coming into town, or coming from town on their way home. The wagon boxes of the bobsleds were piled with hay and the farmers wives and kids wrapped up in blankets and hay. We envied all that. Cutters drawn by one horse with sleigh bells jingling were some of the pleasant sounds filling the air with the music of Christmas time — one of the pleasantries of the horse and buggy age during winter time, in the evening when you were inside your home sitting by the kitchen stove warming your feet, and getting sleepy. Those Christmas time jingles on the horse and sleigh were far sweeter sounds than the roar of semi-trucks coming down Main St. as we are so aware of today. Roller skates were popular in my days going to school at Lincoln. No buses then it was walk otherwise.

Pella Fair time was a time of great excitement for us. The location of the fair was just east out of town in the area of the Wal-Mart store. The home of the Caldwells, once the home of the Mann family, was the last town home before the fair grounds. I used to win prizes with my pony and horse pictures in the exhibition hall. George Ramsey used to exhibit his pianos there. Maybe the subjects of my drawing were because we had ponies and a driving and saddle horse.

In high school I played the cornet in the first band we organized. A group of about seven or eight, but we sure made a lot of noise. We made up an orchestra also for school functions. Practicing my cornet at home was not appreciated by my pet water spaniel, named Johnny. He could not stand the sound and in exasperation he would take off down the street, howling all the way until out of ear shot. He would return only when I stopped playing my horn. Johnny met his fate one day with the increasing traffic of cars on Main St. Mrs. Henry Wormhoudt, wife of the downtown clothier where Ideal pharmacy is now, ran over Johnny one afternoon when I was at school. He was getting pretty old by then and couldn't see or hear very well. A sad day for me.

I must tell you the story of my first pony. My dad had a driving horse and buggy, a surry if the family went along. The horse was a very fine saddle animal, also. She was purchased from a farmer living near New Sharon, was all white and named Dolly. She was brought home from the farm on a hot July evening and put into a stall in the barn. It was a very hot day so Dad left the upper half of the Dutch-style barn door for ventilation. In the morning, the pony was gone, having slipped the latch on the bottom door and was nowhere to be found. We received a telephone call from the former owner of Dolly that she had traveled the eighteen miles back to her former home. Bringing Dolly back later that day, you can be sure that care was taken that she might not give us the slip again. Dolly was a lot of fun to ride and was a good producer. She had three colts while we had her. We had a perfectly matched team from Dolly and the same sire. The team was very keen with their small-sized rubber-tired buggy and smart harness made in my Dad's shop. One of the pair, named Rex, was a good saddle pony and I rode him on many errands for the family. With the coming of our first auto, something had to give. Four ponies in the barn, also a saddle horse, and when I entered high school that proved the end of the pony fancy. One by one they were sold with some heartbreak.

In the early years of the century a busy church in our vicinity was the Third Reformed Church, an old-fashioned white-sided colonial type with a high steeple and topped with a rooster as a weather vane, thereby being named the "Rooster Church." It lost that trademark with the building of a new church later, which you see today. The early church also had Dutch services, as most Reformed churches had here, except the Second Reformed which established the English services when the church was organized in 1863. On summer days, I can still hear those wonderful Dutch psalms being sung and the rise and fall of the rhythms floating out over the air, coming through the windows and over the neighborhood. The new Third Reformed Church you see today carried a town clock which is much appreciated by everyone.

Another memory still vivid in my mind was the excursions or invasions of gypsy caravans coming into town with their extra horses traipsing along behind. They usually stopped first at Gezel's blacksmith shop to water their horses at the pump and trough in front of the shop. The women of the group in their colorful dresses, shawls and large earrings, would fan out over the town, plying their trade which was stealing anything loose, begging and trying to sell their trinkets. One year there was a large patch of cucumbers just south of the fire station. In no time at all the women had stripped the patch clean of all pickles and cucumbers. Seldom, if ever, were they arrested for their snoopy behavior. Most citizens were just curious about the people and waited patiently until they departed on their way.

Saturday night was the big night in earlier days. The business community was all ablaze with lights and awaited the many farm families who came to town, as well as townspeople, to do their week-end shopping. The Pella band in those days played in the double-decker bandstand which was in the center of the square park then. No cement walks were in the park. Broad ashen paths all came towards the stand. There was a walking area lined with trees about fifty feet circling the bandstand where couples and young folks jostled around in their usual tactics as young people usually do. After the band concerts, people swarmed into the ice cream parlors, drug stores then, for their refreshments. It was a grand release for working people and everyone, for, the next day was Sunday and the town was very quiet, rolled up the walks, as they used to say, to carefully observe the religious rites, a trademark of the Dutch which was well-known.

In those early days Pella had saloons, yes saloons, not known as taverns as they are now called. But, the end result was the same, drunks, young bucks who had come to town to celebrate, etc., and were prone to race their horses with vehicles down South Main St. out of town, whooping and yelling like wild Indians. This was scary for the kids still up, as well as grownups.

I can't write about the gay 90's in Pella as I was just four years old at the turn of the century.

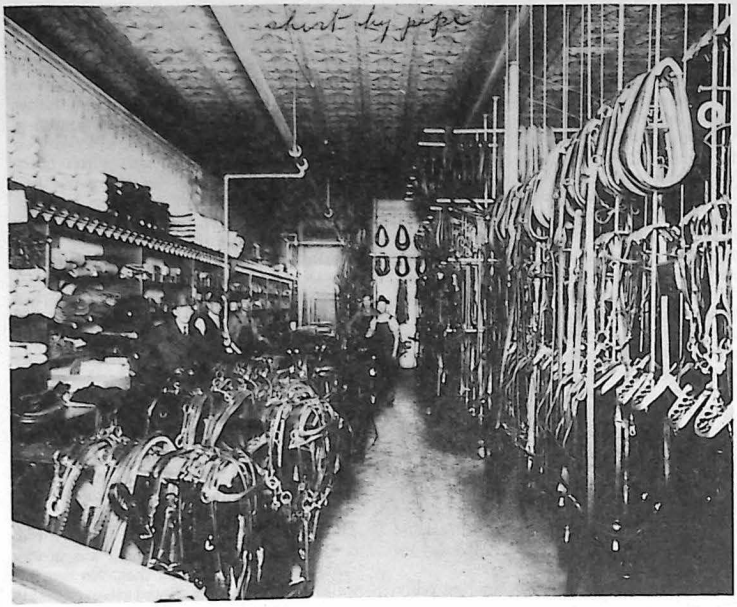
by Ed Le Cocq

HARNESS SHOP

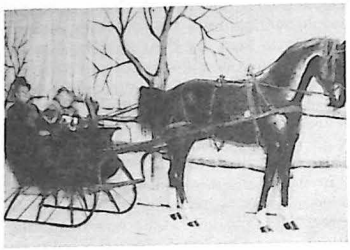
T44

An industry long-faded from today's local scene, the picture shows a part of the F & I Le Cocq Store with the racks of fine harness (for driving horses) and heavy harness made for work horses (wagons, farm equipment, etc.) To the right in the picture (not shown) would be a row of new buggies, from six to eight examples generally and to the right of the buggies would be a row of Oliver farm equipment. Early employees were: Theodore Le Cocq, son of Frank, Alex De Boer Ben Broafhart, and "Trickle" Veenman Other shop workers at that time were Issac Le Cocq, Cutter, Charles Pos and others whose names were not recalled.

It might be interesting to note the F & I Le



Le Cocq Harness Shop about 1910. Left to Right: Theodore Le Cocq, Frank Le Cocq, Alex De Boer, Ben Braafhart, and "Trickle" Veenman.



Ed and Pearl Van Gorp behind the mannekin horse which is from the old Le Cocq Harness Shop at 610 Franklin St.

Cocq Harness Making Store is now the building lately occupied by the Pamida Company on East Franklin St.

In addition to harness making, the store carried lines of saddles, blankets for horses, carriage, and buggy use. They also sold suitcases, trunks, horse remedies and cigars. In the front window was a dapple-gray, harness display horse — a trademark of the store. This same display horse later was repaired, painted brown, and is on display at the Historical complex.

BILL VAN HEMERT, RURAL MAIL CARRIER

T45

Bill Van Hemert was the epitome of rural mail carriers. He spent almost forty-eight years with the U.S. Post Office, beginning in 1917 until mandatory retirement at age seventy in 1965. At the end of his career he served 242 patrons and his route covered 81 miles.

Postmaster Ed Wesselink presented a letter of appreciation from the Postmaster General to Bill Van Hemert when he covered his route for the last time Aug. 9, 1965.

Four cars were kept in good running condition so he would always have one ready for mail delivery. From Model A days there were only two days when he reverted to the use of horse and buggy. His route was not completely gravel and he often put chains on in the fall and kept them on until April. Farmers watched him go through the inevitable mud holes to see if he could get through. If he got stuck, they pulled him out with tractors.

In the winter of 1935-36, there were twenty-three days that he could not get to Peoria because of snow-blocked roads. Peoria farmers came cross country into Pella via bobsled to get the mail Bill had bundled for them. He'd meet them after they called that they were starting out. He would go as far as he could by car to deliver the mail to them. When the mail sled got back to Peoria, the farmers would all be there waiting.

When the river was too high and could not be crossed, Bill brought the mail to the bank and it was taken across by boat. Daily mail was very important to rural people, it was something to look forward to in the days when rural living was semi-isolation. Bill made a car to go through mud by using parts of various cars. Patrons called it his "hybrid."

His starting salary was 30 cents an hour. On the rural route, in his first days as carrier, the allowance for equipment amounted to 1 cent per mile.

He served under five postmasters: George Stout, Louis Bousquet, Ed Van Zante, Art Klein, and Ed Wesselink.

Three hundred fifty of his patrons on Rural Route #2 honored him at a dinner when he retired. Don Andrews took over the route in 1965. (Don has since retired.)

by Murt Kooi

JOHN VANDEN BAN, MILK ROUTE

T46

John Vanden Ban, his horse Douglas, and his pooch made their daily rounds on a milk route for the Clover Leaf Dairy. For about seventeen years they served customers covering a total of about 3,000 miles a year.

John was born in Holland and first worked in a dairy in St. Louis after coming to America. He wanted to get work "outside" and took the Pella milk delivery job in 1942, working first for Lubbers' Dairy, then for the late William Huyser.

Douglas, the horse, was a Clydesdale, a short-tailed showhorse who came to Pella and soon learned to run the route almost without directions. He knew where he was to stop. He would walk slowly down the block and wait for John at the end. The horse knew the route so well that when John was ill, two young Huyser girls delivered the milk but the horse took them on the route.

The "clip-clop" of the metal shoes on the streets was a familiar sound to people in Pella. John once tried rubber shoes but people did not like it that they couldn't hear the sound and he was reshod again in metal. A blacksmith from Des Moines came to shoe Douglas once a month.

Pooch and Douglas slept together and John tended to their needs. They never used a sled. Milk was delivered in two installments, being kept refrigerated in hot weather. In cold weather, a small gas heater kept the milk from freezing.

The threesome, after 1947, was a part of the Tulip Time Parade.

The service was discontinued in Mar. 1959, when John was hospitalized. Douglas was turned out to pasture and when Pooch became blind, was euthanized. They, with their master, are well-remembered by persons living in that time span. John Vanden Ban is deceased.

from "Buck Saw"

John Vanden Ban and his horse Douglas.

THE BUTCHER'S APPRENTICE AND THE LITTLE DUTCH PRINCESS

T47

As fairy tales about princesses usually begin with . . . once upon a time, we will follow custom.

Once upon a time in the not so long ago, a little Dutch princess was with her father and mother in their summer place at Het Loo, just adjoining the Dutch town of Apeldoorn. She was playing in the beautiful yard which was surrounded with high hedges and beautiful trees. It was a huge estate and her father, the Consort to the Queen, loved to hunt and had the most fierce wild boars imported into the woods for the shooting sport he so enjoyed with his friends. The little princess was very precious to the people of her country, The Netherlands. Her birth had been a joyous occasion and although she was only three, she was already a national treasure.

Arie Schilder in 1908, apprentice butcher in Kampen, The Netherlands.

A young apprentice butcher often had to ride his delivery bicycle to deliver meat to families in both Apeldoorn and Het Loo. He usually was filled with some apprehension when riding his bicycle near the woods where he knew wild boars roamed. He always kept his eyes on the wooded area in the event that one of the animals would jump through the hedge.

The little princess, Juliana, was playing outside one bright summer day chasing a few very tame goats. The goats scampered about and escaped through the high hedge, followed by the little princess.

Alas! The young apprentice butcher, frightened at seeing animals coming through the hedge, did not see the little girl in time to stop his bicycle as she ran directly into his path. There was a collision and the tiny princess fell to the ground and the young butcher flew off the bicycle and landed near her. Her wails brought the soldiers and the royal bodyguards who began shouting at the frightened young man.

Trying to explain, young Arie watched as the bodyguards examined tiny Juliana and found she had only a scraped knee. The young apprentice butcher brushed himself off, apologized, picked up the packages of meat and after being released, went on his way.

Young Arie later left Apeldoorn to seek his fortune in America. He became well-known as the "bologna king" in his own butcher shop in a little Dutch town in America called Pella.

And the tiny princess? She one day became the Queen of The Netherlands. She even crossed the ocean and came to visit in the little town of Pella although she probably didn't remember the time she had been run down by the young butcher on his bicycle.

But young Arie never forgot it. He became a prominent citizen of the town in America. He told his children the story many times.

And . . . as fairy tales usually end, they all lived happily ever after.

Adapted from a story once printed in the Pella Chronicle about the year 1937 which was a true story in the Schilder family)

WINTER ICE HARVESTING

T48

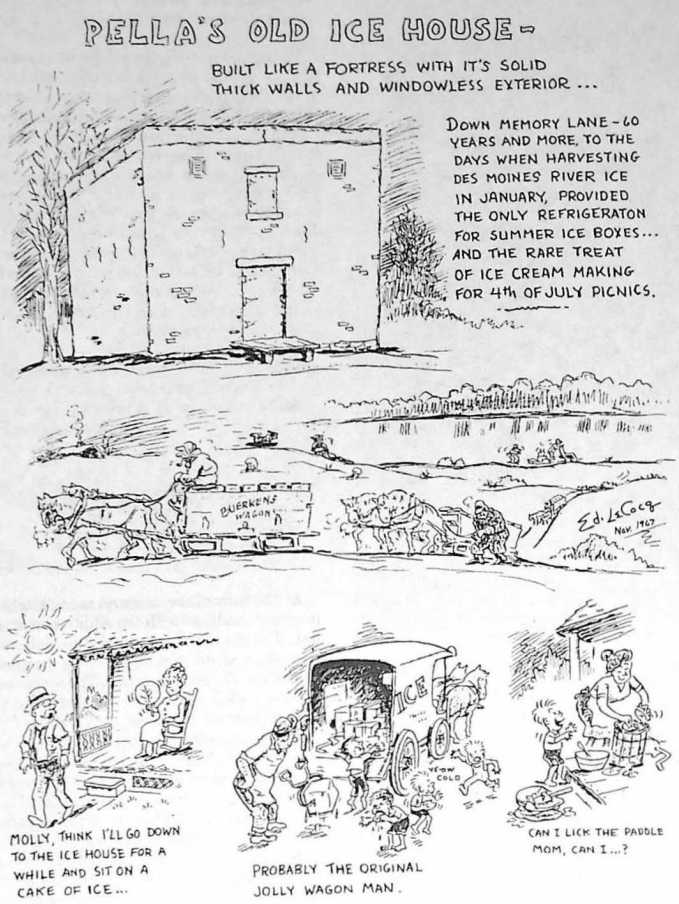
At the turn of the century, many kitchens became "modern" with the addition of an ice box. The ice box was generally an elaborate, varnished wood box with three compartments and doors on each one. The uppermost section had a door which opened from the top, permitting a cake of ice weighing from 50 to 100 pounds to be dropped into the zinc lined space. Next was the storage space reserved for the fresh milk and cream, fresh meat, and anything else that needed to be kept refrigerated. At the bottom was a small area which contained a metal pan used to collect the water as the ice melted. The ice lasted according to the temperature on the outside, the temperature of the food when placed in the box, and the number of times the door on the box was opened. With the ice box went the daily, or every other day, appearance of the ice man and his tongs, ice pick in the belt holster, scales, heavy leather apron, and his delivery wagon pulled by a horse, and later the motorized ice wagon. This all to replenish the supply of melted ice in the family ice box.

The early and best known ice men in Pella who worked the trade were Albert De Wild and Harry De Jong. The ice men were well known in the community, and were strong muscular men because of lugging huge cakes of ice all day long.

The ice wagon was a fascinating vehicle for the young children of the town. It was the place to beg a piece of ice to suck on, on a hot summer day.

The supply of ice was a year-round task for some of the Pella men. In the winter they harvested or "put up" the ice, and in the summer time the ice was delivered by some of the same teamsters to customers in town. The process of harvesting the ice, the transportation and storage, is an interesting one and involved a large area and many men.

The ice used in Pella was harvested at a number of different places. Some came from Lake Prairie southwest of Pella, some from the Gerrit Ver Steeg farm pond, just a half mile south of Pella, and other ice came from



the Des Moines and Skunk River, from the Tile Mill Pond, Vanderzyl's Slaughter House Pond, and other locations in the Pella area.

Most of the work was done by horse or mule power, and many strong, hardworking local men. Many of the ice harvesters worked at the Brick and Tile Yard in the summer, and during the winter layoff put up ice for storage in the ice houses for later use in home kitchens, butcher shops, the Creamery, local dairy operations, the town's six saloons, railroad refrigerator cars and local drug stores. The largest Pella ice house was just north of the Creamery on Union Street between East first and East second. It burned to the ground on a cold winter night in the early part of the century.

The ice was cut into cakes about four feet long, two feet wide, and varied in thickness from 12 to 18 inches, depending on the freeze. The blocks weighed from 100 to 175 pounds, some as much as 200.

At first, all cutting was done by hand. Later a one-horse plow was used to cut the ice the long way, and a cross cut saw was then used to cut the ice into blocks. The ice having been cut and loaded on wagons or bob sleds was then hauled by team to the ice houses. It was packed in sawdust, the sawdust being a good insulator and because of the abundance of sawmills was plentiful and cheap. The ice houses were built with thick walls and cork insulation, thick floors and heavy doors. When the ice was taken out for delivery, it was washed off and again became the sparkling product of the winter past.

The advent of pure ice as we know it today didn't come until later years when electric ice-making machines were installed at ice houses. Then, by using water from municipal water supplies, the ice became fit for human consumption and became popular in soft and mixed drinks.

The early drug stores had a soda fountain or an ice cream parlor, and each had its own freezers for making ice cream. This used a large amount of ice which had to be chipped by hand, crushed in a burlap sack with a hammer, and distributed in the space for ice in the freezer, and then salted down. Even then, an ice cream cone only cost a nickel.

All of this passed from the scene in the 1930's and early 1940's with the coming of home freezers, refrigerators with ice makers and freezing compartments, and, of course, electric refrigeration.

Now super markets, convenience stores and some gas stations have ice dispensers with the ice attractively and carefully dispensed in plastic bags. This ice is used mainly in portable coolers and for cooling beverages.

The old sources of ice have dried up or have been drained. Prairie Lake is now a small shallow slough, and the rivers and other waters have become so polluted, they would not pass requirements of health officials anymore.

by Loren Vanderzyl

RACING HORSES IN PELLA

T49

Horse racing has never been an officially sanctioned type of entertainment in Pella but an amateur track existed around the turn of the century. My grandfather, Jake Vander Pol, who dearly loved horses and especially fast horses, had a track on his farm which was two miles east of Pella.

Jake had developed a reputation of being good with horses and many of his neighbors would bring their sick horses to him for treatment. Grandpa was single at the time, in his early thirty's, and he decided to build a race track on his farm. Most of the racing was done on Sunday afternoon and they were well-attended by the young men of the community . . . much to the chagrin of their elders.

Grandpa married in 1905 and a strong-willed wife closed down the Sunday afternoon racing. However, much to Grandma's dismay, racing did continue, but it was on the way to church! Grandpa had a very spirited team (read that as fast) and a certain Van Doneselaar boy would wait until he saw Grandpa pass, and then he would pull out and start for Pella. He would attempt to pass Grandpa and the race was on. They would arrive at the First Reformed church with the horses in a lather to the disapproving glances of the people gathered . . . especially the women. Grandma never could live that down until the advent of the automobile.

by Wayne Vander Pol

ADVENTURES AT ELMER'S

T50

When I was about six or seven years old, we were living in the South End or "Lower Mexico" as it was called as a label for that part of Pella. Kids on their way to school would stop at Elmer's, a local tavern. Elmer carried a lot of penny candy and all of us would stop to buy some after lunch. There were no school lunches then, we all went home from Webster School. Many a time the men would have to wait for their beer, as Mr. Hartgraves always waited on the kids first.

Elmer had a croquet court across Oskaloo-

sa Street. In the evening men would come to play, buy a quart of beer and play croquet. When you were a kid, this was another place to go to listen to stories and occasionally hear strong language. We knew it was bad, but it was fun to see adults get so mad about a shot they missed. The stories I could tell about Elmer's could go on and on but this will have to suffice.

by Wayne Vander Pol

THE BLATTNER BREWERY

T51

Some of the doctors in the early days of Pella's history often prescribed some of Blattner's beer for "complaints" such as stomach aches. One resident of Pella fondly remembers the story told by an elderly relative who at the age of five, had to make a late-night call to the brewery to get a little tin bucket filled with brew after the doctor prescribed it for Granny's stomach condition.

The Blattner Brewery was located on the southeast corner of Franklin and West First St. where the Beerends Apartments are now located.

George M. Blattner was a German immigrant who came to Iowa in 1855 with his wife Mary Hauk and a multitude of children. Two of their children had died enroute on the ship, a few were born in Pella. George was born in Steinweiler, Germany. He lived in Pella between the years of 1855 until 1884 when he moved to Prairie City, Ia. It was there he died in 1911. Many prominent Pella persons attended the funeral in Prairie City.

W.C. (Old Bill) Van Vark was the fireman for the brewery's boilers, working there until Blattner left town.

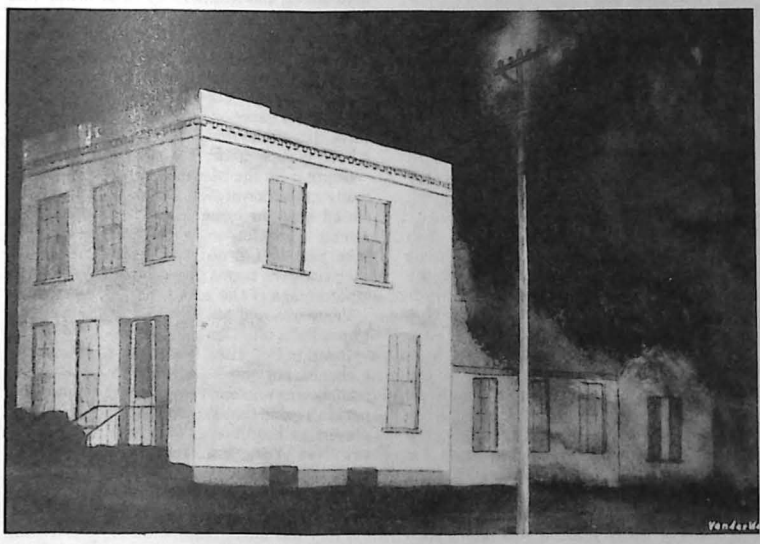
The Brewery faced north and was of brick construction.

George W. in a picture showing a life style which labeled him "A Sport". His surname is not clearly written on the picture.

The painting photographed for the article was done by the late Robert VanderWal, the original being the possession of Mrs. Gertrude Vanderwal of Pella, the artist's sister-in-law.

In April 1968, when the building was razed by workmen, one treasure was found to add to the Historical Museum, that being the door which led down stairs to the brewery on which is printed "Mold Cellar".

The last residents of the brewery which had been changed into a home generations ago, were the Arnold Witzenburg family.



The old Brewery located on the Southeast corner of Franklin and West First St. from a painting by Robert Vander Wal.

THE RACE ACROSS IOWA

T52

For months the battle raged regarding how fast the cars could go, how long it would take to go from one end of the state to the other. There were many arguments as to routes that would be best; money was bet on the side until finally the only way to settle it was eminent. A race had to be held!

Two cars and their drivers finally came forward. "Pete" Peterson of Davenport and Don McClure of Oskaloosa. The run began in Davenport and ended in Council Bluffs. This happened in 1912, and all the talk was to be settled once and for all. Peterson and McClure were automobile dealers. Peterson drove a Pope-Hartford car and Don McClure was behind the wheel of an Oakland named "The Green Dragon".

Good Roads boosters in Pella favored the White Way Route, a dirt road lined with white markers known today as Highway 163 and also favored the I O A Short Line. People living in counties north of Pella favored the River to River Road which later became Highways 30 and 6.

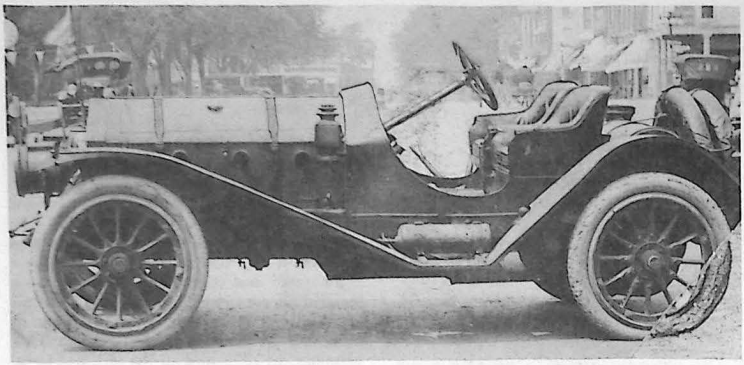
Both drivers were frequently delayed along the route by mechanical troubles, railroad crossings, and run-away horses. On occasion the driver had to get out of his stopped car long enough to lead a frightened animal past the strange vehicle. Warning notices were posted along the route indicating at about what time they could expect the racers. The racing cars had problems in moving through traffic in cities and towns along the route.

McClure was accompanied by M.C. Marlin, his mechanic. McClure traveled the 355 miles across the state in ten hours and 30 minutes as compared with Peterson who took ten hours and 26 minutes to cover 382 miles. The average speed of McClure was reported at 37.4 miles per hour for eight and one-half hours of actual running time.

The race did not really prove much but it did serve to popularize the two routes across Iowa. McClure praised the road saying it was hard and smooth. This race was held in the days before paving and the roads had many sharp turns and winding stretches. These in time provided the first paths for better and better automobiles to serve a rapidly increasing number of motorists.

Taken from a Bucksaw column

(See photo next page.)



The Green Dragon, Don McClure's famous Oakland, appeared in Pella following the race across Iowa. White Way Garage owned it for a year or two when it was taken in as a trade on a new Kissel Car. The famous car had a large motor and had to be cranked by hand. Local blacksmith, Henry Gezel, made a special crank with a long handle to make the job easier. The car's whereabouts is not known.

PELLA'S WHISTLES

T53

Pella has heard the sound of many different whistles blowing through the years. Some still operate on occasion, but most are just a memory. Pella's whistles ranged from ear shattering to barely audible, but pleasing, tones. They all served a purpose in the day-to-day life of the people of the community.

Most plants, shops, works, or mills as they were commonly known in the earlier years had a steam engine for power. They had a wood or coal-fired boiler to generate the steam necessary to operate machines along a factory wall. This was prior to the common usage of electric motors to operate individual pieces of machinery.

The plant fireman would get a hot fire going in the boiler and heat the water to "get up a good head of steam," and then open the throttle on the engine and possibly give the flywheel a slight nudge, this to impress onlookers. The engine would get up to full speed, one of the men would engage a clutch-type affair, and the factory echoed with the noise of gears, cogs, belts, idlers, and pulleys.

With all this went the steam whistle on the boiler. The steam whistle is a sophisticated version of the little boy blowing across the top of a soda pop bottle to make a whistling tone. Among the first whistles in Pella were those at the Brick and Tile Plant in southeast Pella, Pella Creamery, Buerkens Wagon Factory, Pella Canning Company, Feeder Works – Stacker Factory, and the City Electric Plant. The Cannery whistle was used to call the men and women to work for the packing of sweet corn, pumpkins or tomatoes. It was also used to let the growers out on the farms know when to load the wagons and haul the produce into the factory. The Cannery whistle was a dual – toned affair, and when blown produced a melodious sound. The Feeder Works – Stacker Factory whistle and those at the Buerkens Wagon Factory, and the Creamery were used as a signal for employees to begin or stop work, for lunch time, in emergency situations, and for alerting company officials when they were needed. The Feeder Works – Stacker Factory whistle was the important whistle to most of the housewives. They used it to set the clocks in the home. People depended on that whistle for accuracy, and because of that, the plant engineer would make a regular trip to the jewelry store just off the square and check his watch with the big clock in the store. In those early years the time came by wire to Western Union at the Rock Island Depot from the Naval Observatory.

This brings us to the grandaddy of all the whistles, the fire whistle on the City Light and Power Plant. It had a plunger apparatus in the bell of the whistle, and when the operator turned on the steam valve and moved the plunger up and down, it could change the tone from a low moan to a high-pitched scream, out of the range of human hearing. The wide range of tones the whistle had affected the hearing system of the neighborhood dogs and would set them to howling when the whistle blew.

The Fire Department had a bell alarm system controlled from the telephone office. To report a fire, you would notify the operator, giving her the location of the fire. She in turn would step to a control panel and activate two switches. One rang bells in firemen's homes and in the power plant. The other operated electrified machinery which rang the huge bell atop the fire station.

The town was divided into four wards for voting purposes, and this carried over to the fire locating system. When the bell rang at the plant, the man on duty would ask the operator for the location of the fire. He could then consult a map if necessary, and then determine which ward to signal for the firemen. He would go to the whistle controls, open the steam valve, slide the plunger control up and down a few times, and then at a low tone give a certain number of blasts to correspond with the ward location of the fire. This was done to assist the volunteer firemen in determining which direction to go to help fight the fire, should they be away from the fire station or a telephone.

The whistle had various uses over the years. In addition to its announcing a fire in town, it was used to salute the new year at midnight on New Year's Eve. It signaled the end of both World Wars, was used for practice Civil Defense and air raid drills during war time, at noon and 1:00 p.m. for factory workers, school children and shop keepers. For many years it was blown each November 11th to commemorate the World War I Armistice. The whistle had another practical use. It was blown to summon city officials. One blast called for the town marshal, two for the water and street superintendent, and three for the city electrician.

Old timers relate stories of teams of horses spooking when they were in front of the light plant as the whistle began to blow. This almost always caused a run away on Oskaloosa St. with the farmer holding on to the reins for dear life. Often the horses were bruised, and the farmer if not injured was badly shaken. It was common for the old timers watching the events with the neighbors to announce sagely; "They'll get stopped when they get down to Mrs. Mann's place." Mrs. Mann's place was the last house on Oskaloosa Street heading east out of town.

Finally, the most exciting whistle to all ages was the little whistle on Mrs. Nancy Boat's pop corn wagon on the southeast corner of the square. With the smell of freshly-popped corn, roasting peanuts, and the sound of the little steam whistle, it brought kids of all ages to the stand.

The only whistles heard in Pella anymore are the electric siren used for fires and an occasional train whistle in South Pella. The Historical Society Musseum complex has a steam whistle on the old mill boiler. This is blown during the Tulip Festival and on other special occasions.

by Loren Vanderzyl

"BABE" RUTH PLAYED AGAINST PELLA

T54

Pella, in early days, was known as a good baseball town. Back in 1912-1920 baseball reigned supreme among the sports in Pella. Teams were arranged at the high school, the junior high, the college, and the city level.

The latter had a strong team that ranked high among the teams in Central Iowa. The Pella Meteors, as they were called, took part in many tournaments, sometimes hiring a player or two, usually a pitcher, to add to the strength of the team. Tournament winnings were substantial enough to attract a good player for a game or two. They were usually three-day affairs and often centered around a holiday such as the Fourth of July.

Support for the Meteors was very good. In many cases downtown stores and factories closed shop in order that the help could attend. The Meteors were often invited to take part in out-of-town tournaments. In such cases the teams played for a flat rate or a percentage of the gate.

Perry was one of the outside teams with whom Pella often tangled.

It was in Oct. 1922, when the Meteors had a chance, not only to play off a tie — each team having won one game — but also to take part in a game that brought in two big league players as headliners. The headliners were two New York Yankees who were on a barnstorming trip. They were the well-known Babe Ruth, the home run king, and Bob Meusel.

Perry was included in their barnstorming tour. Since the Pella Meteors had played two games with the Perry team, each winning one game, they were chosen as Perry's opponents

Pella's baseball team, the Meteors. Seated on the left is New York Yankees' player Bob Meusel, and on the right, Babe Ruth.

for an exhibition game. Ruth played for Perry and Meusel for Pella.

A tremendous crowd saw Perry win by a score of ten to four.

Pella's four runs were made with none out in the first inning. John Rillihan, Don Gale, and Heck Gale all bunted safely. Then Bob Meusel came up and cleared the bases with a home run. That was the end of Pella's scoring.

Babe Ruth did not connect for a home run, but he did get a three-base hit. He played first base for Perry.

copied from "Buck Saw" Feb. 21, 1979 - Pella Chronicle

CENTRAL COLLEGE "Wonder Team" (1930-31)

The Iowa Conference Champions were dubbed "The Wonder Team". L to R: "Lefty" Schnack, "Tiny" Wilkens, Cornie Muyskens, "Babe" Tysseling, Henry Vander Bush.

Pella baseball team composed of Central College students; Front row: l to r, Fred Rhynsberger, Edu. De Adel, Ace Renaud, Buck Buerkens, Edu. Vander Linder and Pat Davis. Standing: l to r, Mac William (coach), unknown, Ralph Ver Ploeg, Dave Van Rees, James Lowe, Marion Wormhoudt, Joe Boyd and Billy Baer. Photo taken at Central College on the corner of University Street and The Railroad crossing.

VI.

SCHOOLS

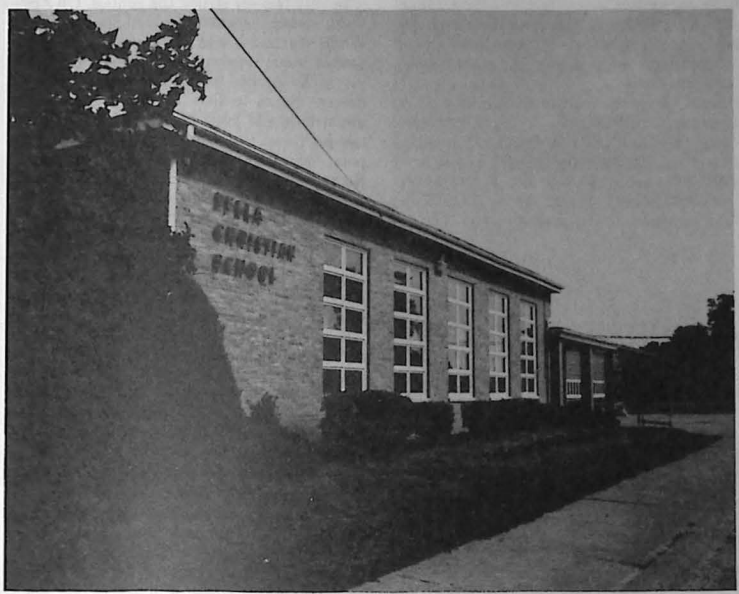
Front Row, l-r: Doug Heerema, Bill Bean, Marv Meppelink, Judy Huyser, Norma Hagen, Barbara Bosch, Nancy Vander Meulen, Dorothy Vanden Oever, Janice Steenhoek, Verna Van Hemert, Kathy Rozenberg. Back Row, l-r: Murray Vos, Ron Veenstra, Gene Loverink, Wilma De Nooy, Fern DenAdel, Dorothy Dieleman, Andrea Boat, Sally Sents, Judy Int'Veld, Junella Van Hal, Sonja Claussen and their teacher, Miss Dena Ver Steeg. (Photo late 1940s.)

PELLA CHRISTIAN GRADE SCHOOL

T55

Christian schools have been a part of Pella's history for over 75 years. Some of the citizens of Pella felt the need to establish a Christian school because they wanted their children to be trained under a philosophy where the Word of God is the only authoritative norm for life. They rejected the philosophy of the inherent goodness of man, the relativity of truth, and the autonomy of creation. They believed the only way man can know the truth about himself, his God, and his world is from the Bible which views the world as a world that is created, fallen, and redeemed in Jesus Christ. They confessed that Christ is the ruler of the whole universe, everything is His and must be understood as belonging to Him. Nothing is neutral or outside of Christ's lordship. They believed the Word of God continues to uphold and control everything: the smallest atoms, mathematical laws, science, history, language, technology, government, etc. Therefore they believed a school, in order to teach the truth about the world, had to interpret everything according to this principle. It is for this reason that Christian schools have been established in Pella.

Pella Elementary Safety Patrol 1950's.



Pella Christian Elementary School built in 1953 is located at 216 Liberty.

This building opened in 1913. It was located on the east side of West Second and Union.

The first Christian school in Pella was operating in the First Reformed Church of Pella during the 1850's and early 1860's. We do not know what happened to this school, but by 1866 it seems to have been dissolved.

The concept for Christian education seems to have been dormant or lost sight of for several years. Perhaps the immigrants of the late 1800's and early 1900's from Abraham Kuyper's Holland were the ones God used to restore the perspective for a Christian school in Pella.

At any rate, in 1903 the minutes of the First Christian Reformed Church record a discussion of the need for a Christian school in Pella. On Aug. 4, 1903, a letter from the Committee for Christian Education was received and discussed concerning the establishment of a Christian school.

Three years later in 1906 it was recorded in the same consistory minutes, that the Committee for Christian Instruction reported little success. However, the consistory did decide to approach Second Christian Reformed Church to cooperate in the hiring of a teacher.

Reports from the following months indicate that little progress had been made. Then, two years later on Mar. 4, 1908, it was decided to put forth an effort "to call a meeting for the establishing of a Christian school." The committee included Rev. Vander Ark and a Mr. John Bloem of the First Christian Reformed Church.

Two years later, discussion again focused on the "necessity of a Christian school". However, it wasn't until Oct. 2, 1911, that Mr. J. Stursma appeared before the consistory of First Christian Reformed Church with a written request for calling a meeting to enlist membership and make plans to establish a Christian school.

Finally, the tiny seed planted in 1903 by a handful of individuals was ready to sprout. In Feb. of 1912, 37 associate members organized the Association of Christian Education of Pella, and on Jan. 6, 1913, the doors officially opened, admitting 26 students and adding 23 additional students by the year's end.

By the following year the school was recognized by the state as a competent elementary school. A year later, 1915, Pella Christian's first graduating class emerged: Catrina Van Veen and Walter Van Zomeren. Continuing growth necessitated the building of a second story three years later. This building was located at the corner of West Second and Union on the east side of West Second Street.

During the years from 1922 – 1927 the schools' enrollment dropped off, but by 1935 there was renewed enthusiasm and growth. As 1950 approached, it became obvious that the old building would no longer be adequate. Miss Ella Vander Schaaf (teacher for 36 years at the school) and her class were moved out to a library room in the basement of First Christian Reformed Church. This arrangement was only temporary. On June 22, 1951, the Society authorized the purchase of the present site. By May of 1953, the school was completed. Miss Vander Schaaf's remembrances of "the sound of students' feet on the creaky wooden stairs" and the "sound of the bell up in the belfry" would forever be part of the past, as teachers and students entered the doors of the new modern facility.

The school's enrollment continued to increase rapidly. Expansion was needed already in 1955 and again in 1959, which also marked the beginning of our band program. In 1966, other major changes occurred. An all-purpose-room was added, the junior high became departmentalized, and remedial math and reading programs began. This was also the time in which a central library was started with a full time librarian.

As the school continued to grow, there was a need for a full time secretary. Mrs. Dee Bokhoven, who began as a part-time secretary, took on the full-time duties in the fall of 1967. The following year marked the birth of the Mothers' Club. In 1971 they began serving hot lunches once a week until 1978, when the government-funded school lunch program took over.

Recent changes to the facility include an art room and new kindergarten room in 1978. Windows were replaced and other energy conservation measures were carried out from 1980 to 1982. In 1985, lockers were placed in the hall for the junior high students and new playground equipment was installed.

Today Pella Christian Grade School has 437 students and faculty that includes the principal, 21 full-time teachers, three part-time teachers, and six teacher aides. A full-time secretary, two custodians, and a food service director and her helpers complete the staff. A fleet of eight buses with their drivers transport many of the students to and from school each day. Two hundred fifty-five families and 17 churches from various denominations are represented in the constituency.

The Bible, reading, writing, and arithmetic are still considered the basics at Pella Christian today. However, the curriculum has expanded to include full-time art, music and band, P.E. programs, a formal computer program for grades five through eight, a program for learning disabilities, a talented and gifted program, and presently being initiated is a new resource program for students with severe learning disabilities and mental handicaps. The school's library has over 9000 volumes and is one of the finest anywhere. There are also many magazines available for reading and research. All of the information about the library's materials are on the computer, which provides an efficient way to check out and keep track of materials.

The school currently has a building project under way which will include five classrooms adjacent to the existing junior high wing. This will provide new facilities for the resource program, talented and gifted program, the computer program, a science laboratory, as well as much needed additional classroom space. In addition to the current building project, there is also a long range plan for a new multi-purpose room and the remodeling of the existing gym into a new library, lunch serving room, and other special purpose rooms.

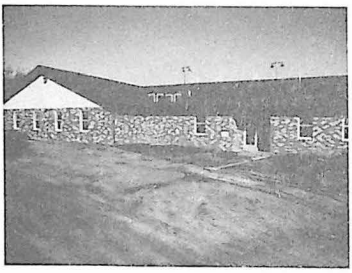
Pella Christian realizes that all of this is evidence of God's grace and favor to the school. We thank God for His faithfulness in providing adequate facilities, a competent staff and board, and a host of supporters over the years. May God keep the school faithful to her purpose in the years to come.

by Al Bandstra

PEORIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

T56

Peoria Christian School built in 1920.



Peoria Christian School built in 1983.

If you travel the winding road north through the town of Peoria, you will come to the crest of the hill where stands the Peoria Christian School.

The members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church became interested in Christian education in the year 1904. During the period from 1904 through 1906 a summer school was conducted in the old consistory room which was part of the defunct Peoria Creamery building. Here the children were taught Bible lessons and how to read and write in the Holland language. Plans for a Christian Day School were made and this was made a reality in Sept. 1907, using the consistory room as classroom. The first teacher hired was paid a salary of $450 for nine months. In 1908 plans were made for the first Christian school building in Peoria, and by the fall of 1910 a one room school was ready for occupancy. By the year 1912 the number of children attending the school had risen to 84 and a second room was added to the school and a second teacher hired.

In 1917 tragedy struck the school. On Apr. 7 our nation became involved in the First World War and it was this involvement that caused tragic repercussions in our community. The people who were not of Dutch descent began to look upon the Dutch as unpatriotic and even pro-German. Feelings ran high and the school became the focal point on which the hatred was centered. Because of threatened violence, the school was closed for a short time. The principal was singled out for threatening and after being waylaid and beaten, was advised by the school board to leave the community. It was at this time the threatened violence became a reality, and both the school and the church were demolished by fire.

As a result of this action, they were without a Christian school in the community for two years. But with great courage and faith in God, a new school was built in 1920. The following year the ninth grade was added and three teachers were hired. In 1922 the tenth grade was added. At the end of the year both ninth and tenth grades were discontinued for lack of students in those grades.

In 1936 the school was wired for electricity, and in 1942 bus transportation was initiated. The enrollment reached its peak in 1962 with 131 students enrolled.

In 1960 a band program was begun with students being taught by the band director of Pella Christian High School. Also in 1960, 2.84 A. of land were purchased for playground area.

During the 1976-1977 school year, a recreation center was built. The erection of this building was a beautiful example of what can be accomplished through cooperation and hard work. The recreation center is used as a play area for the students, for serving hot lunches one day a week, and for various school and church activities.

In a school society meeting held May 20, 1983, the decision was made to tear down the old two-story building and erect a new one-story structure. With volunteer help, the tearing down of the old building began the day after school was out. Classes in the fall were held in the classrooms of the church. The new facility was dedicated on Oct. 24, 1983, as a monument to God's faithfulness. An open house was held for the community on Nov. 18, 1983.

In 1987 the school has an enrollment of 61 pupils, with a staff of four teachers and a part-time kindergarten teacher. The school has the volunteer services of many people which include a music teacher, librarian, and a coach.

The Peoria Christian School is a private, parent-operated school, supported by parents, grandparents, and other members of the Christian community who believe that the Bible is our standard in all of life. It is a center of learning where Christian principles permeate all instruction. The purpose of the

school, along with the home and the church, is to seek out and nurture each child as an image-bearer of God so that he can serve God and others.

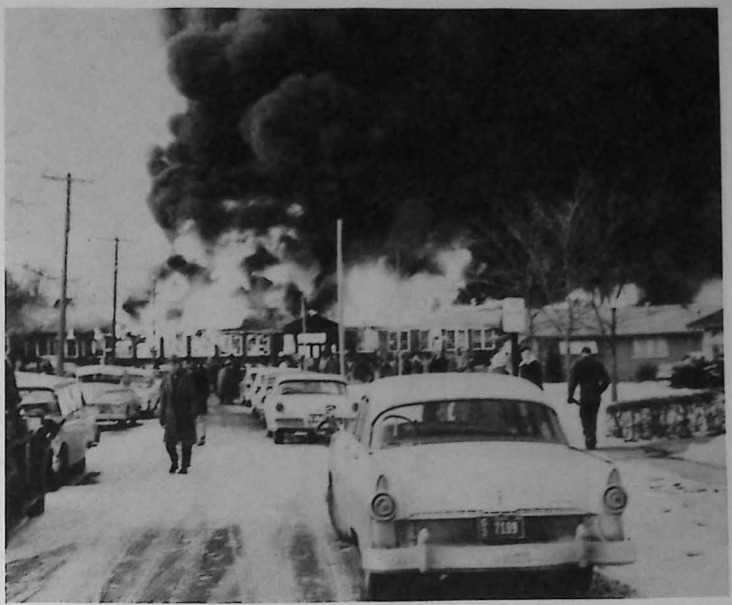
With the same courage and faith in God that spurred our forefathers on to rebuild after the fire, we look to the future. In years to come, may we be able to say, as the principal who was driven from the community was able to say some years later: "There stands a monument of God's faithfulness."

by Lois Klyn

PELLA CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL

T57

The Pella Christian High School built in 1948 on Jefferson Street.



A devastating fire in 1964 destroyed the frame school built in 1948-1949.

The history of Pella Christian High School dates as far back as the year 1928. In the spring of that year a committee was appointed to investigate interest in the cause of Christian secondary education. This committee consisted of the Revs. William Vander Werp, pastor at Prairie City; Harry Blystra, pastor at Sully; and Paul De Koekkoek, pastor at Oskaloosa.

Pella Christian High School received this award. Left to Right: Mary De Ronde, Paul Arkema, and Paul De Jong.

The original school on North Main used from 1940 until 1948.

1983-1984 Pella Christian Eagles. The Pella Christian Boys of 1983-1984 had an outstanding season, winning all 19 regular season games and finally losing a 5 point sub-state game to the #1 rated team in the State, Ballard of Huxley. The Eagles were ranked as high as 2nd on the UPI poll, 3rd on the AP poll, and 4th by the *Des Moines Register* for most of the season. The leader of the team was 6'6" Greg Van Soelen who was named to the 2nd All-American All-State Team for the year. He later became an N.A.I.A. All-American at Dordt College. Also, Coach Jerry Nikkel was named Coach of the Year in Class 2-A for the season. The seniors on the team, many of them 3 years starters, were Greg Van Soelen, Kevin Vos, Dennis Van Houwelingen, Steve Vermeer,V Steve Van Weelden, Doug Rowe, Mark Van Gorp, and Dan VandeS Pol. The Assistant Coach was Gordon Van Zanten, and student helper waPO Scott De Jong.

On June 27, 1928, a meeting was held in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella for the purpose of organizing a Society for Christian education on the secondary level. Committees were appointed at this meeting to draft a constitution, to obtain classroom facilities, and to organize a society.

At the next meeting on July 6, 1928,

Helicopter view of the present Pella Christian High School in Pella.

The Pella Christian High School built in 1964.

additional members joined the society and a constitution was adopted. On Oct. 10, 1928, the first Board of Pella Christian High was chosen. Serving on the first Board were Rev. William vander Werp, president; Rev. Paul De Koekkoek, secretary; Jacob Pothoven, treasurer; Rev. Harry Blystra, Otto Colsman, John Wynberg, Gerrit De Graf, Tony Vander Hoek and Rev. Andrew De Vries. Plans were made for the opening of school in the Fall of 1929.

During the Summer of 1929 facilities were obtained in the Pella Christian Grade School building and Miss Everetta Vander Hart was hired as ninth grade teacher. Parents were contacted and everything looked promising for the opening of school in the fall.

On the opening day of the new school year only two students arrived to be enrolled in the ninth grade, although there had been several families that had promised to send their children. The Society continued to function but it was decided to postpone any further action for a Christian secondary education until more interest could be aroused.

It was during the Summer of 1937 that the Board of the Pella Christian Grade School decided to add the ninth grade to its school. The Society for Secondary Education organized in 1928 disbanded, thus leaving the matter in the hands of the Grade School Board.

The first ninth grade of ten students was under the leadership of Mr. Gerrit Rozenboom, principal of the grade school. It proved to be a success and the next year the tenth grade was added. Mr. George Pals was added as a teacher to help Mr. and Mrs. Rozenboom teach the upper grades.

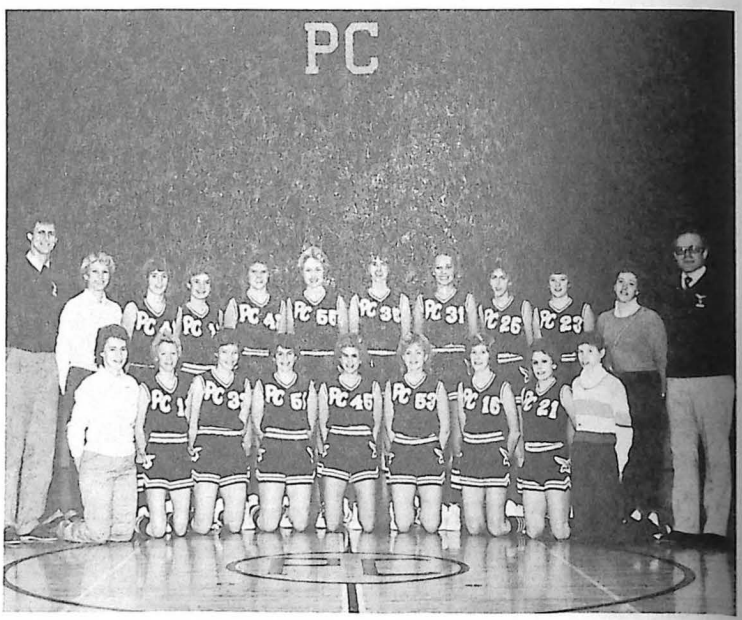
The problem of operating and supporting the high school had to be faced. It was decided that the high school should be owned and operated by a new society. On Dec. 14, 1939, a meeting was called to organize a new Christian High School Society. Sixty-five charter members enrolled. At a meeting held on Feb. 16, 1940, a constitution was adopted and Board members were chosen. The newly chosen officers of the Board were: Rev. Fred Van Houten, president; John Wynberg, secretary; and Cecil Vander Molen, treasurer. Others who were elected to the Board were Bart Bandstra, Peter Keuning, Henry Kuperus, Gerrit De Boer, and John Vos.

The Society purchased a large home on North Main Street for $6,000. The home, formerly a hospital, was remodeled and prepared for the first class. In Sept. of 1940, the classroom doors opened and a Christian High School was in operation with an enrollment of 41 students. The teaching staff included Mr. George Pals, principal; Mr. Adrian De Groot, Mrs. Gerrit Rozenboom, Miss Agnes Vos, and Rev. Fred Van Houten.

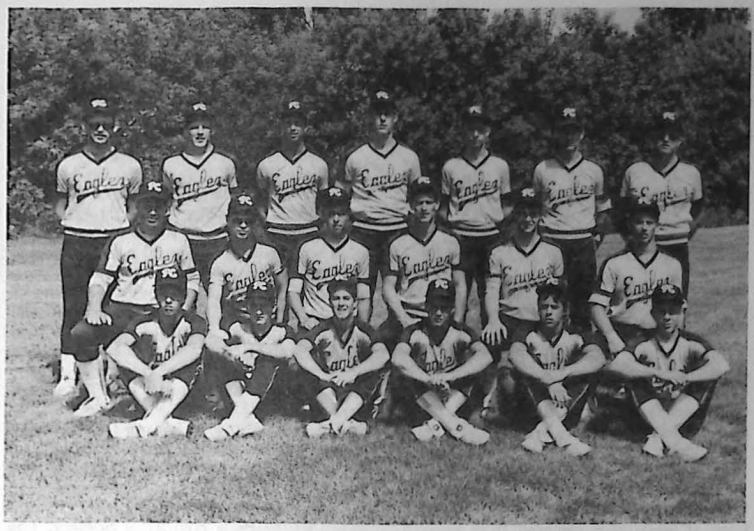
On May 20, 1941, the first Commencement was held. Nine students received diplomas. They were Kathryn Bandstra, Richard De Boer, Arthur J. Beyer, Dorothy De Jong, William Hugen, Irene Keuning, Wilbur Ver Meer, Clarence Vos, and Katherine Rus.

The years 1942 through 1947 were years of growth and development. During these years Mr. William Van Vliet served as principal. In 1942 there were 44 students and 11 graduates. In 1949 the enrollment increased to 61 students.

Despite the removal of partitions, the addition of classrooms, the rental of gym facilities, and the juggling of classes, the remodeled house could no longer accommodate the students who crammed its tiny classrooms in 1946 and 1947. The Board saw the futility of further remodeling and sought



The Pella Christian Girls Basketball Team of 1983-84. This team went to the state tournament and ended with a record of 21-3. The coach was Jerry Ver Meer and the assistant coach was Jim Nieboer.



The Pella Christian 1986 Baseball Team had a 30-5 record and was second in the state. Their coach was Gordon Van Zanten and the assistant coach was Verlan Nikkel.

a new site. Their search ended when they purchased property on Jefferson Street just east of Main. Although the site was uneven and posed a water problem due to the presence of a pond, the Board believed that with adequate tiling and proper landscaping the property would be ideal for a one-story structure. The site, centrally located in Pella, provided a large playing field, and offered room for expansion.

During the Summer of 1948 Rev. Fred Huizenga, now principal, met with Dick Gosselink, Gerrit De Boer, and Cecil Vander Molen to plan the new school. Even though World War II had ended, concrete and other essential building materials were difficult to obtain. Consequently, the Building Committee using the materials that were available, constructed a one-story frame building with brick veneer.

An uninterrupted hallway, over two hundred feet long, funnelled the students into the six classrooms, a well-equipped kitchen, science room, library-study hall, offices, equipment room, and rest rooms. Opposite the kitchen was a stage and spacious gymnasium, two facilities that earlier Christian High students had never enjoyed.

In November workmen laid the cornerstone, bearing the inscription, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." In Feb. of 1949 Pella Christian High moved to its new building on Jefferson Street.

The 1951-52 Eaglette basketball team, coached by Mr. Dick Bruinooge took a 22-0 record to the State Tournament. Mr. John Brouwer became principal in 1953. During the fifties, the enrollment continued to grow. In 1955 the enrollment stood at 205.

When Mr. Michael Ruiter became principal in 1957 the enrollment reached 235. In 1958 an addition was added to the building which consisted of a large study hall, a chemistry-physics laboratory, music room, teacher's lounge, library, and extra classroom.

Mr. Ray Geerdes was appointed principal in 1961. In 1962 Mr. Paul De Jong became principal and an addition to the gymnasium was completed. The seating capacity was enlarged and new locker room facilities were provided.

Shortly after school had been dismissed on Jan. 15, 1964, fire was discovered in the kitchen area. The fire spread rapidly and soon the entire structure was engulfed in flames. The original frame structure was completely destroyed, but the 1958 addition remained standing with smoke and water damage.

The Pella Christian Grade School shifted some of its classes to the Calvary Christian Reformed Church and the high school moved into the north wing of the grade school. By Jan. 27 teachers and students were trying to adjust to the crowded conditions that would be theirs for a semester. With these classrooms and facilities opened by local churches and Central College, everyone survived the unforgettable "Spring of Sixty-Four."

By Mar. 9 of 1964, architects had completed the preliminary sketches for a new building. The Society met and unanimously approved the plans to construct a new building at a cost of $360,000.

By September enough rooms had been completed to allow school to begin in the new building. The gym was completed in February and the 25th Anniversary and Dedication celebration was held in Mar. of 1965.

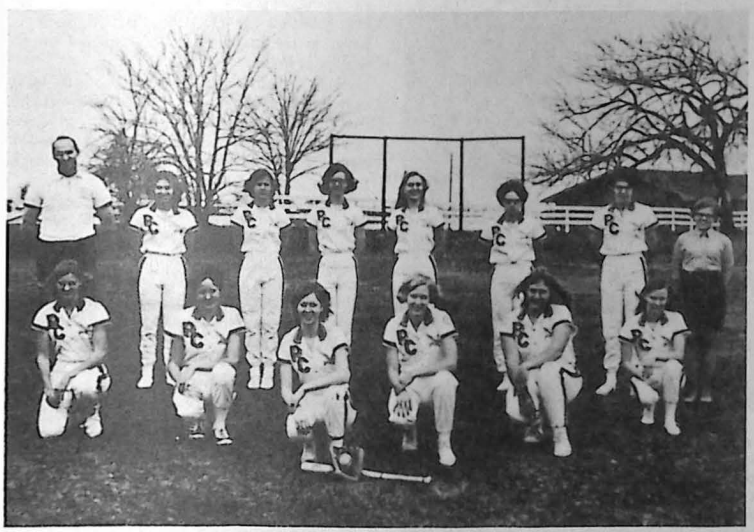
Additional classrooms were added in 1970. In 1974 an industrial arts complex was added to the building. An art room, student activity room, music practice rooms, and learning resource room were added in 1980. In 1985 a large computer room and a new counselor's office were added.

Two organizations have helped the school with donations to purchase equipment, musical instruments, band uniforms, library books, and many other items. The Ladies Auxiliary, organized in 1937, and the Booster Club, organized in 1974, have been great supporters of the total educational program of Pella Christian High.

In 1987, Pella Christian High has an enrollment of 287 students and a staff of 21 teachers. The school draws students from a radius of about 35 miles from Pella. Students at Pella Christian High come from Oskaloosa, Sully, Cedar, Tracy, New Sharon, Newton, and Prairie City as well as from Pella.

Throughout the years, Pella Christian High has been known for its academic excellence. In 1985, our school was selected as one of 64 private schools to receive the Excellence in Education Award from the United States Department of Education. Pella Christian High has been the only private school in Iowa to receive this recognition.

Pella Christian High is a private, parent-controlled school. The Society of parents elects Board members who serve as the governing body of the school. Students from



Girls' Softball is important at Pella Christian High.

27 churches and seven different church denominations are represented in Pella Christian High.

Pella Christian High gives parents a freedom of choice as to the type of education they wish to give their children. Pella Christian High is founded upon the principle that the responsibility for the education and training of children has been placed upon parents by God. Children of believing parents are in a real sense God's children and therefore their education must be rooted in a Christian view of life and must be God-centered with the Bible as the foundation and guide.

The Word of God provides the basis for Christian education. In Proverbs 1:7 we read "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge." God is therefore central to the development of character. The ultimate objective of Christian education is that God will be recognized and obeyed in all areas of life. Regardless of the class or subject, Christian education looks to the Bible for absolute truths.

by Paul De Jong

PELLA HIGH FOOTBALL – 1921

T58

This is a picture of the Pella High School entire football squad in the fall of 1921. The uniforms were quite sparse compared to the present day outfits. The school supplied the shirts, pants, and shoulder pads. Each player bought his own helmet, shoes and socks. Many of the players were expected to play the entire game due to the lack of substitutes and suitable equipment.

There were no delays during the game and the huddle system of calling signals was not yet devised. The quarterback was supposed to begin calling the next play as soon as the ball was down and the team lined up as shown in the picture. The complicated arrangement of numbers being called prevented the opposing team from finding out what play would be used.

by Ray De Haan

RURAL SCHOOLS IN THE PELLA AREA

T59

(Much of the material in the following article has been taken from the book *Pella School History 1847-1980* written by Emma Lou Heusinkveld. This portion was edited and in part rewritten by Murt Kooi in 1987. The closing tribute was written by Dena Versteeg.

The litany of rural schools recalled on the tongues and in the memories of older generations at least twice removed from modern reorganized schools encompasses a myriad of pleasant titles. Generations of children, with a majority of Dutch surnames, trooped to little schoolhouses bearing names that described geographic characteristics of the school area such as Valley View, Wheatgrow, Summit, Silver Grove, Sandridge, River Ridge, Pleasant View, Pleasant Ridge, and Pleasant Grove. Other citadels of learning derived their monikers from trees surrounding the section of land designated as school property. The preponderance of oak trees prevailed in this area with five schools carrying the Black Oak name . . . Black Oak Center, Black Oak #6 and #7 and Black Oak-Scott Center. Another was Fair Oaks. There were Hickory Grove, Cherry Grove, designated for the type of trees growing there . . . and Rose Hill surely was at one time covered with the wild rose so common in pioneer Iowa.

Patriotic names were bestowed on some such as Liberty Corner and Bunker Hill. Others were reminiscent of the Old Country in names of Amsterdam (East and West) and European, numbered 1, 2, and 3.

Six sections of land were usually a rural school district with a schoolhouse centrally located preferably within sight of the children's homes. Pella rural schools existed in this way until the mid-1940's when reorganization began with a few rural schools closing and the districts paying tuition for the pupils to attend the Pella town schools. By 1956 all or part of 37 school districts were in the Pella Community School District. The new school system began on Sept. 1, 1958. By the fall of 1962 all rural schools were closed, their land auctioned, and their teachers if they wished were employed by the Pella Community Schools in Leighton, Otley, and Pella.

Most of the schools have disappeared. Some were remodeled into homes, some razed, a few preserved. The East Amsterdam School southwest of Pella is preserved and owned by the Pella Historical Society. The first Amsterdam School was built in 1874 on John Toom's property, constructed of brick. But in 1881 the Wabash Railroad informed directors that the brick school would be in the way of new tracks the company would be laying and the board sold them the school. In 1882 the children were in two new schools, East Amsterdam, on the hill north of the new Wabash tracks on the road leading to Pella and West Amsterdam three miles west on a site near Lake Red Rock.

Battle Ridge was built in 1871 on ¾ of an acre bought from Adam P. Hasselman, A.C. Hasselman and wife, and J. Schippers. It burned in 1933 and a new one was built soon after. In the 1960-61 school year, the school concluded classes and is now an attractive home.

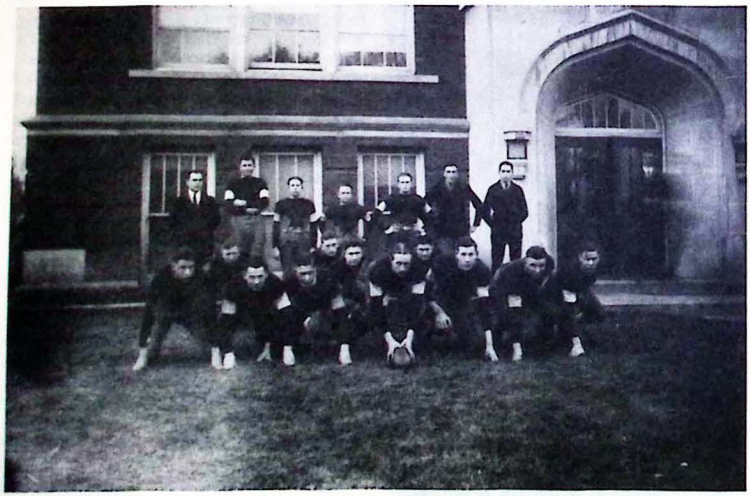
European #1 was known as Bell School, getting that name from the bell on the roof, built in 1870. "European" fit the school well as children attending were of English, German, French, and Dutch descent. The school closed in 1954 and in 1960 was torn down. The bell, given to the Pella Historical Society, hangs in the belfry of the Scholte Church replica in Pella.

Black Oak Center was built on land originally owned by John Smith, and was the first building erected before 1885. A modern building was constructed in 1941 and the last classes were held to conform to the closings to reorganize in 1962. It is now a home.

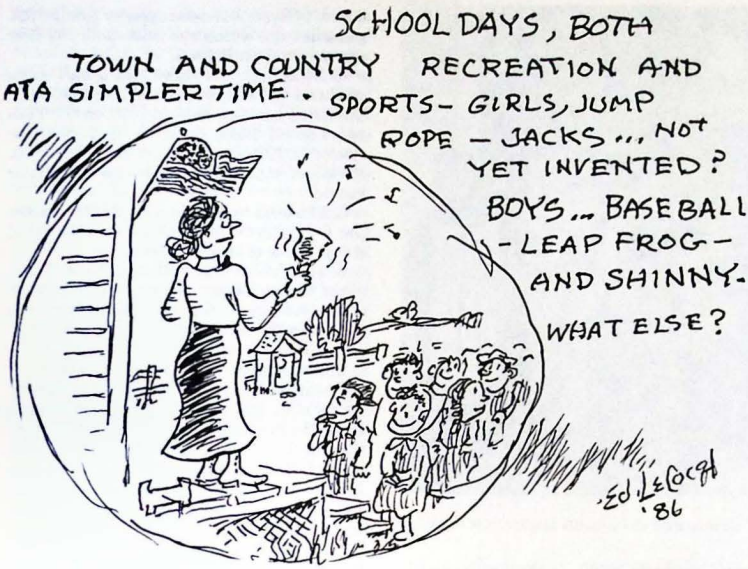
In the 1890's Black Oak #6 was built but was replaced in 1924. This school burned in 1939 and a new one was built in 1941. Cornelius Dykstra had donated the parcel of land in the 1890's and when the school closed, Tunis Dykstra purchased and dismantled the building, filled the excavation with dirt, and the land reverted back to pasture land. His daughter preserved the bell and belfry.

Black Oak-Scott Center was a "border school" so took a hyphenated name of both townships. When the school closed it was to take on the ignominy of a hog house.

The flagpole of Bunker Hill School now is used in the Swimming Pool Park, still flying Old Glory. Bunker Hill was first called simply #68 as it was the sixty-eighth school formed in the state. In 1855 the land on which Bunker Hill was built was purchased by Johannes



Pella High football squad members in 1921. 1st Row, l-r: right end Robert Vander Wal, right tackle Gerrit Den Hartog, right guard John Rouwenhorst, center Cornie Ver Ploeg, left guard; Rolphus Sack, left tackle Lawrence Lautenbach, and left end Bob (Julian) Kuyper; 2nd Row, l-r: right half back Harry Beyer, full back Henry Huisenga, quarterback Ray De Haan and left half back Andrew Butt. 3rd Row, l-r: Coach Max Harkness, substitutes Arie Rempe, Mansford Ver Steeg, Logan Hendricks, Henry Walkotten, Lawrence Van Rheenen, and Russel Droz. The buildin which is now the Pella Community Center, was the new High School which was built in 1915.

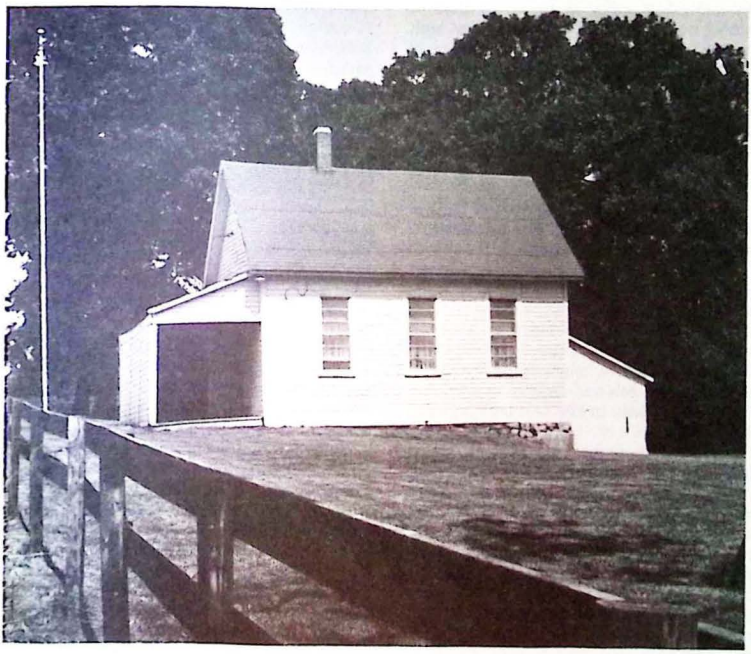


Hendrikus Schyff and one acre sold to the school. The school was in sesson for a century, closing in 1958. It has since been torn down. It was located in the old Bethel Church neighborhood on the hill northwest of the John A. and Marlyn Rietveld home.

Centennial, eight miles southeast of Pella in Mahaska Co. was so named as it was built in 1876 on one acre of a farm owned by Antonie De Jong. In 1913 the school was built and closed in 1958 when the building was used for farm storage.

Cherry Grove in Mahaska Co. ten miles northeast of Pella closed before reorganization as so many children in the district attended the Peoria Christian School and others went to Hickory Grove when Cherry Grove closed.

Else School was on ground given by John Rempe in Mahaska Co. ten miles east of Pella. It closed in 1953 and was razed.



East Amsterdam School near Pella, owned by the Pella Historical Society, is an example of rural schools in the county. (Picture taken in 1969).

Eureka in Clay Twp. ten miles south of Pella was first a little red brick building erected after the Civil War. A new one was built in 1929 and included the village of Durham. Closed in 1958, moved to Knoxville, it was made into a home. The flagpole is in Eureka Cemetery.

European #2 has been in several buildings, had no deed to the building or the land on which it stood, and was considered part of the farm of Harold Veenstra. It existed for 80 years seven miles north of Pella, near the Skunk River bluffs.

European #3 began Feb., 1878 when a deed of Valentine Mathes transferred ¼ A. to Lake Prairie Twp. The school closed in 1925 and John Mathes had it moved to his property when a new school was built. That building was moved in 1958 to be used as a home south of Pella.

Built on land taken for a school from land owned by Reindart Van Vark, Fair Oaks was built and hired a teacher in 1894 whom they paid $30 a month. The last teacher was hired for the 1956-57 year. Fair Oaks was in Summit Twp. ten miles northwest of Pella.

Starting as a log cabin, Fleming School opened in 1846 as a private school for the Fleming children. Three buildings were put up later to serve as schools. One was built, a frame building, in 1846, another in 1888, and a third in 1920. In 1904-05 there were 48 pupils ranging in age from 5 to 21!

Flint Ridge was located in the "Borgman neighborhood" and schooled the Boenders, Bandstras, Blommers, Bogaards and Vande-Noords along with the Borgmans and others. It was located north and east of Pella on the Marion and Mahaska Co. line in Richland Twp. The school closed in 1958, was sold, and made into a home.

Now part of the New Sharon School District, Granville served four generations in the area ½ mile south of Taintor.

Greeley was in Scott Twp. 14 miles southeast of Pella and 2½ miles southwest of Leighton, named for Horace Greeley. The land reverted to the farm owned by Lloyd Mathes where the schoolhouse is used for storage.

Hickory Grove's second building is now used as Lower Grove Church; most of the district became part of New Sharon with a small portion in the Pella District. The school was 3½ miles southeast of the east end of the Warren Bridge over the Skunk River.

Iola School was 6½ miles south and west of Pella on the old Knoxville Road and is now a residence in Harvey.

East of Otley, at a crossroad called "The Corner" was Liberty Corner which was built in 1854. Another building was moved to this site later and was used until reorganization. The area is now owned by Robert Kaldenberg.

Plainview speaks of a flat view on a rural area. The school opened in 1875 on the New Sharon Road where Vermeer's factory is now located. Another school was built later in another location.

Two schools were named Pleasant Grove, one in Marion Co. and one in Mahaska. The latter was nicknamed "Buzzard's Roost." Constructed in 1868, it was halfway between Pella and Oskaloosa in Black Oak Twp. Marion County's Pleasant Grove was two miles south on the Elevator Road. The first building was a log cabin built in 1855, the

Typical of rural schools in Marion Co. . . . Children of all ages with one versatile teacher. Not identified

"Pet Day" at a rural school near Pella probably in the early 50s.

second was brick and the third, built in the 1920's, was a frame building. It was earlier called the Van Zee School and was built on land which had belonged to S. Van Zee and many of the pupils were named Van Zee.

Pleasant Ridge was also called Prine School. It was built on a ridge (pleasant of course) between the Skunk and Des Moines Rivers on land belonging to the family named Prine. In 1921 a new school was erected which was used until reorganization. It is now used as a home and is part of the Oskaloosa School District. It is 11 miles southeast of Pella on highway 163.

"Hard Scrabble" was the nickname given to Pleasant View three miles southeast of Pella. Much disagreement went into choosing a place to build, thus the nickname. The original building was erected some time before 1898 and burned in the spring of 1923. Another was built on the original site and was used until 1960 when it was auctioned off and moved to 406 Columbus. The land reverted to the Gysbert Terlouw property.

Divided into two schools, the Porterville District was North (four miles southeast of Pella) and South (five miles southeast of Pella). There is an existing list of teachers from 1874 to 1953. There was a school called the Dennis Schools used in the district between 1880-1889.

Richland, in Jasper Co., was one mile north of the Marion-Jasper County line, four miles northeast near Galesburg, and was built after the Civil War ended. It was sold in 1933 and was moved. It was replaced by a building used until the early 1950's. In the 1960's vandals burned the building to the ground.

Another Richland School, this in Marion Co., was two miles east of Otley, seven miles northwest of Pella, and may have been named for the "rich land" in the farming community. it was built on land taken from a farm owned by Geert Dykstra.

River Ridge, as the name implies, was on a ridge overlooking the Des Moines River. In 1900 a second school called East River Ridge was built for children living too far from River Ridge. The school site is now covered by Lake Red Rock.

Built near the Rock Island Railroad tracks six-and-a-half miles southeast of Pella, a school was named Rock Island. It was built in 1883 and was under the supervision of Marion Co. until it was decided that since the school was on the east side of the road, it should be transferred to Mahaska Co. Fire destroyed the old school in 1939 when a new one was built. That building was used until 1958 when it was purchased and remodeled into a home.

Rose Hill, ten miles northwest of Pella in Jasper Co., began in the early 1880's with a new school being built in 1910.

Sandridge, on the Pella-Sully road, was about seven miles north of Pella. It is not known when the first school was built but the first schoolhouse was sold in 1880. A schoolhouse built in 1888 burned in 1944 and students went to the home of Pete Slycord for classes until a new one could be constructed. Classes were held in the new building until 1960.

Sheesley was a school in Richland Twp. in Mahaska Co.

East and West Silver Grove were originally one school but divided to have a school closer to some children's homes. The first one was one-and-half miles west of Pella built about 1875 on a farm now belonging to a Terpstra family. In the 1920's the west building was put up half a mile south of the four mile railroad crossing four miles west and half mile south of Pella. East Silver Grove is no longer there but West Silver Grove is now a home.

Summit was organized in 1860 two miles west of Otley. It was destroyed by fire in 1924 and a new one which was built near the first site was used until 1958.

Valley School was three-and-a-half miles southeast of Pella on the old Airport Road. The first school was built in 1897 on the Tone and Edward Blom farm. A new one was erected in 1928 or 1929 and closed in 1958. It was sold and made into a home which later burned.

Land owned by Hessel Van Zante was the site for Valley View built in 1872 north of Otley. It was closed in 1958.

Warren School was half a mile southwest of the Warren Bridge seven miles from Pella on the New Sharon Road. It was built in 1880 and that white frame building was used until sold at reorganization.

The unusual name, Wheatgrow, was given to a school three-and-a half miles northeast of Pella in Mahaska Co. Wheat growing under the building during construction gave the school its name. It was built in 1875 on land of Harden Tice. Another school was built across the road from the first one which was destroyed by fire in Dec., 1911. It was replaced and closed in 1958. Arie Tysseling had the distinction of being on the schoolboard of that school for forty years.

Two years before the Hollanders came to the area, a school was built eight miles west of what is now Pella, east of Fifield. The year was 1845. A new building was erected about 1920 and was used until reorganization when the area was incorporated into the Knoxville District. The site is now covered with the waters of Lake Red Rock.

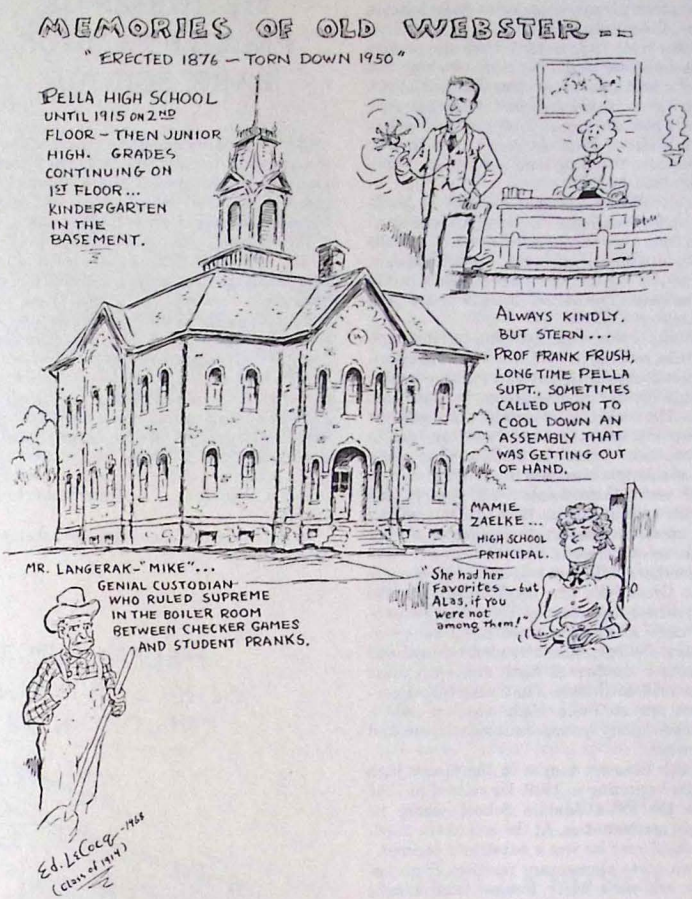
The Otley School built in the small town was probably erected in 1868 or 1869, was added to in 1870, and added on to again in 1876. A new school was built as a two-room frame structure in 1927. An addition to this was added in 1956 before reorganization began. In 1958 Otley became part of Pella Community Schools and is used as an attendance center for students from kindergarten to fourth grade. There are two full-time teachers and one half-time.

Leighton's schools were located in a variety of places near and in Leighton. A new modern school was built in 1910. A new school was constructed after years of using rented rooms in a building owned by the Christian Reformed Church in addition to the 1910 building. The new school, erected in 1962, is part of the Pella Community Schools and has grades kindergarten through fourth with two full-time teachers and one half-time teacher.

Rural schools are but memories fondly stored in the minds of the people still living who relate the wonderful happenings that took place within the confines of the buildings. As are so many things of the past, rural schools are savored for just what there were . . . edifices of learning. The modern reorganized schools are, of necessity, bigger, better, and more wonderfully equipped, but the little rural school served well in the role it played in the history of our rural areas. Nostalgia glosses over the inconveniences of rural schooling and enhances the memories. The period is labeled "the good ol' days".

A tribute may well be paid to the rural teacher of the past. Through the years she (or he) faithfully served as instructor, nurse, custodian, hot lunch cook, and playground supervisor. Equipment and supplies were meager, and many a hard-earned dollar from "teacher's" salary was spent to enrich the

lives in her charge. She had the difficult task of being both playmate on the ball diamond or snowy coasting hill and respected keeper of "order" in the schoolroom. In many cases, the eighteen-year-old would begin teaching armed only with a high school diploma and a third-grade teaching certificate, having passed state exams after "normal training" in her junior and senior years. Try to understand her responsibilities as she would start a wintry day's work, making sure that the building was warm and the premises neat before greeting her pupils as they arrived with rosy cheeks and tingling fingers and toes after a walk of perhaps a mile or two. The day was crowded with classes in all the subjects for possibly nine grades. At its close she would clean the school, "bank" the fire, and as she locked the door she would pray that the building would not be reduced to ashes before another sunrise. Hats off to the country teacher of yesterday!



EDUCATORS REMEMBERED

T60

Lillie Viersen taught for 52 years in the Pella Schools.

One of the most ambitious tasks undertaken in recent years was the literary work of Emma Lou Heusinkveld when she compiled, wrote, and edited the book *Pella School History 1847-1980.* Emma Lou was a teacher in the English and Journalism Department of Pella Community High School for many years. The book, printed by Pella Printing, is an interesting, lengthy history with a myriad of topics involving aspects of education in Pella. Others on the committee were J.B. Dahm, Richard Tysseling, C.C. Buerkens, and Martin Heerema. The following excerpts are from that book:

[Teachers come and teachers go but some remain in memory for varieties of reasons. Some are recalled fondly, others are memorable because of personality traits recalled from the children's memories. Discipline enters into memory and teachers are remembered for the particular brand of classroom decorum each had . . . or lacked. (Editorial comment by M. Kooi)]

The pioneer teachers credited with beginning the tradition of good education in Pella were first, Isaac Overkamp and James Muntingh. Other early teachers were Henry Hospers, H. Neyenesch, Mr. Pelmulder, and Mr. Nollen. These educators taught in log cabins and in other homes and in the earliest schools. Later, C.C. Cory became superintendent from 1872-1887 and saw improved grading in the schools and the building erected that goes down in history as Old Webster.

Two Viersen sisters taught in Pella. Lillie taught longer in Pella than anyone ever has, fifty-two years! Her sister Mary taught three years. Four Ver Heul sisters added many years of devoted teaching. Kate taught for thirty-two years, Martha for forty-seven, Henrietta for thirty-eight, and Edna for only one. Another Ver Heul sister frequently substituted. Henrietta is best remembered as she was teaching in the time frame where many residents of the community still remember her as a guiding force in scholastic endeavors in the high school. Her teaching encompassed the years 1916 through 1954.

Dena Ver Steeg retired in the year 1971, having taught 45 years. She started her career in a rural school and in 1928 began her distinguished teaching in Pella at Lincoln School where she was for seventeen years the elementary principal. Dora Bootsma taught forty-seven years, retiring in 1940. These years included teaching grades six and eight at Lincoln School, Junior High at Webster, and holding a principalship at each building at different times.

F.M. Frush served thirty-one years as superintendent and is featured in an Ed LeCocq cartoon with the ever-present ring of clanking keys which he twirled as he walked, giving advance warning of his arrival. C.C. Buerkens, a product of Pella schools, became superintendent in 1937 leading to an illustrious administration which lasted until 1964 when he retired. It was during his leadership that the enormous task of school reorganization was accomplished and Pella Commu-

nity School District was formed.

Another person educated in Pella schools, Jane Gosselink, served as a high school teacher from 1923 to 1937 when she became principal. She began her early teaching in a rural school before attending Central College. She was a highly-regarded principal until 1952 when she turned that position over to Jean Wilkins. Miss Gosselink went back to classroom teaching and counseling until retirement in 1968.

Jean Wilkins had done his student teaching under Henrietta Ver Heul. After graduation from Central College he taught in Pella High for three years before succeeding Jane Gosselink. After twenty-seven years in the Pella system, he retired in 1979 and moved to Denver, Col.

For forty years Ann Tysseling taught music in Pella, retiring in 1972. She was well-known in music circles, having won numerous high ratings for her singing groups in state contests. Her local musical productions were the finest. Her aunt, Bertha Tysseling, taught twenty-four years in Pella's elementary schools. Jennie Harmsen taught from 1902 to 1937 and Marie Lautenbach was in the system teaching from 1903 to 1941, ending her career as teacher of English in Junior High, second floor of Old Webster.

Another dedicated long-time teacher was John Groendyke who taught science in the high school from 1930 to 1969. Ray Doorenbos came to Pella to teach naval cadets at Central College, later attended Central and became a teacher of math and electronics from 1956 until 1984. The Groendyke/Doorenbos era at Pella High was one which enriched many young mathematicians and scientists.

Keith Emmert taught in the junior high grades beginning in 1949. He retired in 1984 from the Pella Middle School where he taught mathematics. At the end of the 1986-87 school year he was a substitute teacher.

Two other elementary teachers from another era were Mary Renaud who taught kindergarten from 1886 to about 1930, and Leona Reuvers Mullins who is remembered by many present residents as she taught from 1908 to 1954 in the Webster Building. Bessie Brooks taught thirty-seven years.

Many teachers of rural schools in the area became teachers in the Pella system when reorganization and the closing of rural schools took place in the mid-50's. Among those were Anna Mae Gosselink, Joyce Schippers, Doris Lee, Mable Bogaard, Darlene Bevan, Ruth Vander Linden, Thelma Van Hemert, Betty Van Roekel, Faith Waal and many others.

Jim Ruthven taught industrial arts in the high school from 1948 to 1976. Lois Sayler was a commercial teacher from 1945 until her retirement in 1966.

The list could go on and on as there is a custom in Pella that people who teach here stay for long periods of time. In the ranks of faculty today, are many long-time teachers, more than we have space to mention. They are a dedicated group anxious to continue the reputation that Pella has had since it was first settled . . . a place where education is important.

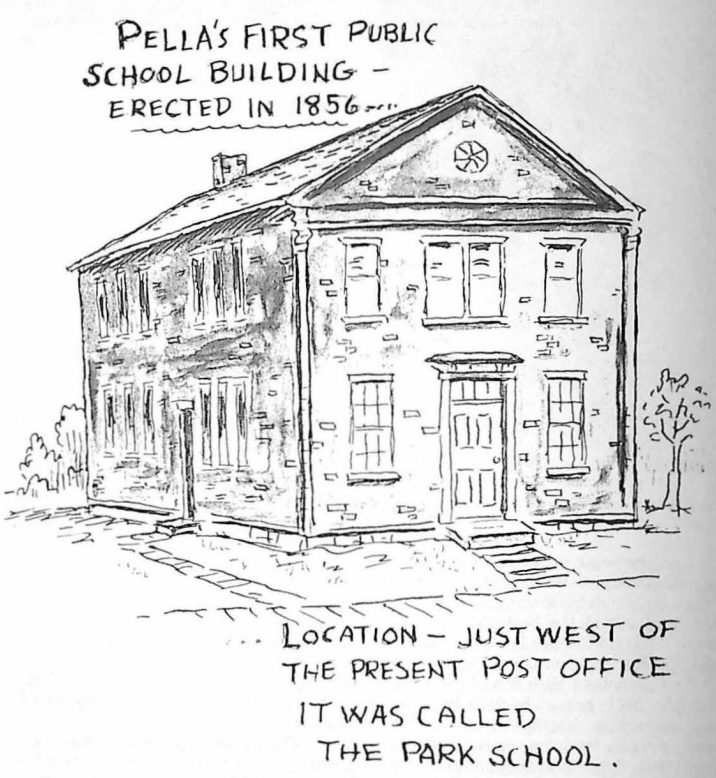
MEMORIES OF PELLA'S FAMOUS PARK SCHOOL

T61

(This article appeared in a Pella Chronicle of many years ago and was written by a young man who signed himself Bill the Bach. The year was 1937. Bill was a bachelor and signed himself that way. He was Bill De Jong.)

To the child, I am quite an old man, but to that fellow, Pitkin, or some such name, who claims that life begins at 40, well, I'm just beginning. Nevertheless, I have lived long enough in our good little old Dutch town, to remember much about the old Park School. And, as this monarch of early educational institutions is being torn to the ground to make room for a magnificent new building, each crumbling brick in the old structure, sent crashing to the ground, is like a word in a story that tells of days of long ago in Pella. It is a little story about school conditions and school surroundings . . . different from those of today . . .

In the first grade there were several among us who could not speak the English language. Do you wonder why teachers lost their patience trying to teach a language and the regular studies to a first grader at the same time? Those were the barefoot, overall days. The girls wore calico dresses, not always too clean and not always without a little tear or two, as some routes to school lay amongst brush and barbed wire fences. We dressed for comfort. Sometimes cloths were wrapped around our heads and I used to see young Dutchmen playing about with the cap and chin wrapped around with red, or variously colored table cloths and should there still be a few gravy spots on them — well, it was all in a long day's run. The girls' hair hung in long braids down their backs, tied with a ribbon at the end, and this ribbon at the end of the pig tail was a source of constant amusement to the young brat sitting behind her in school, who would tie things to it, soak up ink with it, or attach it to parts of his desk so that when the girl got up there was a blood-curdling scream. The malefactor usually paid heavily for his crime. There were teachers we came to look upon as dreaded wild beasts of the forest. Many a pointer have I seen splintered on my friends, and in my mind's eye I can still see the bitter tears streaming



"Old Brick", Park School was used for almost fifty years. It was located on the southwest corner of the square.

down their faces. One young culprit in particular, who was scheduled for appointment with the flogging corner, retained such a firm grip on his desk that when the teacher came to drag him forth, the entire desk was pulled out of the floor by the roots and you should have seen the stuff that was scattered out there on the floor . . . Occasionally in a combat with an overgrown rural sprout, the teacher got the worst end of the deal, and I have heard of the wielder of pitchforks and shovels coming to the rescue of a friend, to save him from splinters in the hindquarters. Others, marked for the much dreaded ordeal, set their teeth and "took it".

In the center of the room . . . I could show you the very spot, in the old Park School stood an immense pot-bellied stove which was always either too hot or too cold. The fellow sitting near it was blistered from the heat and the one whose desk was away off by a northwest window got chilled to the bone. The big huskies in the room were appointed by turn as firemen. There was a long, heavy steel rod resembling a crowbar more than a poker, always sticking in the coal in a big wooden box by the stove, and with this massive bar, worn smooth and shiny at the handle from use, young Holland would poke and pry and churn the fire in that pot-bellied stove until the clouds of thick black smoke all but enveloped the place. Then there was not a sound. The old stove stood there silent as a tomb. Suddenly, "Bang!" and a burst of flame and smoke! As a remembrance of one of these outbursts there was quite a hole in the blackboard for many months where a chunk of coal had found its destination. Woe to the lad within six feet of that old pot-bellied stove when it had just been loaded.

Concrete sidewalks were scarce . . . We often sat in school with feet gurgling in sopping wet shoes. Many of us . . . took our lunches to school . . . They were not spoiled because of mice which had first had access to the lunch boxes. Germs? — well, there just wasn't "no such animal" . . . often the lunches were frozen stiff! . . .

There is the very spot where stood the horizontal bar on which we performed like monkeys. One of the stunts was muscle grind, . . . the arms were stretched out backward over the bar and the hands gripped the trousers, as much, I presume, so they would not come off, especially if they were a pair handed down from an older brother, as to keep the acrobat himself from falling off. And there he would hang, his feet about a yard from the ground. The old feed barn across the road was up in the air in the location of the north star, and the fellows were coming out of the corner saloon upside down!

It is so long ago and yet it seems like only last week that right there on the south side of that building we played sling turn. The grounds were all cinders then and they kept cindering them from year to year. Now sling turn — I don't know how it got its name unless it signified that each participant got a turn at being slung prostrate over those cinders. At any rate it is a game that makes football seem like a game for the child on mother's knee. A long rope is used. Four or five huskies hold their places as a pivot and the others all hang, on strung out to the end, and may the Lord have mercy on the one at the end. Then around they went, the big fellows at the base, pushing, straining forward, and the fellows at the end all but running the legs out of their bodies, until one by one they were whipped off like shreds when a cowboy cracks a raw-hide whip. If a lad didn't have any grit before, he probably had plenty when he emerged, bloody and disheveled from a head-over-heels tumble and a Babe Ruth slide over those cinders. I do not recall of such a game being stopped, yet I can hardly conceive of an instructor taking delight in watching such . . . heathenism. . . . Perhaps it was the survival of the fittest.

We were compelled to do much of our learning through nervewracking repetition. . . . we memorized things so that we could say them in our dreams, things which did not mean a thing in the world to us . . .

Just the other day I had another glimpse of the old building, the roof gone and the walls grotesquely silhouetted against the sky . . . and I remember our teacher in a voice of excitement saying, "Now, children, there is a horseless carriage on the east side of the square. You may all pass quietly out (they always said "pass quietly out" — we seemed to have a different idea of that word "quietly") and you may all go and see it." Imagine, the first horseless carriage to come to Pella! Did we run! There was a loud puffing and a rattle of chains. Sure enough, there it was chugging along and two men on the high seat jolting back and forth as it jerked along. Then suddenly it stopped and the men had to get out and get under. But it had traveled half a block on its own power!

The desks in the old Park School — no Texas steer was ever branded with initials like one of these. They bore the names and hearts, deeply set, of much-loved girls . . . they were gentle, kind and above all, divinely quiet.

The heart of the old school that first throbbed more than three quarters of a century ago, lies bare. There is the old stairway, thrown open after more than the span of a man's life, to bask in the morning sun, where thousands of feet have trod up and down, feet which today carry their owners in all walks of life from one end of the nation to the other, master minds among them too, working for progress, and which had their foundation training, crude though it was, in the old Park School.

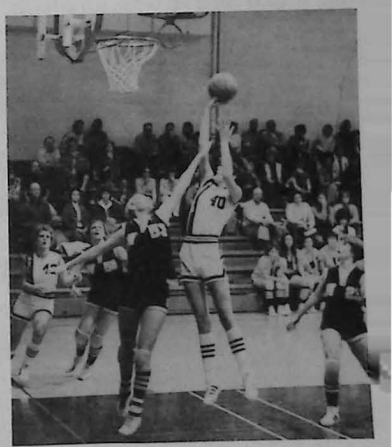
The old Park School in the area which is now 821 Franklin, was closed in 1904 when Lincoln School opened. It was made into a feed barn and was where people kept their horses while shopping. A millinery shop was built on the playground on the east corner. Finally, in 1937, Pella's first brick school was torn down. (It was fondly called "Old Brick" by the pupils.)

by Bill De Jong

PELLA PUBLIC SCHOOL HISTORY

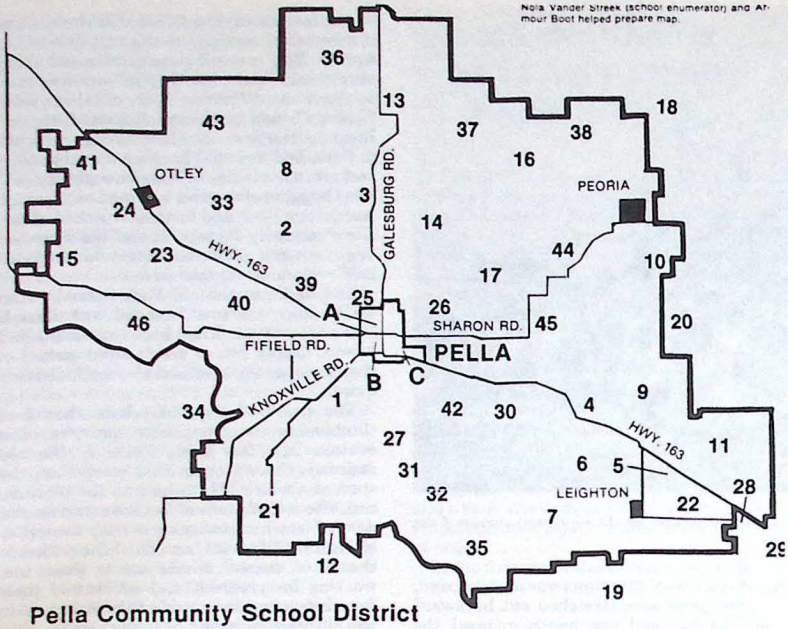
T62

The following article is taken from material written by Emma Lou Heusinkveld in the



Girls' Basketball, Pella High vs. Winterset.

Nola Vander Streek (school enumerator) and Armour Boot helped prepare map.



Pella Community School District

Map shows location of schoolhouses in districts which became a part of Pella Community School District on July 1, 1958 or later. In some cases, a schoolhouse is outside of the present district, but some of the area it served is in the Pella District. If a school went by two names, one is in parentheses.

1. Amsterdam
2. Battle Ridge
3. Bell (European No. 1)
4. Black Oak Center
5. Black Oak No. 6
6. Black Oak No. 7 (Meade)
7. Black Oak - Scott Center
8. Bunker Hill
9. Centennial
10. Cherry Grove
11. Else (Madison)
12. Eureka
13. European No. 2
14. European No. 3 (Mathes)
15. Fair Oaks
16. Fleming
17. Flint Ridge
18. Granville
19. Greeley
20. Hickory Grove
21. Iola
22. Leighton
23. Liberty Corner (Liberty)
24. Otley
25. Pella
    - A. Lincoln
    - B. Webster
    - C. High School
26. Plainview
27. Pleasant Grove (in Marion County)
28. Pleasant Grove (in Mahaska County)
29. Pleasant Ridge (Prine)
30. Pleasant View (Hard Scrabble)
31. Porterville, North
32. Porterville, South
33. Richland (in Marion County)
34. River Ridge
35. Rock Island
36. Rose Hill
37. Sandridge
38. Sheesley
39. Silver Grove, East
40. Silver Grove, West
41. Summit
42. Valley
43. Valley View
44. Warren
45. Wheatgrow
46. Whitebreast

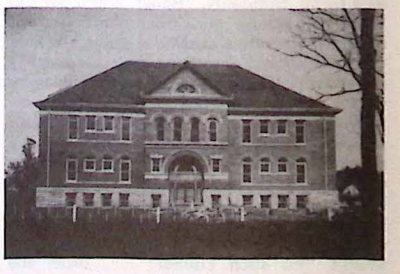
An old school bus near Tracy, the type used before automobiles.

Wrestling – an important varsity sport at Pella High.

Webster School, corner of Peace and Broadway, built 1876, razed 1952.

book *Pella School History 1847-1980*. The committee thanks her for permission to use the information. An addition at the end by Dena Ver Steeg.

The 1978-79 basketball team from Pella Community playing in Veterans' Auditorium in Des Moines.



Old Lincoln School, built in 1904 and still used today.

Eighth grade class of 1929. Teachers were Marie Lautenbach (left) and Dora Boatsma (right).

Pella Public Schools

The original strands of Pella school history reach back to Holland in the 1840's when Scholte's church people began talking about leaving. Plans for school were important and by the time they arrived in the U.S. in 1847, formal, written plans for schools in their colony were made. The Netherland Association for Emigration to North America provided that a home for a teacher as well as a schoolhouse be built immediately.

The colonists arrived in August, and in September James Muntingh and Isaac Overkamp set up schools in their log cabin homes near the square. The teaching was done in Dutch with English taught as a second language. In 1848 Scholte was elected school inspector. His duties were hiring teachers and supervising all schools in Lake Prairie Twp.

First Pella High School Band about 1919. L to R: Gary Vogelaar, Les Welle, George Lankelma, Marion Le Cocq, Joe Boyd, Pecky Brunia, Digger DeGooyee, Ed Le Cocq, and Heinie Kuyper.

New Lincoln School

Isaac Overkamp was the first teacher for classes in the new building located in the middle of the block west of the square. It was called 'The Barn Church' as it was a church on Sunday and a school during the week. It stood in the middle of the 800 block of Franklin Street on the north side. The log cabin schools and the Barn Church were the only schools for a few years. Henry Hospers substituted for the teachers, Overkamp and Muntingh.

In 1894 Benjamin Sherman moved to Pella from Ohio and opened a school where all classes were taught in English. After three years he left but successors operated the school until 1855 when Central College opened its Academy.

Two-storied Park School, nicknamed 'Old Brick', was built in 1856 and had eight grades. It was built on Franklin Street where the Post Office parking lot is located. It was used until 1904 when Lincoln School was ready to be used. 'Old Brick' was made into a livery stable and was not torn down until 1937.

A superintendent of schools was hired in 1857 but it was not until 1876 that a high school in Pella became a reality. Webster School, built that year, had the second floor designated as a high school. Webster had been built on the southwest corner of Broadway and Peace. The school was a tall, two-story building of red brick trimmed with white limestone and was topped by a bell tower. (The bell is now in the steeple of the Second Reformed Church.) Neighboring buildings in the 'Webster Block' were two churches . . . Baptist to the north and Methodist on the southeast corner. Houses filled in the rest of the block. Webster School was built at the cost of $20,000.

A school was built in 1888 northwest of town to serve farmers' children. It was called Oak Grove. Another small school was built near Webster and was named Howell. It was used for lower primary grades and was located in the middle of the 700 block on Peace Street where 'New Webster' now stands. Oak Grove Schoolhouse is now part of a home occupied by Cindy and Alan Roorda, the Roorda land being in the family for over a century.

In 1949 a new Webster School was begun only ten feet from the old building which was torn down, its space being turned into a play area.

Lincoln School was built in 1904 on the north side of the 700 block of Lincoln Street at the cost of $22,250. Lincoln Street was later closed between Broadway and Main Streets and is now part of the school's playground. New classrooms were built to the west of the original building in 1961, 1966, and 1985. The original building, dubbed 'Old Lincoln' is still

Pella High School graduating class of 1898. First Row, l-r: Elliott Twin, Orissa Veenstra, Fannie Smith, Maude Kimmel/ Margaret De Haan; Second Row, l-r: Anna Wormhoudt, Lottie Dykstra, Marie Lautenbach, and Minnie Veenstra; Third Row, l-r: Etta Elliott, Elliott Twin, and Jennie De Haan; Fourth Row, l-r: Robert De Pree, Henry J. Rhynsburger, and Fred Sheehy.

used for classrooms in 1987.

In 1912 a proposal to build a new high school failed but in 1914 was passed. A piece of land located at the corner of Union and Broadway Streets was purchased and work began on a $52,000 building. In 1936 an addition to the east was added with the W.P.A. federal agency helping with the cost of labor. A third floor was added to the east wing in 1955.

By 1942, as the last debts for the high school were paid off, the school board began thinking of a new high school. Fifteen years later, in 1957, a 50-acre parcel of farm land was purchased for the site.

In the spring of 1958, Pella, Otley, and Leighton, along with all or parts of 34 rural school districts became the new Pella Community School District. On Dec. 7, 1959, voters approved a bond issue of $1,000,000 for a new senior high school, an addition to Lincoln School, and a new grade school in Leighton. The $800,000 high school opened Aug. 27, 1962. Additions have been constructed in 1974, 1977, and 1979.

The old high school became a junior high school that year with students moving out of the Webster building's east wing. Sixth graders attended Lincoln, Leighton, and Otley. Some went to Webster or Lincoln and some to the Junior High. Some were attending their classes in a temporary metal classroom.

Finally, in 1978, a new Middle School was built northeast of the High School and houses sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. The building is designed for 450 students and is a spacious, modern structure.

In the 1986-87 school year, one hundred eight teachers are employed in Pella Community Schools, twenty-one of those are part-time. There are eighteen aides. Dr. Orville Dunkin is the superintendent and there are five principals: High School, Omer Troyer, and assistant Jim O'Connell; Middle School, Don Roehr; Webster, Rex Steddom; Lincoln, Merlyn Vander Leest who began as a teacher there in 1962 and has served as principal for 20 years. His duties also include those of elementary supervisor. (Jim O'Connell resigned in 1987 and was replaced by Mark Lee.) Other personnel within the school number eleven employed full time and fifty-six part-time workers.

Pella Community Schools have a reputation for low 'teacher turnover.' Many have taught in the system for many years. Base pay for teachers in 1986-87 was $15,325.

Enrollment figures for the 1986-87 school year are as follows: High School 466 (Grades 9-12), Middle School 358 (6-8), Lincoln 482, (K-5 and Special Ed.), Webster 253 (K-4), Leighton 36 (K-4), and Otley 32 (K-4).

School board members are Boyd Boehlje, Randy Rumery, Brandt Van Maanen, Shirley Borgman, and Paul Van Zee. Borgman was the first woman to serve in that capacity in the town of Pella.

The board of education and school staff members are currently considering expanding the elementary building facilities through constructing additional classrooms and through replacing the old two-story building at the Lincoln Elementary site. Although these decisions are not finalized as to what the building program will be, it is assumed that the total project will consist of the following phases. First, building several classrooms as an addition on the north wing of Lincoln Elementary, and then constructing several classrooms as an addition at the Webster Elementary Building, along the north side of the corridor that is now an east/west corridor. The Webster project might also include relocating some of the office and small group areas to gain more space for a faculty room, rest rooms, and conference rooms.

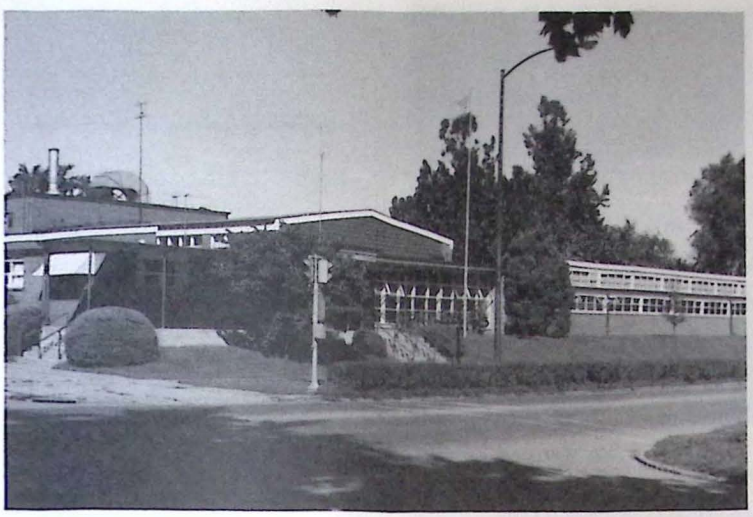
Another phase will be to raze Old Lincoln and replace this with either a six-room addition or a ten-room addition that would be located where the current old building stands. This phase would also include tearing down the old warehouse on the northeast corner of the Lincoln site and putting up a new one near the central administration office.

Dr. Dunkin estimates that this elementary building project will be funded through the current 67.5 cent school fund tax that is permitted to be levied each year.

Pella schools have flourished for one hundred forty years and the philosophy of the founders continues. From the little log cabin schools to some of the finest modern schools, Pella is proud and supportive of excellence in education.

In the early 1900's the school day began at 9:00 A.M. with the principal ringing a hand

Pella High Baseball Team, 1929 Spring. Front, l-r: William Marsh, Orville Dykstra, Herman Douwstra, Verle Ver Dught, Lester Jelsma, Edward Vanden Oever, and Edward Vander Ploeg; Back, l-r: Willard Langerak, Gerald Van Arkel, Robert Renaud,B Klaas In't Veld, and Leo Vander Kolk.



Webster Elementary today. Picture taken in 1979. Grades K-4.

bell on the steps of Lincoln, while Mike Langerak, the Webster janitor, pulled the rope which sent a call to study from the high belfry. Classes continued until noon with a 15-minute recess break at 10:30. With few exceptions the children walked home for a hot meal, returning for the afternoon session which lasted from 1:30 until 4:00 P.M.

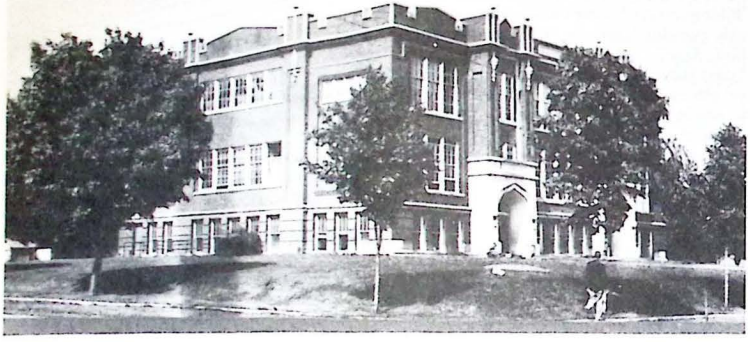
Textbooks were purchased by the parents and were mostly black and white with few illustrations. Workbooks were unheard of. There was, however, a paperback drawing book containing pictures in outline which the student copied on the opposite page. Spelling books (spellers) were hardback and there was much emphasis on competitive oral spelling. Reading was largely oral also. Arithmetic books contained answers in the back. A teacher of vocal music visited each classroom once a week. She would blow a pitch pipe to start each song.

There was no playground equipment. Balls and bats, if any, were brought from home. Children created their own games or played such popular ones as Drop-the-Handkerchief, Send, Last Couple Out, Three Deep, Flying Dutchmen, Dare Base, Come Ahead, and others. A unique type of dismissal ended the day in the Junior High atop Old Webster. Talented students, in turn, would play a march on the piano, while departing feet kept time in an orderly manner.

(See photos next page.)

Pella School Children follow Mr. C.C. Buerkens, Superintendant of Pella Public Schools, and Klaas Kramer, Christian School Principal (1950's).

Aerial view of Pella Community High School, 1979. To the right rear is the new Middle School Building. Left rear is the indoor swimming pool. Picture taken facing north.

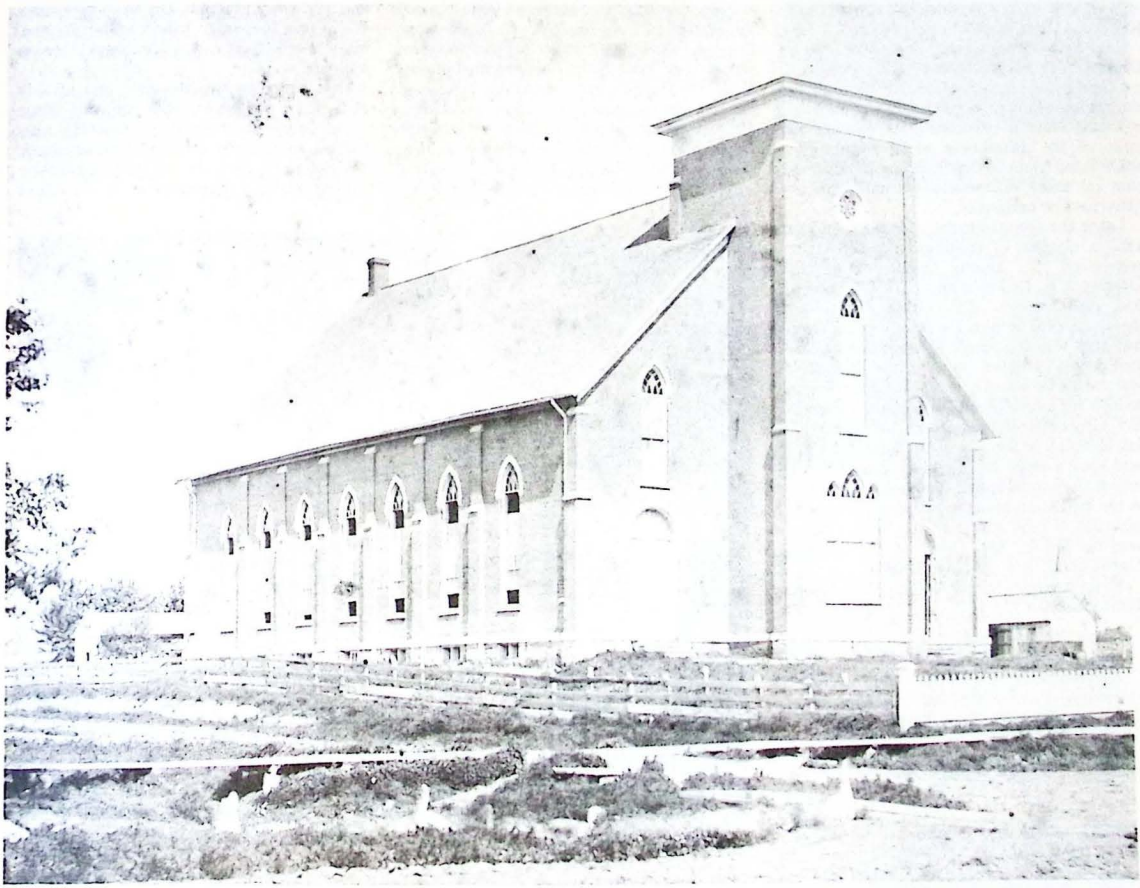


Pella High School corner of Broadway and Union (1930's), now the Community Center.

Pella Community High School in the state playoffs, vs. Southeast Polk, Fall 1978.

VII.

CHURCHES



The first Reformed church built west of the Mississippi River. Located at 603 Broadway.

PELLA'S FIRST TWO CHURCHES

T63

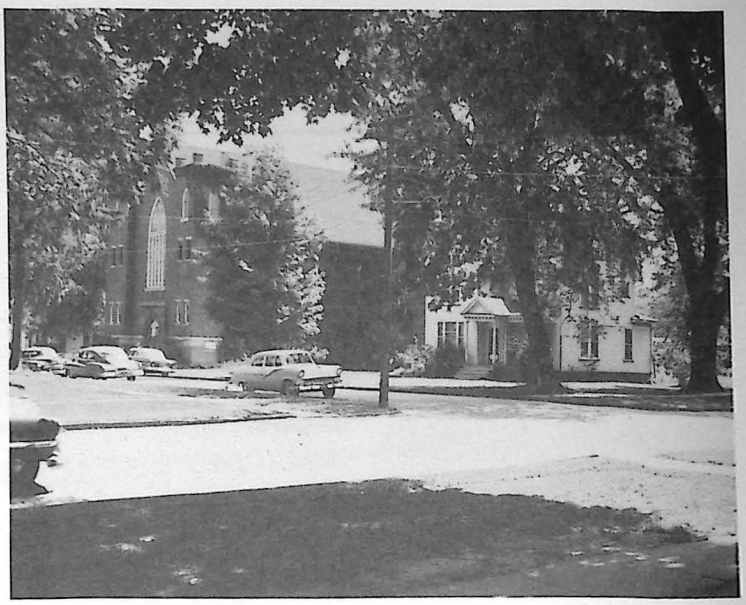
In the first days of Pella's existence, meetings for religious purposes were held out-of-doors. When G.H. Overkamp's log cabin was completed (on Washington St. where the Church of the Open Bible is now located) the meetings were held there. Then in Mar. of 1848 the first church building, a plank church, was completed. It stood on the northeast corner of Lot 5, Block 27, directly east of the present white brick Chapel on Franklin St., with the entrance to the north on the alley which then ran east and west. The dimensions of the building were 25 feet X 50 feet. Although it was not an elegant structure, it was a strong one. The cross-beams were made from trees brought from the nearby woods. The planks for the sides were approximately 12 inches wide. All of the outside lumber as well as that on the inside was unplaned. There was a center aisle running north and south. On each side of the aisle were the pews, also made of rough boards, nailed to supports. There were also eight school benches patterned after the old-fashioned Dutch school benches. Only the pulpit was fashioned of planed and dressed lumber. The church was built during the first winter and spring so that it was ready for use in Mar. of 1848. It was called the Christelikje Kerk, the Christian Church.

'Het Steen Kerkje' was The Little Brick Church. In Dominie Scholte's *"Eerste Stem,"* a phamplet addressed to The Netherlands in the spring of 1848, we read: "The preaching of God's Word is heard with interest and in spite of the differences of interpretation, there is no friction. One hears much discussion on these differences without causing bitterness or animosity."

Later the embitterment did come, and in 1851 a number of members decided upon separation . . . among them two of the Overseers, K. De Hoog and G.H. Overkamp, and one Deacon, E.F. Grafe. The first meetings were held in De Hoog's tailor shop but this was too small to accomodate the crowd that gathered, so they met in Grafe's warehouse for about a year. Then they began to look for a suitable place to build a church. E.F. Grafe offered the northeast corner of his lot, 32 feet x 50 feet, (now 807 East First St.) and soon a small brick church was built, in which they worshipped for about two years. A reconciliation between the two groups was effected in 1854 and the little brick church was deeded by Mr. Grafe to the original Christian Church on Nov. 8, 1854.

From material in the Archives by Martha Lautenbach.

by Martha Lautenbach



The old First Baptist Church built in 1873; also the old parsonage, both facing north.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

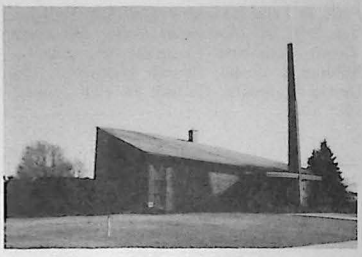
T64

The Baptists were established in the area at the time of the Dutch arrival. Indeed, it was members of the Baptist Church who led Dominie Scholte to this place.

Since the Baptist Church of Pella claims lineal descent from the "Aurora Missionary Baptist church," its history begins two years before the Territory of Iowa reached statehood. On the day after Christmas in 1844 a church was organized in the home of Israel C. Curtis about six miles south of the present town of Pella. The six constituent members were: Israel C. Curtis, his wife, Lucy; Aaron Faulk and his wife Eliza; Francis A. Barker and his wife Catherine. On the same day, Wellington Nossaman joined by letter, and his wife and others joined a few days later by baptism.

Rev. M.J. Post was the organizer of this church. He was the second Baptist minister to be ordained within the state. He also carried the government mail on horseback each week to Fort Des Moines, a frontier military station 120 miles west of his Fairfield

Building Committee First Baptist Church. Seated L to R: Gil & Esther Boat, Don Douwstra, Architect Stan VerPloeg, Rev. Everett Ward and Ray De Haan. Standing Dick Van Zante, Dave Bevan, Walt Koopman.



The new First Baptist Church was built in 1956.

home. He preached at settlements along the route and in this way organized the Aurora Missionary Baptist Church.

It was Rev. Post who encountered the five Dutch men who were on a search for a home for their 800 settlers. The five men traveled with him to the Nossaman home where they stayed while exploring over the rolling prairies between two rivers.

The stakes were set for Pella and soon the immigrants came to the place and established their town.

Early in the first decade of its history, the church joined the Des Moines Association. Covenant meeting and preaching services were held once a month in private homes or in the Hamilton log schoolhouse. Supplying the church during this time were Rev. Post, John Bond, G.W. Bond, I.C. Curtis (ordained by the Aurora Church), and Edward Bookenoogen. Twelve members decided to move the church to Pella in Apr., 1854 when the name was changed to First Baptist. It was at this time (1853) that Central College was established by the Baptists which drew many of that faith to the town and built up the church. Membership in the church grew to 260, and by 1857 a large frame meeting house was built.

There was a split over Masonry when 100 members withdrew to form a Second Baptist Church. A financial crash of 1857 further weakened the church and it was dissolved in 1863. Two days after the dissolution, several Baptists who had not been connected with a Baptist church in Pella came together at the home of H.K. Kean and organized "The Baptist Church of Pella". Other than Mr. Kean and his wife, the sixteen members were: Rev. I.J. Stoddard and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. James Parker, Rev. and Mrs. William Hildreth, Dr. H.H. Stevens and his wife, Rev. R.D. Hartshorne, Prof. F.W. Corliss, N. Read, Mrs. E.A. Julian and Miss Mary Parker.

In 1873 a house of worship was begun with bricks molded and burned on the church grounds. It was completed at the cost of $10,000 and was dedicated without debt. By 1877 the church baptistry was built and used instead of the Des Moines River. A parsonage was completed in 1900 with a debt of $600. By this time there was a happy union of the two factions of Baptist worshippers. The church was closely supportive toward Central College with two of their ministers becoming presidents of the school. The Baptists were responsible for the college until 1917 when it was sold to the Reformed Church of America.

Pastors of Pella Baptist Church from 1844-1986 are: 1844-56 Occasional monthly preaching by M.J. Post, John Bond, G.W. Bond, I.C. Curtis, Edward Bookenoogen; 1854-58 Rev. E.H. Scarff; 1858-60 Rev. Elian Gunn; 1861-69 Rev. E.H. Scarff; 1870-72 Rev. J.R. Shanafelt; 1872-74 Rev. E.C. Spinney; 1875-76 Rev. T.W. Powell; 1876-78 Rev. H.R. Mitchell; 1878-80 Rev. Charles Payne; 1880-81 Rev. L.S. Dunn; 1881-85 Rev. F.F. Thickstun; 1886-89 Rev. F.E. Britten; 1889-90 Rev. John Stewart; 1891-93 Rev. J.D. Burr; 1894-97 Rev. C.E. Farr; 1898-99 Rev. F.E. Butler; 1900-05 Rev. G.C. Peck; 1905-06 Rev. Z.H. Lewis; 1906-10 Rev. A. LeGrand; 1910-14 Rev. J.W. Bailey; 1914-16 Rev. J.W. Coulston; 1917-20 Rev. Robert Carroll; 1920-23 Rev. A.C. Droz; 1923-26 Rev. George Derbyshire; 1927-29 Rev. G.C. Conrad; 1930-37 Rev. Ralph T. Nordland; 1937-41 Rev. Paul J.Christensen; 1941-43 Rev. C.F. Perron; 1943-46 Rev. A.A. Swanson; 1946-49 Rev. W.G. Winstead; 1949-52 Rev. C.F. Perron; 1952-54 Rev. Rollin V.Wildin; 1955-67 Rev. Everett G. Ward; 1967-73 Rev. Bill Joiner; 1976-86 Rev. Ronald E. Cowles; Minister of Visitation Rev. Glenn Emmert.

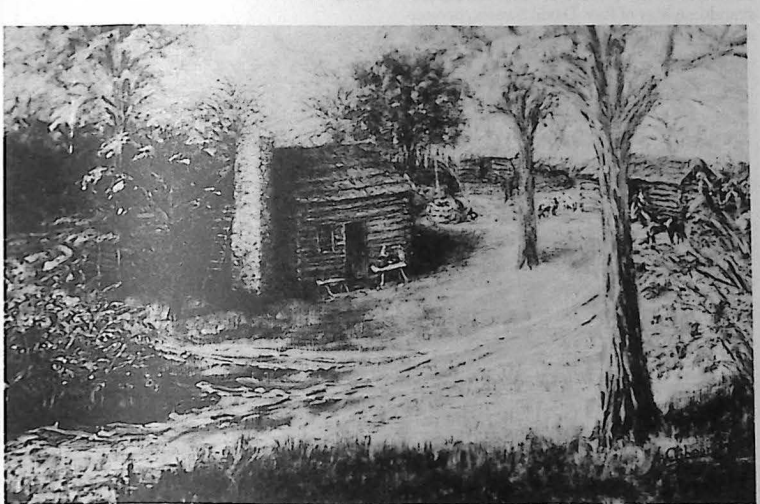
In 1956 the cornerstone was laid for a new church building. (See picture.) A 140th anniversary celebration was held June 16-17, 1984.

One woman, Sonja Van Dusseldorp completed work on a master's degree at Central Theological Seminary, Kansas City and was voted to be approved for a license to preach in 1986, being the first woman in the local congregation to be granted a license.

The church was served by an interim minister, Malcolm Van Antwerp of Des Moines after Rev. Cowles left. Cowles is the Associate Regional Minister of South Dakota.

In the summer of 1987, Rev. George Smith began his ministry at First Baptist.

Edited from Baptist Church Anniversary Book.



The log cabin – location of the first Baptist Church west of the Mississippi River located in Burlington, Ia. (From a painting). This was the type of church established by Moses Post.

PELLA METHODISM

T65

The Methodists built this church at Main & Peace St. in 1870 which served for 5 decades.

The United Methodist Church of Pella, which began holding services in June, 1986, has a religious heritage which extends back some 142 years in this area. The first known religious service in Marion Co. was a Methodist prayer meeting held in the cabin of Francis and Ruth Barker. In 1845 the first regular ordained minister to preach in Marion Co. was a Methodist by the name of Russel, and his parish included all of Polk, Warren, and Madison, and a part of Marion, Jasper, Boone, and Dallas Counties. Between 1853 and 1855 a Methodist circuit rider, the Rev. David Sweem, preached from time to time in the Pella area, and the Pella Methodist Episcopal Church was incorporated May 21, 1855, one of seven preaching places on a circuit that stretched between Monroe and Oskaloosa. The circuit was served by the Rev. George H. Clark from 1855-57.

The first Methodist church building was erected in 1857 on the north side of Peace Street between Broadway and Main, now the site of the Webster Elementary School addition. Constructed entirely of native timbers, the church was described as "the most expensive church building that was ever erected in so small a village as the Pella settlement." But over the next five years, a different pastor was appointed each year to the Pella charge, and the congregation apparently became lax in keeping up with its financial obligations. In 1861 the Methodists had to sell their church building to settle their

debts, even though one historian observes that the Methodist congregation "had a good strong membership and was enjoying a season of great prosperity." The Methodist pastor resigned, and a supply pastor was put temporarily in charge of the congregation. The church building was purchased by Baptist dissenters and eventually acquired by the Pella School District. Known as the Howell building, the old church was used for classrooms for many years.

The Methodists next purchased or built, in 1865, a small temporary building on the corner of Liberty and what is now West First St., the current site of a funeral home. The church was "too small but better than nothing," and it served the Methodist Episcopal congregation until 1867.

Meanwhile the Rev. Ira Kemble had been appointed, and he started raising money for a new two-story building "of very fair sized frame construction" at the corner of Main an Union. But troubles again arose. The mechanics and builders "failed to follow the plans and specifications furnished them." They expended all of the church's money before they had completed the building and then withdrew from the project. Thus the Methodists had a partially-built structure on their hands which would cost $1,500 to complete, a sum of money they could not raise. Fortunately, another church offered to buy the unfinished building, for cash, so in 1870 the Methodists paid off their creditors, and looked about for another site for their church, to be their fourth building in 13 years.

The congregation purchased a lot on the corner of Main and Peace St., and in 1870 constructed the church and parsonage, which were to serve them for the next five decades. Their physical and financial challenges were not over, however. Within two years, a violent storm blew out the east end of the sanctuary, and in 1919 a fire was to destroy the roof and second story of the parsonage.

There were, however, high moments also for this small band of Methodists. One was in 1910 when the Pella Methodist Episcopal congregation hosted the Iowa Annual Conference, no small feat for a church with only 175 members. Conference leaders termed it "a matter of heroism" for a congregation of its size to attempt it, and the graciousness and diligence of the Pella Methodists were commended in the conference records.

In the next decade hard times, yearly pastoral changes, and probably other factors took their toll. The church, down to 35 members in 1924, went out of existence in 1925. And yet, that was not the end.

Even though the congregation had disbanded, a circle of the former Ladies' Aid continued to meet monthly until about 1979. Over these years the circle members supported a Bible worker in India, attended district gatherings from time to time, and at least one person attributed her conversion to the circle's evangelistic efforts. The survival of a church group for over fifty years without a parent congregation would seem to indicate the strength of the fellowship that bound these early Methodists together and led them to triumph over their string of early adversities.

The church building that served the Methodists from 1870 until 1925 is now the Berean Baptist Church on Highway 163, just east of the Central College campus, and the former Methodist organ is in the Scholte church in Pella's Historical Village.

From time to time surveys indicated that the number of United Methodists in the Pella area was probably sufficient to start a congregation, but nothing was done about it until the spring of 1986 when District Superintendent Nancy Allen initiated a telephone survey, conducted by United Methodists of nearby congregations. The response to the survey again was positive.

In June, 1986 Pastor W. Michael Biklen was appointed to Pella to establish a United Methodist Church, and services began the following Sunday. Since that time the congregation has met in the Pella Memorial Building. A church school was organized Oct. 5, and the chartering service took place on Palm Sunday, Apr. 12, with Bishop Rueben Job, Resident Bishop of the Iowa Area of the United Methodist Church preaching. The Rev. Nancy Allen, Superintendent of the Ottumwa District presided, assisted by Pastor Biklen. seventy-eight persons were charter members, with 11 11 students holding affiliate membership.

The church members, aware of their ties to the early Methodists in Pella, value the century-old pulpit Bible from the former congregation. The worn volume, again in place at each Sunday service, provides a tangible link between the growing congregation and its spiritual forebearers.

SOURCES: *Atlas of Marion County, Iowa.* Philadelphia: Harrison & Warner, 1875. Reprinted in 1982. Historical materials, United Methodist Area Headquarters, Des Moines, 1986. *History of Marion County, Iowa.* Des Moines: Union Historical Co., Birdsall, Williams, 1881. Hoeksema, Alice Koopmans of Pella, member of former, M.E. circle. Interview, October, 1986. Koch, Augustus, "Birds Eye View of Pella, Marion Co., Ia., 1869." Chicago: Chicago Lith. Reprint. *Minutes of the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Sixty-Seventh Annual Session Held at Pella, Ia., Sept. 7-12, 1910.* Pella M.E. church records, United Methodist Archives, IWC Library, Mt. Pleasant, Ia. Pella M.E. church records: membership roll, Ladies' Aid circle minutes, et al. Porter, Dorothy Sweem of Knoxville, great-granddaughter of Rev. David Sweem, personal interview, Oct., 1986. *Souvenir History of Pella, Ia.* Pella: Booster Press, 1922. Reprint. Van Stigt, K. *History of Pella, Iowa and Vicinity.* Elisabeth Kempkes, tr., 1897. — Mildred R. Steele, Church Historian, The United Methodist Church of Pella, June, 1987.

by Mildred Steele

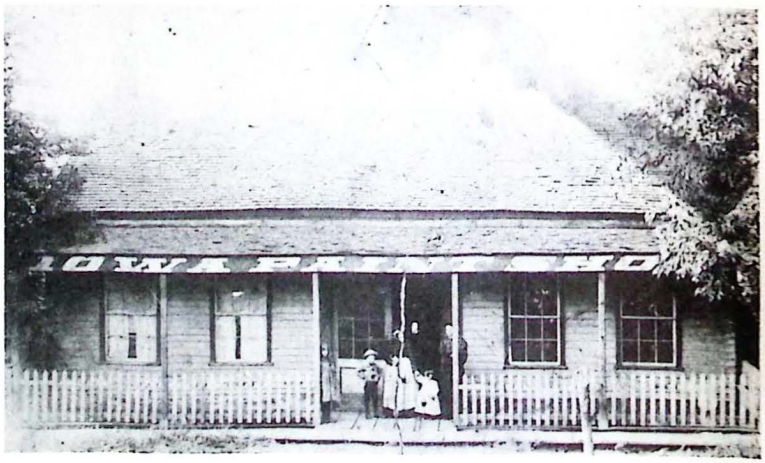
THE SCHOLTE CHURCH

T66

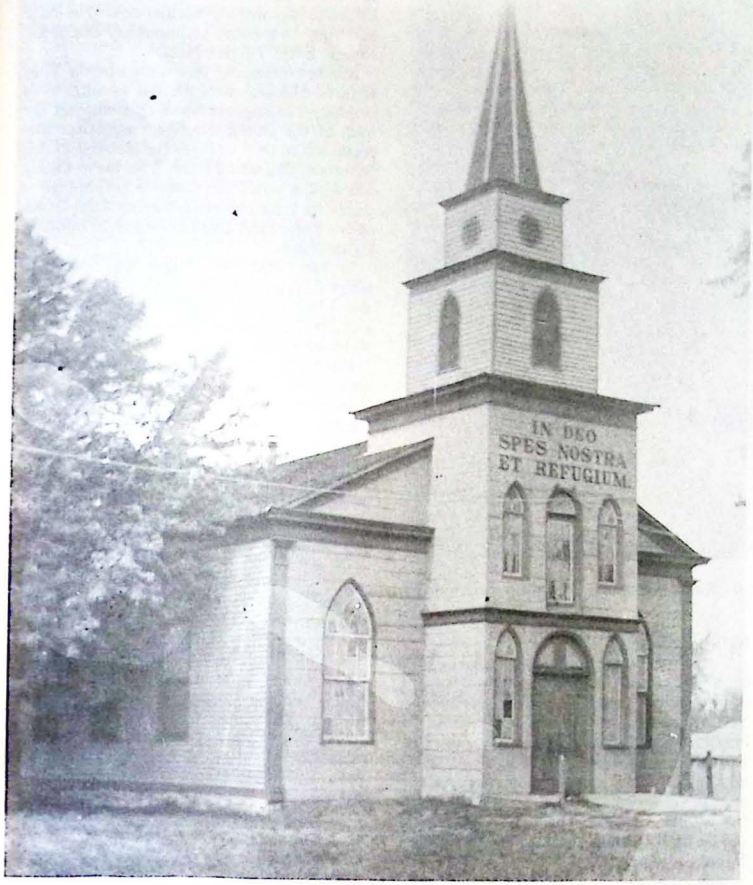
"In Deo Spes Nostra et Refugium". These words, the watchwords of the Colony, were inscribed on the front of the church Dominie Scholte built with his own money in 1855. There had been a controversy between Dominie Scholte and some of the members in regard to church property. This tension vacillated . . . now strongly, now more calmly. It reached its culmination in the month of July, 1854, when it was decided to suspend Dominie Scholte from preaching. This decision, however, was far from unanimous and many demanded that Dominie Scholte must keep on preaching. Jacob De Haan offered his barn for this purpose but as it was quite far south, a more convenient place was found . . . the paint shop of J.J. Micherschuizen on Washington St. (Lot 4, Block 27). It was here that Dominie Scholte conducted religious services, until his own church was completed. This was of frame construction, painted white, with the inscription "In Deo Spes Nostra Et Refugium" painted on the base of the tower in large black letters. It was located on the lots now 705 and 707 West First St. The membership continued to grow. During the years 1857-1859 no less than 120 members united with the church, most of them heads of families. Dominie Scholte served this church until his death in 1868.

After Dominie Scholte's death, the building was used by various congregations and for various purposes until it was torn down in 1916.

by Martha Lautenbach



When Dominie Scholte was suspended from preaching he and his followers met at the J.J. Michmershuizen Paint Shop.



This was the original church Scholte built with his own funds for his congregation. It was built in 1855 and razed in 1916.

PLYMOUTH BRETHREN, SO-CALLED

T67

This church was built in 1849 on the site of the first church built in Pella. The so-called Plymouth Brethren now meet in this building at 824 Franklin St.

Christians meeting at 824 Franklin St. in Pella owe their beginnings to a movement which began about the middle of the nineteenth century. In Dublin, Ireland and in Plymouth, England small groups began meeting in the name of the Lord alone (according to Matthew 18:20). For convenience sake they were often called "Plymouth Brethren". However, since their only authority was the Word of God and they were not an organized denomination, they did not accept any organizational name.

Among the early leaders and teachers was a Mr. J.N. Darby who had been connected with the Church of England and was a curate of the parish of Wicklow. A scholar of Hebrew and Greek, he did much expository writing on the Scriptures. He also traveled extensively and was instrumental in interesting groups of Christians to meet in or unto the Lord's name throughout England. The movement spread also to the United States and Canada.

About the year 1880, a man by the name of A.H. Rule, who lived in Vinton, Ia., came to Pella and preached the gospel in a building which had been used by the Second Baptists who were no longer an active group. Several individuals were saved through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and His atoning work on the cross. Soon after, Mr. Rule was followed by a Mr. Lyman who was instrumental in setting up the "Lord's Table" in Pella.

The first place of meeting was an upper room on the north side of the square, which housed a millinery shop on the first floor. As time went on these quarters became too small, and the group moved to a building on Union St. which had been used by Presbyterians. At this time it was owned by a Mr. R.R. Beard. Then, too, such well-known early Pella names as Scholte (Henry and David, sons of the "Dominie"), Kruidenier, Bousquet, and Nollen were found among those gathered to the Lord's name.

After a time this building was sold and the group moved to 824 Franklin St. The history of this site dates back to the year 1849, when Dominie H.P. Scholte acquired a parcel of 320 acres of land from the state of Iowa. In November of that year, according to the records, he "grants and conveys" a part of this land to the "Christian Church of Pella" to quietly enjoy. Among the names of deacons and elders were the well-known G.H. Overcamp, H.K. Barendregt and P. Welle. It is evident that a building was erected to the north of the existing one.

On Jan. 22, 1888, since the "Christian Church of Pella" had ceased to exist, the property was sold to the First Reformed Church of Pella (for $185.00). Two plots of this land were sold to private individuals and a building was constructed by this denomination for its smaller congregational meetings. In the course of years it was also used by a group called "Soul Sleepers".

On Mar. 10, 1911, the property was sold by the First Reformed Church to trustees for those gathered to the Lord's Name in Pella. They were N. VanVliet, J.H. VanVliet, and P.A. Renaud. So, to the present day, in much admitted weakness, a group of Christians will be found here for Sunday School, for the remembrance of the Lord, for prayer, for study of the Word, and for preaching of the gospel. Special addresses are scheduled also from time to time.

by Dean Ver Steeg

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH

T68

"Old First" was a landmark on the corner of Broadway and Union from 1869 until it was razed in 1943 to make way for a new church.

The new First Reformed Church was used for worship the first time on Sept. 26, 1954.

Interior of the Old First Reformed Church. Gothic wood design in rear is by George Heeren.

H.P. Scholte, after his experience with the state church of The Netherlands, wanted no part of denominationalism in America. He intended that the church in Pella would remain a free, independent, and self-sufficient body. There was to be no paid clergy and while Scholte himself was the most frequent preacher and teacher, all elders shared these duties. At first his followers in Pella agreed with the dominie's conditions for their church.

There was bound to be disagreement with such a dominant leader. It was not long in coming as opinions about the church and Scriptures surfaced which ran counter to Scholte's ideas. The town of Pella seethed with religious ferment with such discontent that Scholte's Christian Congregation had split into four separate factions: the original Christian Congregation, The Seven Brothers, the First Christian Church, and the Dutch Reformed Church.

The latter two churches decried the lack of unity among the Christians in Pella. After correspondence with Dutch settlers in Michigan, these two groups were visited by Dr. A.C. Van Raalte, leader of the Holland colony. Under his guidance, meetings between the First Christian Church and the Dutch Reformed Church led to a merger and on Sept. 19, 1856, the Protestant Dutch Reformed Church of Pella was formally incorporated under the laws of the state of Iowa.

Moving away from Scholte's ideas, the new congregation acted quickly to establish denominational ties and in seeking a pastor. The new church was chartered as the first Dutch Reformed Church west of the Mississippi and began to work and witness. Call after call went out to ministers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Even without a minister, a church building was still a necessity. As materials were accumulated, a church owned by First Baptist Church of Pella became available and First Church traded their lumber and bricks valued at $1,200 for the "Pink Church" of the Baptists. During the same year, 1856, land north of Pella was purchased to be used for burial purposes. Graceland Cemetery is still owned and managed by First Reformed.

Rev. P.J. Oggel of Michigan was one of the ministers called during this three year waiting period. He declined his first call but accepted the second. In 1860 he was installed as the first pastor. During his ministry there was an influx of new settlers. The church helped to organize a parochial school in Pella and began to support a missionary son of the church, Evert Vander Hart.

It is not surprising that a number in First Reformed Church soon wanted worship to be conducted in English. Since this was not the wish of the Dutch-speaking majority, this group left in 1863 to form the Second Dutch Reformed Church of Pella. The leave-taking was cordial with First Church helping call a pastor for them and contributing $100 for his salary. Later First helped Second in building its sanctuary.

In Apr., 1863, Rev. Oggel was forced to resign his pastorate due to declining health, and a long period of vacancy followed until Feb., 1866 when Rev. Egbert Winter arrived and took up his duties.

During the absence of a minister, several members of First Reformed had insisted that a minister of the True Dutch Reformed Church be invited to preach there. The consistory refused, and forty-two members left to organize the First True Dutch Reformed Church of Pella which continues today as the First Christian Reformed Church.

Other members left to begin new churches. Bethel, northwest of Pella, was organized in 1866 with help from First Church and survived for over seventy years. In Nov., 1868, a third church was formed with the mother church greatly assisting, and in 1869 a church was organized in Otley with First's help.

In 1869 a committee was formed to build a new, much larger church. The church was begun and was built piecemeal as money came in. The project lasted three years and finally cost $13,000. The building known as "Old First" stood as a landmark on the corner of Broadway and Union for the next eighty-one years.

In addition to meeting needs at home, the spread of the gospel was not forgotten and missionary work was expanded.

After serving 18 years, Rev. Winter received a call to Michigan. He preferred to stay in Pella but First Church did not want to change to English services as he requested and in 1884 he left.

At this time First Church numbered about 190 families and was still growing but, since immigration from The Netherlands had virtually stopped by 1880, it was going at a slower pace. Rev. William Moerdyk served from 1885 to 1890, followed by Rev. Peter DePree who served in 1892 to 1897. The congregation purchased its first organ in 1892. The church at this time experienced a lack of unity.

Rev. Henry J. Veldman arrived in 1897 and reunited the congregation as he was proficient in Dutch and English and possessed the warm qualities to heal hurt feelings. He left in 1901. The following year Rev. John Van Westenberg arrived and was successful but within three years was forced by ill health to retire.

The old parsonage was built after the arrival of Rev. Seth Vander Werf, the home replacing an older brick house. In 1910 it was deemed necessary to rearrange the interior of "Old First" for more seating. Rev. Vander-Werf ended eight years of service and in 1913 accepted a position with the Board of Domestic Missions.

Almost immediately, Rev. John Wesselink began his ministry and stayed 12 productive

years during which many changes took place. The morning service changed from Dutch to English in 1919 and individual cups replaced the common one used for the Lord's Supper. A basement was built under part of the church and the organ was electrified. Rev. Wesselink left to become the president of Central College in 1925.

In 1926 changes continued under the ministry of Rev. Bernie Mulder. Daily vacation Bible school and reorganization of the worship service were developed, the envelope system of offerings was adopted, and a two-manual Wurlitzer organ was installed. The congregation now numbered almost 400 families, taxing the facilities of "Old First". Building additional rooms for education, office, and library were planned but he project abruptly ended with the Great Depression of the 1930's. Rev. Mulder stayed until 1932 when he left to become editor of *The Church Herald* and Secretary of the Board of Education for the Reformed Church of America.

The Anthony Haverkamp era began in late summer of 1932 and was to last for the next 23 years. His ministry would encompass economic calamity and recovery, two wars, a new church building, and loosening of the final ties to the congregation's beginnings as a Dutch-speaking church.

Following World War II, with church membership at 400 families, further remodeling of "Old First" was impractical and a building fund was started in 1945 for the new church. The final worship service in the old sanctuary was held Apr. 12, 1953, and work began the following day on razing the old building and preparing the site for new construction. The new church was dedicated and used for worship for the first time on Sept. 26, 1954. Final cost of the church was approximately $450,000. Rev. Haverkamp's long pastorate, filled with challenges, growth, and blessings, ended with his retirement in Oct., 1955. His final gift to the church was the woodcarving of da Vinci's "Last Supper" mounted in the church.

In Sept., 1956, Rev. Herman Ridder was installed as the new pastor and his ministry, though brief, was filled with blessings. A church staff came into existence, real estate was acquired to make more parking available, and expansion for the spread of the gospel was furthered by First Reformed in several new churches in the U.S. A toddler nursery, *The Link*, Christian education council, stewardship council, and a library were all added, and the present structure of women's groups came into being in 1959. Rev. Ridder went on to other positions in 1960.

In the same year, Rev. Glenn Peterman followed Rev. Ridder into First Church's pulpit and his six-year pastorate continued the pattern of church growth. A full-time assistantship for Christian education began. Peterman began services for Tulip Time visitors in 1965. He accepted a call to Holland, Mich. in 1966 and was soon followed by Rev. Henry Vermeer who stayed for seven productive years, a time when the congregation was drawn closer through the Lay Witness Mission in 1971. Air conditioning was installed in the church and they also became debt free when the mortgage-burning ceremony was held in 1972. Rev. Vermeer accepted a call elsewhere in 1973.

Rev. Frank Shearer succeeded Rev. Vermeer and much was accomplished in outreach to Laotioan families, New Testaments to a tribe in Mexico, and in support of three new Reformed churches. Area ministry was begun on radio station KBOE in 1975, more real estate was purchased to enlarge the church site, and an associate pastor and minister of education was added with Rev. Duwayne Hanke serving in that capacity for four years. Rev. Shearer accepted a call in 1982 and was succeeded by Rev. Jack Boerigter who served in 1983-84.

The present minister is Rev. Ed Veldhuizen who accepted a call in 1985 and is assisted by Rev. Allen Schut, associate pastor, and Mrs. Holly Schut as Children's Minister.

First Reformed has sent a number of its sons and daughters into the ministry and missionary fields.

Edited from an article written by Henry Vandekieft in 1981.

by Henry Vandekieft

SAINT MARY'S CHURCH

T69

The original St. Mary's Church was located on the corner of W. First and Independence. It was founded by the William Welch family in the late 1860's.

The interior of the old St. Mary's Church. A reed organ was in the church.

The original Saint Mary's mission church was located at the corner of West First St. and Independence. It was founded by the William Welch family in the late 1860's. The property was purchased by the Most Reverend John Hennessey, Archbishop of Dubuque on Nov. 14, 1867, from C. and Mary Cokely and Hendrick and Hendricka Brandt for $175.00. This area is now a parking lot for Central College. A cedar tree that was planted when the church was started still stands on the site.

According to the late Mrs. David Thomas, great-granddaughter of William Welch, the family which included 11 or 12 children, moved to Pella from Missouri in 1843. There were only a few people living here at the time before the great settlement from Holland arrived in 1847.

Mr. Welch's brother, John, was inquisitive about Catholicism. He sent to Illinois for some information on Catholicism, and with it, most of the family converted to the faith. He himself remained and died as a Baptist.

The William Welch's family had a sawmill that processed many of the walnut trees along the rich Des Moines River woods. Walnut lumber from this mill was used to build the little Catholic Church. Mrs. Thomas understands that a Jonas Liter was probably the carpenter.

William Welch's son-in-law ran a lime kiln about five miles south of town. He brought his trade from New Jersey. Plaster from this kiln, mixed with animal hair, was used to plaster the church.

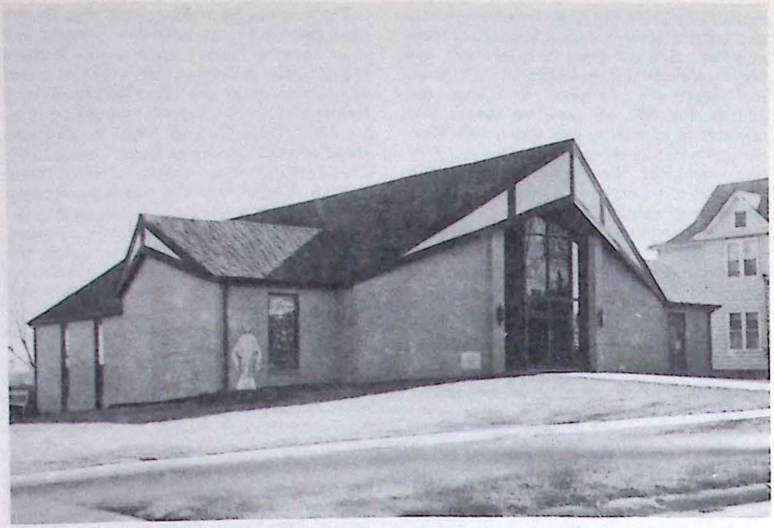
The original structure measured 33 feet by 19 feet. About 1873 the members added 14½ feet to the length and added a small room to the south side for a sacristy. Inside was a choir loft that also housed a reed organ. The church, of early Gothic design, was dedicated in May of 1869. This information is substantiated by a paragraph in *"Hollanders of Iowa"* by Jacob Van der Zee.

It should be noted that the pioneer Catholics, mostly Irish immigrants, arrived in Marion Co. between 1845 and 1850. To care for their spiritual needs, "circuit priests" from What Cheer, Oskaloosa, and other towns visited two or three times a year to celebrate Mass, the sacraments of baptism and matrimony, and perform graveside rites for those who had died. Mass was usually celebrated in homes since there were no churches built until the 1860's. Father Krekel from Eddyville could speak some Dutch. He took charge of the 40 member congregation in 1869.

Early records of baptisms and weddings are scattered at many churches because the "circuit priests" would record them in their home parish. The earliest baptismal record at hand, shows that Mary Veronica Flanagan, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Flanagan, born Nov. 21, 1898, was baptized on Nov. 13, 1899. Her godparents were William and Anna Flanagan. The earliest record of marriage is of William Devereuix and Maggie Flanagan on June 11, 1902.

Saint Mary's at that time also had a mission church — Saint Anthony's in Knoxville. In 1914 Saint Anthony's had grown into a larger congregation and Saint Mary's then became a mission church of Saint Anthony's.

Mass was usually celebrated once a month in the little church. However, some families endured muddy roads and wintery weather in early automobiles to get to Mass in Knoxville when Sunday Mass was not held in



This new church was completed in Jan. 1978, replacing the old mission church and contributed to a rebirth of the parish.

Pella. With better roads, the growth of local industry, and Central College more Catholics moved to the Pella area. Mass was then offered on a weekly schedule.

On Nov. 20, 1920, Mr. and Mrs. C.A. Van Berkum were married in the church by Father O'Connell from Knoxville. It wasn't until 1946 when the Van Berkums' son, Cornelius, married Georgia Van Gorkum, that another wedding was performed in the little church.

In the 1920's the church was replastered by Mr. C.A. Van Berkum. The two posts that supported the choir loft were replaced with tie rods. The inside and outside walls were painted. About 1938 the large religious pictures in the sanctuary were replaced with statues. These statues are now in the new church.

Saint Mary's remained a mission church of Knoxville until Dec. 1, 1976. The first pastor of the independent parish was Father S.E. Susic, who also served as Catholic chaplain for Central and Grinnell Colleges. The number attending services swelled every fall from the usual 30 families to include the 150 to 200 Catholic students at Central College.

In Feb., 1976 the Church inherited a sizeable sum from the John and Margaret Lautenbach estate. It was their generosity, and that of many others, that made it possible to build a new church.

Negotiations with Central College finalized an exchange of the original property with the present location at 1201 Peace St.

Many community businesses and individuals contributed to the building drive for the new church. The actual construction was overseen and done by many of the parishioners. Two stained glass windows located at the church entrance were donated by Second Reformed Church. The 14 Stations of the cross were created by the late Reverend Edward Catich, world renowned artist and calligrapher at Saint Ambrose College, Davenport.

The structure was completed in Jan., 1978 and dedicated on Apr. 3, 1978. This church not only replaced the 118-year-old-mission church but also contributed to the rebirth of the parish.

In 1980 a house at 1104 Peace St. was purchased as a rectory. In Sept., 1982 Father Stephen Ebel was assigned as pastor.

In 1985 a house next to the church was purchased for possible expansion. The basement of this "Green House" is now used for religious education classes. The second floor apartment serves as temporary housing for Central American refugee families immigrating to Canada. This project is in cooperation with the Faculty Benevolent Association of Central College.

Saint Mary's congregation presently consists of over 150 families as well as 270 students at Central College. Father James Vrba is the present pastor, assigned in Aug., 1986.

by Father James Vrba & Beulah Van Berkum

FOURTH REFORMED CHURCH – PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

T70

The history of a Fourth Reformed Church in Pella is an enigma. It existed in brief spurts of time, experienced discord and was mobile in its places of worship. Early records were lost and the real reason for organization has been obscured by time. Reformed Church Historical directories show that Fourth Reformed first existed for ten years (1869-1879), had two pastors and became an independent church. They had built a church in 1872.

In 1894 a Presbyterian Church, with a record of instability in Pella, transferred to the Reformed Church and a second Fourth Reformed Church was again formed and existed 16 years with three pastors and one stated supply. The place of worship for this group was the old "Scholte Church" located on West First St. between Liberty and Franklin Streets. Scholte's Church had disbanded six years prior to this.

Serious discord developed in 1909 and in a September vote, it was decided to disband the Fourth Reformed Church, the property and money were disposed of, and membership of the 106 members was transferred to a variety of other area churches. In June, 1910, the consistory asked that the dismissal be made from Classis.

It would seem that Fourth Reformed is sometimes referred to as First Presbyterian, and then later was called the Holland Presbyterian, and then later the Fourth Reformed again. Fourth Reformed and First Presbyterian may well have struggled, independent of each other but leaning upon one another and thus merged. As time passed, recollections dimmed and we are left only to surmise.

by Murt Kooi

THE SECOND REFORMED CHURCH

T71

Thanks to the foresight of Rev. P.J. Oggel, the first full-time pastor of the First Reformed Church, and a few willing members of that church who were most advanced in the use of the English language, the founding of the Second Reformed Church was assured by the Board of Home Missions in Apr., 1862. Designated as a missionary project, Rev. Abram Thompson of New York was chosen to take charge.

Rev. Thompson immediately organized a Sunday School, and English language services were held in the "Little Brick Church" at 805 East First St. With a nucleus of twenty-five members, the church was organized on Feb. 13, 1863. From this humble beginning the present church, with a baptized membership of about 940, many of them sixth generation members, plays a vital role in the church and community life of Pella.

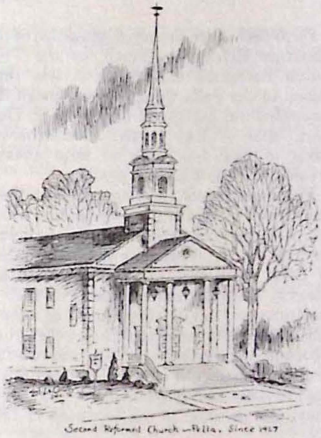
The congregation, having met in the "Little Brick Church," the Park School, 821 Franklin St., and the newly-acquired First Reformed Church, called the "Pink Church," at 514 West First St., chose the southeast corner of Liberty and Broadway for their permanent home. These were the "dark and discouraging" days of the Civil War, but a loan of $4,700 was advanced, and the cornerstone of the building was laid on Oct. 26, 1863. Rev. Thompson was formally installed as the first pastor on Mar. 1, 1868, and he served until 1874.

Rev. Harvey Schermerhorn (1875-1879) and his wife Mary lived in the first parsonage that was purchased. Mary Schermerhorn organized the Women's Missionary Society, the first Reformed Church missionary society west of the Mississippi River. The Rev. Gerrit Huyser (1883-1885) was able to start a Young People's Prayer Service, and each Sunday School student was provided a Bible.

The Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the church was celebrated in 1888, when Rev. G.H. Sharpley (1888-1893) was pastor. In Dec., 1888, he organized the Society of

The cornerstone of this first church erected by Second Reformed was laid Oct. 26, 1863.

On April 4, 1909, a new church building was dedicated. This building served 2nd Reformed until 1967 when it was razed & replaced by the building now in use on the corner of Broadway & Liberty where the other 2 churches also stood.



Present Second Reformed Church in Pella since 1967.

Christian Endeavor. Upon his death, he asked to be buried in Pella's Oakwood Cemetery. A gravestone was placed on his grave by the Christian Endeavor Society, and a large stained-glass window in the Second Church building was placed by the organization in his memory. The other window was given by the Thompson family in memory of the first pastor.

Rev. James Ossewaarde (1894-1898) was newly graduated from Princeton University. At the congregational meeting which approved his call, women were allowed to vote for the first time. During the two years the Rev. Lawrence Dykstra (1899-1901) was minister, a new parsonage was built south of the church.

The church grew rapidly while Rev. W.J. Van Kersen (1902-1910) was the pastor. The old church was taken down in Apr., 1908, and by Apr. 4, 1909, an impressive dedication service was held for the new church. At this time the use of individual communion cups was instituted and the red-velvet tasseled bags on the end of long rods were replaced by collection plates.

On Jan. 1, 1911, Rev. B.F. Brinkman (1911-1917) was installed, and on Feb. 13, 1913, the church celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary. Rev. Brinkman played a vital part in the transfer of Central College from the Baptist Church to the Reformed Church in America. He became the financial representative for the college upon leaving his pastorate.

The Rev. Henry M. Bruins (1917-1927) served as pastor of the church longer than any other. He began his work during the critical period of World War I. In June, 1921, a Daily Vacation Bible School was begun in the summer months, and a week-day School of Religion was commenced in the public schools.

Dr. Mary Bruins Allison, only daughter of the family, accepted a call into medical missionary work. She specialized in the treatment of women in Arabia. However, she was not the first woman from Second church to go into full-time missionary work. During the pastorate of Rev. Van Kersen, Leona Vander Linden sailed for China in 1909, where she served tours of duty periodically until 1941, in both teaching and evangelistic work. Her will set up a scholarship for young Chinese to study in the U.S. One of the sons and the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edward Tanis, who later came to Second Church, served in the mission field. Rev. Paul Tanis and his wife Marjorie spent a term in Japan. Marilyn Tanis Franken spent a term in Arabia, and later, Marilyn and her husband Rev. Darrell Franken were there for another term.

In the spring of 1934, Rev. Jacob Prins (1934-1938) was the pastor. In 1938, the Seventy-Fifth Anniversary of the church was celebrated. "The House of Light," a pageant written by Sara Gosselink, a daughter of the church, was presented. Remodeling of the sanctuary and finishing of the basement was proposed during the Prins tenure, and the jobs were completed while Rev. Richard J. Vanden Berg was the minister. Rev. Vanden Berg (1939-1945) served the church during the Second World War.

Rev. Edward H. Tanis (1947-1955) inaugurated the Family Night program for fellowship and inspiration. The practice, along with the dinner ahead of time, continues to this day. Another remodeling project was undertaken which added to the usefulness of the church building.

For a church which had a long history of providing fine music for its congregation and the community, Dr. Thomas Boslooper (1955-1960) became a special person. An outstanding singer, he shared his talent unselfishly. In 1960, the Women's Mission Guild was formed. The purpose was to unite all women of the church, which would serve to deepen the spiritual life of each member.

As in times past, it was necessary at this time to do major repairs on the church pipe organ. These were done as a gift from the P.H. Kuyper family in memory of A.P. Kuyper, who served as choir director beginning in 1896 and master organist from 1909 to 1935. His son, Jean M.M. Kuyper, and daughter-in-law Joyce Huibregtse Kuyper (Mrs. H.H.), played for the congregation for many years. The tradition of excellent music has been carried on by countless members of Second Church, notably: Edith Sedrel LeCocq (Mrs. Ed); Professor Lawrence Grooters; and Dr. David Folkerts. Dr. Folkerts completed 20 years of service to the church in 1987.

During the tenure of Rev. Harmon Wierenga (1961-1968), Second Church celebrated its centennial year. Included in the plans was the establishment of a Central College Scholarship in the amount of $9,000. In addition to this scholarship, there has been a very strong tie between Second Church and Central both physically and financially. Second Church has always done its part in supporting the Reformed Church educational programs and the general programs of the denomination. In 1967, the congregation moved into the present church building.

Rev. Armand Renskers (1968-1975) and his family moved into the new parsonage on North Broadway. Edna Den Hartog (1971-1975) became our Director of Christian Education, the Christian Opportunity Center

began its work using our facilities, Second Church entered into an outreach program with Our Saviour's Reformed Church of Denver, Colo., the organ was revamped, a van was purchased to provide transportation for members, and Bette Brunsting was elected the first woman member of the consistory. Through a gift from the will of Anne Tyseseling, a long-time member of the congregation who contributed much to the musical program of the church and community through her work in the public school system, bells were purchased, making a bell choir at Second Church a reality. Additional purchases have been made, thanks to the generosity of other members.

Rev. John Walchenbach (1975-1977) was the pastor when Rev. Richard J. Lichti became our Minister of Christian Education. During this period, the church undertook the sponsorship of a Vietnamese family and installed the large memorial stained-glass windows from the second building in the fellowship hall of the new church. The original baptismal font and collection bags were given to the Pella Historical Society to be used in the replica of the Scholte Church, and stained-glass windows from the second church building were presented to St. Mary's Catholic Church in Pella to be incorporated into their new edifice.

A number of special programs were begun with the object of helping the members of Second Church keep in touch with one another while Rev. William Hillegonds (1978-1979) was the minister. A prayer chain was started, special aid was given to three students from Africa, and the Vong family joined our congregation. In Oct., 1979, the Bethel Bible Series was begun, a weekly preschool program was instituted, and evening services were discontinued.

The present pastor, Rev. Norman J. Schouten, formerly the minister of the outreach church in Denver, came in the fall of 1980. Additional emphasis on the concern for the elderly, new members, and college students was evidenced. Second Church cooperated with the food shelf program and local and missionary clothing projects. The welfare of the denomination is a chief concern, and Second Church is presently involved in a three-year program to raise money for the church building fund, specific missionary needs, and New Brunswick Theological Seminary. The youth, adult, and bell choirs continue to flourish, and members of the congregation have done volunteer work in Haiti and mission fields in the U.S. In 1986, new hymnals were purchased.

Following many years serving congregations in the U.S. and in Canada, Rev. and Mrs. Henry Franken retired in Pella. Rev. Franken accepted the responsibility of the Minister of Calling, a position he has held for a number of years. When Rev. Lichti resigned, Rev. James Clinfelter was called to be the Minister of Education in 1985. Within the past year, Robert L. Van Zante, a retired member of the congregation, was appointed Business Manager of the church. Plans are underway to celebrate the One Hundred and Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the church in 1988.

Five members of Second Church have gone into full-time ministry: Rev. Marion Gosselink and Rev. Marion Nollen, both deceased; Rev. Paul Tanis; Rev. Kent Frye; and Rev. John White. Presently four are studying for the ministry: David and Lori Morris at Western Theological Seminary; Dorothy Vanden Oever Toom, New Brunswick Theological Seminary; and Becky Collins, Union Theological Seminary. Rev. and Mrs. James Dunham are now members of the congregation. For many years they served as Reformed Church missionaries to Oman.

The red brick building on the corner of Liberty and Broadway, with its tall spire reaching upward, stands as a tribute to those early pioneers who came from The Netherlands. They remained true to their religious convictions, but were eager to adopt the language and customs of their new homeland. As Pella has grown and changed, so has the Second Reformed Church. It has become the church home for people of many backgrounds and denominations. All have joined together with a common purpose, "to glorify God."

by Jay Vermeer

FIRST CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
T72

Until 1866 there was no congregation of the Christian Reformed Church, or the True Dutch Reformed Church, as it was then called, in the Pella Colony, even though the denomination had come into being in Holland, Mich. Colony in 1857. Nevertheless, seeds of this denomination were already present in Pella's earliest years.

Although the colonists brought with them the various shades of religious opinion which had already characterized them in the homeland, at the very beginning all of the settlers of Pella were part of Scholte's Christian Church. This did not last long. In 1848, a small group of families began meeting separately. These were called the "Dordtsche Order," because they wished to hold to the ecclesiastical and theological views which had been so dear to them in The Netherlands, and which they had affirmed in the Secession of 1834 (the *Afscheiding*).

Although this group united with a group which had left the Scholte congregation and ultimately became the First Reformed Church in 1856, a unity of doctrine and practice did not exist.

In April, 1865, some members of the First Reformed Church requested help from the Classis of the Christian Reformed Church. For some reason it took a whole year for action to be taken. To Classis it was reported that these people in Pella "can no longer be united with the Dutch Reformed Church there." The Rev. D.J. Vander Werp was sent by Classis. On Thursday, Aug. 2, 1866 he met with twenty-two males who were interested in "the doctrine and paths of our godly fathers" — according to the consistory minutes. He explained the "basis or fundamental principles of the Reformed Church" (i.e., what a Reformed Church should be, according to Scriptures and the creeds). Forty-four signed the Articles of Secession, declaring themselves "to return to the doctrine, discipline and worship of the Reformed fathers in The Netherlands."

The following Sunday, Aug. 5, Elders Jan vande Berge, Adriaan Nultenbok and Deacons P. Gaass and L. van der Meer were chosen after "fifty members and a few others who placed themselves under the supervision and discipline" of the church were organized as a congregation. This took place at the home of Wopke deHaan (1212 Washington). One week later, on Aug. 12, the consistory was ordained, the charter members were confirmed, and the sacraments were administered. Thus, this congregation was born. It was the second congregation west of Lake Michigan; one was organized in South Holland, Ill. in 1865.

Rev. Van der Werp soon departed and the consistory went to work seeking a minister and working toward a church building. On Sept. 29, the congregation decided to purchase "the one-half lot belonging to Stegeman . . . for . . . $110" where they could build a church for $1045, plus the cost of the lathwork, plastering, and foundation. It would be 35 by 40 feet. Meanwhile, the

The old First Christian Reformed Church was built on a one-half lot from Stegeman for $110, the building beginning after Sept., 1865.

First Christian Reformed Church West 2nd & Liberty 1987.

congregation was meeting for worship above H. Van Maren's blacksmith shop (613 Main).

The first twenty years of the church's history were not very peaceful. While the consistory had tried to get a minister which would adequately reflect their theological position, they were not successful. Because they had been assured that the Rev. Henry Ralph Koopman "had always opposed Dominie Brummelkamp's trends of thought and erroneous doctrine (*Minutes*, Dec. 24, 1866), "they extended a call to him in 1867, at $600 per year, housing and free stove wood. For many years the minister's salary was paid by means of the pew rent collected from the membership. Incidentally, the seats were chosen by lot! After several calls and a raise to $800, he accepted, and was installed on Oct. 27, 1867. During the long period of being without an undershepherd the work of the congregation had continued. They showed mercy by collecting for the needy congregation at Noordeloos, Mich. (According to the consistory minutes, such offerings for needy congregations have often been received in their history.) Unfaithful members were already surfacing, demanding the attention of the elders. On the other hand, there were joyful moments like Monday, Mar. 11, 1867, when Jan Tollenaar and his wife made profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

At first, under Koopman, the congregation began to grow from local people who were now drawn to the seceeders, from immigrants just arriving from the old country, and from newer settlers who came from other Christian Reformed churches already in existence, the first of these noted in the minutes of Nov. 4, 1867, being the Huibert Van Stennis family from Grand Haven, Mich. Koopman's fervent and experiential preaching was well-received. A fine two-story brick parsonage facing east was begun on the southwest corner of Liberty St. and Patience Ave. (now West Second St.) Catechism teaching at Amsterdam (the short-lived port of Pella along the Des Moines River) was begun by L. van der Meer in January, 1968. Soon discord developed. Schismatic meetings, as they were called by the consistory, were held by the minister with some of the congregation. In November, 1868, Koopman resigned, returning to the Reformed Church from which he had come.

After some months peace returned for a time. Candidate Jacob Noordewier, who had spent the summer of '68 as a student in Pella, was called unanimously. On Oct. 10, 1869, he began a fruitful, but short, ministry among God's people. Peace was restored and the strained relationships were healed. He, with Elder Nultenbok, went to Orange City in July 1871, to organize what is now the First Christian Reformed Church there. Very soon after that he left.

The Rev. Willem Coelingh was installed on Dec. 17, 1871, and remained until 1874. Rev. Coelingh was still very much attached to the church in The Netherlands, from which he had come to Pella. Within a year of his coming, the congregation declared that they were one with that body. This was understood as an act of secession, although the consistory denied it. This declaration set off a storm in the Christian Reformed Church. Finally the matter was settled. During his ministry the congregation grew and flourished.

After nineteen months of vacancy, during which there was some discussion about a possible Christian school, the congregation received another undershepherd, the Rev. Sietse Baron, on Aug. 13, 1876. During his years the first Sunday School was organized (Dec. 1877). Classes were held following the 2:30 P.M. service. When service times were changed to 11 A.M. and 6:30 P.M. (when catechism preaching was done), the Sunday school met at 9 a.m. To have a seat in the service cost five and one-half cents. Families sat together, but single men and single women sat in separate areas. Sad to say, however, the congregation did not prosper. Trouble struck again. Many consistory meetings were spent discussing the bickering and the accompanying financial woes. Finally, in 1881, Rev. Baron, who was already nearly 70 years old, sought emeritation.

After more than two years, Candidate Egbert Broene was ordained and installed as the fifth minister (1883). His moving bill from Grand Rapids totaled $91. Peace was restored and the congregation grew. In place of protests, the consistory turned its attention to professions of faith and restoration of former members. The church building became too small. In 1886, 29 feet were added to the existing building at a cost of $1038.25. To enhance worship an organ was donated by Jacob Van Donselaar. During his ministry, which ended in 1886, the congregation officially changed their name to the "Holland Christian Reformed Church."

The year 1887 brought a new minister, Candidate Johannes B. Hoekstra. He was to receive $700 per year "if possible." His ministry at Pella I, which ended in 1891, was characterized by great blessing. Peace prevailed. Many made professions of faith and the church grew. The first son of Pella I to enter the ministry, Dirk Vander Ploeg (1866-1919), received a consistorial recommendation during his ministry. Before Rev. Hoekstra left, horse barns had been built on the north and east sides of the church property.

The Rev. Jacob Manni came in 1892 to 132 families, 661 souls, and served until 1897. Again, growth was seen in the congregation. His years of service saw the organization of daughter congregations at Leighton (1893), Peoria (1894) and Sully (1896). Also, the Second Church of Pella came into being. Redecorating of the church took place in these years, but perhaps most significant was the discussion to replace the kerosene lighting with electric lights.

The Rev. John Keizer arrived in July 1898. The congregation continued to grow so that when he left after less than four years (Apr., 1902) there were 153 families and 700 souls. Consequently, the church building was inadequate. Within a year of his coming it was decided to enlarge the church, adding on so that the main entrance was no longer on Liberty St., but on the west in a bell tower. At this time it was still the practice for male and female members to be seated separately for worship. Also, the consistory decided (Sept. 4, 1899) that a "coffin is not to be placed within the church in front of the pulpit platform" during a funeral.

After six months of vacancy the Rev. John Timmerman came in Oct., 1902. His ministry was cut short when he left to teach at the Seminary of Dubuque in the summer of 1904. August, 1903, brought consistory discussion about "a mission outreach in this area." It was even discussed as to how this could be funded.

In Apr., 1905, the Rev. Tiede Van der Ark became the tenth minister of this congregation. The old brick parsonage, almost 40 years old, was deemed unsatisfactory and was replaced by a fine frame building on the same location. The consistory minutes of Apr., 1906 show that the vision for Christian education had not been lost, but apparently much discussion had to be done before a school would be a reality. Mar. of 1910 again found the congregation shepherdless.

Pella I welcomed their new minister, the Rev. Cornelius DeLeeuw, the end of July, 1910. His years of ministry were filled with blessing and trial. World War I brought regulations which affected congregational life. The Dutch language could not be used in public meetings. The year 1918 also brought the flu epidemic with its sorrow and death. Services and meetings were cancelled.

But there were joys, too. Many made profession of faith. The Christian School was finally organized. A concern for missions was developing within the congregation. At the same time, there was concern for the beauty of worship because a fine pipe organ was installed. In 1916, the congregation rejoiced in God's blessing for 50 years with an all day program in West Market Park including seven addresses.

The year 1919 bought the change of ministers again. DeLeeuw left and in his place came the Rev. John DeHaan, Sr. Because this new minister was so popular with members and outsiders alike, and because so many were attending the services, the church building was enlarged again. By 1922, there were 210 families, 950 souls. During his ministry there was a gradual weaning from the Dutch language to the English, although Dutch would still be used until 1959. Also, a strong emphasis on missions developed. However, questions were raised about the doctrine and emphasis of the minister, and a long and difficult battle developed. Some families left for the Second Church during this difficult time. After ten years, DeHaan said farewell to Pella I (1929).

Before the year was past, Candidate Ralph J. Danhof accepted Pella's call. He had just completed his doctoral studies at the Free University of Amsterdam. From 1929 until 1934, Dr. Danhof's ministry was a great blessing to the congregation. The year1930 brought the first printed bulletins. In 1933, it was decided that only one of three services on the Lord's Day would be in Dutch — the afternoon service.

The Rev. Frank DeJong took up the tasks of Pella I when Dr. Danhof departed. Under his enthusiastic leadership, missionary zeal grew. The Newton congregation was organized and Pella I contributed to the work on the Indian mission field. It was no surprise that Rev. De Jong accepted a call (1938) to be Home Missionary in California. During his ministry the common communion cup was replaced with the individual cups (1938).

Early in 1939, the Rev. John Vander Ploeg became the fifteenth minister. When he left in 1944 there were 224 families, 825 souls. The Second World War brought new responsibilities and trial for the congregation as the saw many of their young men go to war. During his years of service the congregation said farewell to their old and beloved place of worship. The last service in the much-remodeled and added-on-to building took place on Aug. 16, 1942. It was replaced with an elegant and worshipful edifice built in the English Tudor Gothic style, costing approximately $60,000. Rev. Vander Ploeg was also happy that he had a hand in the establishment of the Pella Christian High School early in his ministry.

The Rev. Simon Vroon served from Apr., 1945 until July, 1952. Under his leadership, mission work was instituted at Olivet and society life within the congregation flourished. In 1947, it was approved to place a bell in the tower of the church. The year before it had been approved to place chimes in the same tower in memory of the servicemen. Neither decisions was ever implemented, sad to say. The possibility of air conditioning the church was discussed in 1950. It took another 25 years for this to be a reality. In 1951, $1000 was pledged for a new church at Des Moines and the congregation also approved a new parsonage, costing $24,700. When Rev. Vroon left Pella, the congregation numbered 270 families, 1019 souls.

Dr. Peter Y. DeJong came to Pella from missionary work in India in Dec., 1953. Pella I became the calling church for the mission work at Oklahoma City — a work now being done by the Orthodox Presbyterian Church. Mission work in Albia, Ia. was also approved. A third church, now Calvary, was begun in 1955. In the meantime, there was much discussion about the new parsonage. It was too small. Besides, the church building was not large enough. By 1955, the congregation had grown to 294 families, 1173 souls. In 1959, the long-held Dutch services were discontinued.

Five months after Dr. DeJong accepted the call of Hamiliton, Ontario, the Rev. John DeKruyter was installed. Very soon after his coming, the church was expanded with an addition costing $115,000. Within three years Rev. DeKruyter accepted a call to Grand Rapids.

Six months later (1964) the Rev. John H. Piersma was installed as the nineteenth minister of this old congregation. Again, society life flourished and the Lord's blessing was evident. During his ministry the congregation celebrated 100 years of God's blessing with a banquet and commemorative worship services. Because of this anniversary and because of Pella I's significance in the history of the Christian Reformed Church, the Synod of 1966 was held at Pella. In their centennial year, the congregation numbered 260 families, 1031 souls. In 1969, Rev. Piersma moved on to serve in the Chicago area.

During the ensuing vacancy a fine 29 rank Casavant organ was installed in the balcony and dedicated on Thanksgiving Day, 1969. At the time, it cost $40,000. Today it would be worth five times the cost. It replaced the Hinner organ installed in the early 1900's and rebuilt in 1941.

The Rev. Richard Venema was installed in July, 1970. He remained until Jan., 1975. During his ministry the congregation continued to grow until when he left it numbered 288 families, 1073 souls. In 1974, the broadcast of all the worship services began over the local radio station, KTAV. These broadcasts are still a blessing to shut-ins and others, alike. Under Rev. Venema's leadership mission work began at Dallas, Tex.

June, 1975 brought the twenty-first minister to Pella I, the Rev. Jerome Julien. During his ministry the church finally received air-conditioning — something that had been discussed for many years. Pella I again proved to be a "Mother of Many" when the Dallas, Tex. work was organized as a congregation in 1978. Music had long been important in Pella I. It continued to be as handbells were added to the instruments used for worship. One of the faithful organists, Mrs. Leona Ver Meer, was honored during these years for having led the congregation in song for 50 years. She still actively participates in the worship services. Ten more years have been added to her service. Rev. Julien served until Sept., 1981.

December of that same year brought minister number twenty-two, the energetic Rev. John Sittema. During his ministry the congregation remains very faithful in attending the worship services — something that has always characterized the congregation, but rather unusual in the 1980s. They continue to worship in their beautiful building which has recently been refurbished and made even more serviceable with a large narthex and practical elevator. This latest work has cost more than $106,000.

Her years have been many; God's blessing has been abundant. By God's grace Pella I continues to stand for the principles on which she was founded.

Lead on, O King Eternal!

by Rev. Jerome M. Julien

BETHEL REFORMED CHURCH

T73

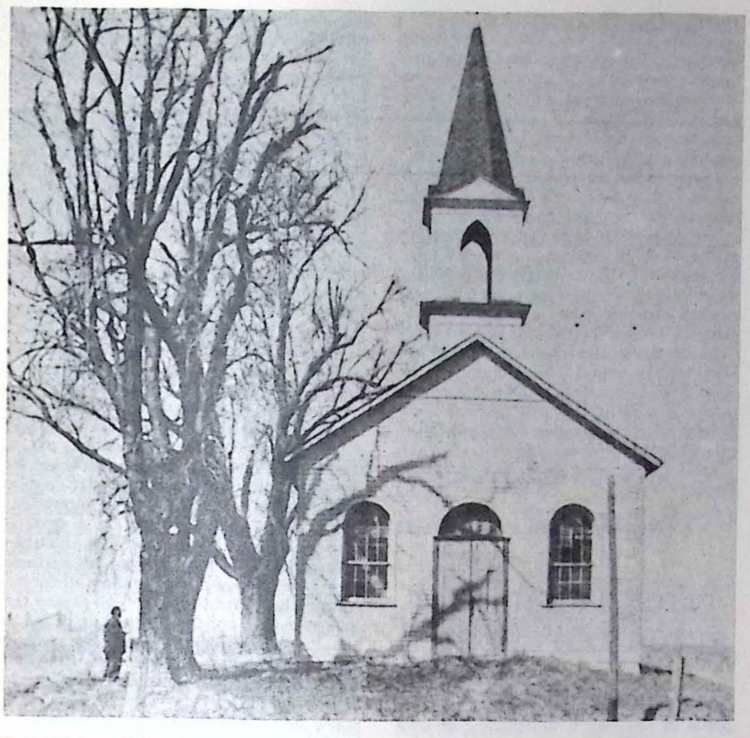
On the 28th of May, 1866, three men, members of the First Reformed Church, reported that they were having Christian meetings for a group of people living some distance from town on the Skunk River. They did not want to separate from the fellowship of First Church; consequently they came asking for approval of the church on this work. When they were assured of the good will and favor of the church, they asked for help in building a meeting place for them. On June 18, 1866 a committee of the consistory of First Church was appointed to attend a meeting to prepare plans to build a church on the Skunk River. On July 2 they reported that agreement was reached regarding a site for the church. One of the members had given a plot of land for the purpose. A church was built five or six miles northwest of Pella and still in 1866, a congregation was organized. The church was named the Bethel Reformed Church. This congregation carried the Christian banner for more than 70 years until some years after the automobile made transportation easy enough for people to come to the city churches.

[Used by permission from Mrs. Henry T. Rozendaal, wife of the author of *Heralds of Truth* the late Rev. Henry T. Rozendaal.]

The church was razed about 1948 by Dan Dingeman and the parsonage which had stood to the south of the church was moved in 1934 about 1/2 mile to the south, on the east side of the road. Fixtures in the church were auctioned. The foundation stones were used in 1955 by Lloyd and Nola Vander Streek as a retaining wall for their patio when they built a new home on Northwest Drive. The name of Bethel lives on in the First Reformed Church where there is still a Bethel Circle in the women's organization.

The last official use of the church was in the summer of 1946 when it was used for a Bible School sponsored by Rev. Van Dellen. The floor caved in under the weight of the children and some who fell into the rubble had to crawl out through a coal chute.

by Murt Kooi



Bethel Reformed Church

THIRD REFORMED CHURCH

T74

When Pella was still a young community, Third Church was organized. On Nov. 5, 1868, 26 communicants and 75 baptized members came from First Church to begin a new congregation. All services were in the Dutch language.

The first minister was Rev. K.F. Weiland who began his ministry in 1870. Until 1870 the congregation had been meeting in a small stone church building located on the present site of Webster Elementary School. Soon after the new minister's arrival in 1870, a frame church built by the Methodists was purchased by Third Church. The distinguishing mark of that building was the rooster weather vane atop its steeple to remind the people of the sin of denying Christ as Peter had done. Horse hitches and a horse barn were provided.

Third Church felt its responsibilities to denominational benevolences. Money was made annually at an interesting auction of church pews, some of which brought as much as fifteen dollars. The minister would serve as auctioneer. At the turn of the century this practice was abandoned.

Rev. Weiland's ministry continued to 1875 when he left and was replaced by Rev. Zubli, a Presbyterian, hired for one year by the consistory. His ministry lasted less than a year, and in 1876 Rev. F. Rederus came to serve as pastor.

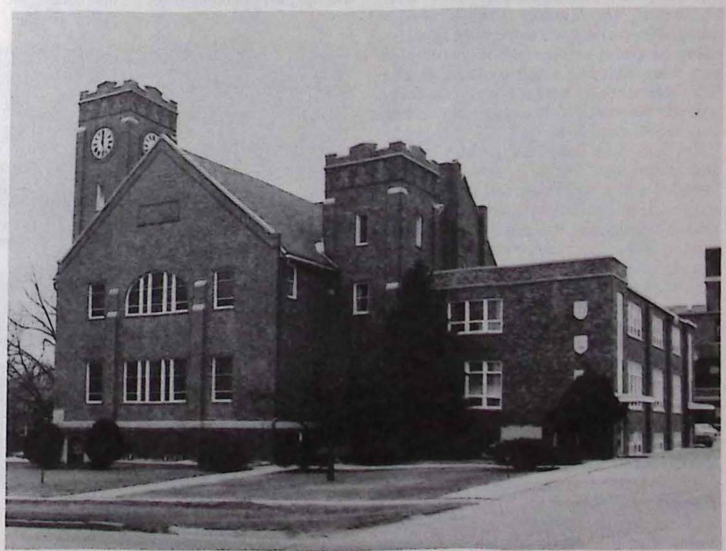
On Sunday the rural families would come to church in the morning, bring their basket dinners with them, and eat together in the church between the morning and afternoon services. Consistory had made a rule against smoking in 1874, but spittoons were provided within the church sanctuary for those who chewed!

Dutch Psalms were sung by the congregation but no special music was ever to be part of the worship. If worshippers became tired during the long sermons, they could stand up for awhile.

Rev. Rederus died in 1886 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. He was followed by Rev. Jan Smit who came in 1886 and served until 1892. A parsonage was purchased for $200 during Smit's years and was located at the corner of West First and Independence Streets.

Rev. H. Douwstra was installed as the new pastor in 1894 and stayed until 1901. During this period the church was prosperous with new members and better financial situations.

Soon after Rev. K.F. Wieland arrived as minister in 1870, Third Reformed Church bought this frame building from the Methodist Church. Note the rooster on the steeple which gave the nickname of the "rooster church". The rooster now is on the steeple of the replica of Scholte's Church in the Historical Village.



The new Third Reformed Church was built 1916-1917 and is known as "the church with the clock in the tower."

The church building was enlarged during this time.

The growth of the church was continued when Rev. H.J. Pietenpol became their minister in 1902. Both the church and the parsonage were enlarged, the mission program was expanded, and a real innovation occured with the purchase of English hymnbooks for the Sunday School. Much of the teaching was still done in Dutch. Pietenpol's ministry concluded in 1908 after which Rev. P.A. Bauma began his work with Third Church. Bauma left in 1911 and Rev. William Beckering was then installed. Rev. Beckering's ministry lasted until 1915 when he died.

Two calls were issued to Rev. P. Braak in 1916, and during his ministry the church continued its growth seen with the previous ministers. During this time it was decided to build a new church which would cost approximately $30,000. The entire amount was covered by pledged subscriptions. The cornerstone was laid Nov. 10, 1916. The church had 160 families, 335 communicants, and 400 baptized members. Seating capacity for the new church was 600. The committee decided to install a clock in the tower. The new church was formally dedicated May 24, 1917, with a Holland service in the afternoon and an English service in the evening. The pipe organ that had been in their old church since Rev. Beckering's ministry was moved into the new church where it remained until 1946. Rev. Braak served Third Church more than three years after the completion of the new building. He left late in 1920.

In 1921 Rev. George Hankamp accepted a call. At this time it was decided to have one evening a month devoted to an English service. Daytime English services were reached reluctantly. Finally in 1925 a decision was reached to have English services on Sunday afternoons. Rev. Hankamp left in 1925 to become a professor at the local college.

Installation for the Rev. Gerrit Menning who accepted a call, was in 1926. Soon after his arrival, the Sunday English service changed from afternoon to morning. Modern collection plates and individual communion cups were added at this time. Also during Rev. Menning's ministry, a new parsonage was purchased at 510 Broadway. Rev. Menning served until 1942.

Rev. L.J. Borst began his ministry in 1942 and stayed until 1952. A new organ was installed and many other physical changes were made in the church structure during this time. The basement was dug deeper to make a large fellowship room. Spiritual progress was also made with ministry to shut-ins; the consistory was enlarged to ten elders and ten deacons. New organizations were created.

Rev. Russell Redeker served Third Church from 1952 to 1957 and in addition to many women's groups, an active Men's Brotherhood was organized. During this period Trinity Church of Pella was formed, and Third church assumed support to the amount of $25,000, and a number of church families united with the new congregation. Third Church also built a new educational unit and did the repointing of the older part of the building. New hymnals were purchased, new pulpit furniture was added, and a secretary was hired for the first time. Rev. Redeker resigned to become assistant to the president of Central College, concluding his ministry at Third.

On May 4, 1957, Rev. Wilbur Ringnalda was extended a call which he accepted and the church continued its growth. Rev. Gerrit Menning came to assist as minister of calling and teaching. Stewardship became an important part of the church and many new organizations flourished. Rev. Ralph Vander Pol came to fill the position of minister of calling and teaching when Rev. Menning resigned. Rev. Ringnalda served until 1965.

Rev. John Benes came to Third Church in 1965 and served until his death in 1968. He was assisted by Rev. Vander Pol and Rev. Peter DeJong. The parsonage was improved, as was the fellowship hall, and the educational unit. The church celebrated its centennial.

On Jan. 9, 1969, Rev. Kenneth Dykstra was installed. He served Third Church for 11 years when he accepted a call to Minnesota in 1980. After being vacant for two years, Rev. Delmar Thiesse accepted a call and is the present pastor of Third Church.

Edited from an article by Wilma Vander Werff.

by Mrs. Wilma Vander Werff

PEORIA CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

T75

The small Holland settlement of Pella begun in 1847 by Rev. Scholte had been growing rapidly. Farm land was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain. Consequently the early settlers began purchasing land "over the river." The Hollanders felt the distance to Pella to be prohibitive because of the bad roads and the fact that travel had to be made by horse and buggy.

In 1893 meetings were begun in a schoolhouse five miles northeast of Pella. By the fall of 1893 a meeting was held in the town hall for the purpose of organizing a new congregation. At this meeting representatives were present from the Reformed and Christian Reformed denominations. A vote was taken and it was decided to organize a Christian Reformed Church.

On Apr. 11, 1894, the church was officially organized. Seventeen families presented their credentials. Also present were 12 individuals who presented their credentials. The first three elders chosen were Frederick Grootnibbelink, R. Van Heukelom, and G. Van Gorp. The three deacons were Pieter Rus, C. Kloosterman, and Stoffel Grootnibbelink. The congregation decided to call itself the Holland Christian Reformed Church of Peoria, Ia. The congregation met for worship in the township hall.

Two acres of ground were soon purchased for $185. These grounds are still the site of the church property. On the 10th of July a congregational meeting was held and it was decided to build a church building 36 ft. long and 32 ft. wide with a seating capacity of 150. It was also decided to build a parsonage for the minister. For the protection of the horses which brought people to church horse stalls were built and rented for $4.00 per year.

The first pastor called was Rev. J. Groen from Zeeland, Mich. However, he declined the call. Rev. S. Broekstra, a candidate for the ministry, had conducted services during the summer months and the call was extended to him. It was interesting to note every single person voted for him. He was ordained in Oct. of 1894. The year of 1894 was a year of severe drought and the harvest was very poor. Many prayer meetings were held beseeching the Lord to send rain.

By Dec. of 1894 the new building was completed and dedicated to the service of the Lord. Sadness however again appeared with the death of Rev. Broekstra in March, 1897. It is believed he suffered from a ruptured appendix. At the age of 45 and after only 2½ years of service he was buried in the Pella Cemetery.

Various pastors followed which are listed at the end of this article. During the pastorate

Peoria Christian Reformed Church

of Rev. Jonker it was decided to enlarge the building by adding 20 feet to the west side. Further progress was seen when on Mar. 16, 1904, it was decided to have a "Holland School" for two months during the summer. This led to the organization of a full time Christian School in Peoria.

During the pastorate of Rev. A.J. Brink the church was again enlarged, this time on the north side. In May, 1914, the machine age struck Peoria. Rev. Bultema reported that the ponies used by the pastor were old and could no longer serve acceptably, so the automobile was introduced.

During the pastorate of Rev. Weersing much happened. On Dec. 15, 1916, the new parsonage which had just been built and was nearly ready to be occupied caught fire due to a faulty furnace and was completely destroyed. The loss was $3500. Within two weeks the sum of $4100 was collected for a new parsonage which stood until 1982.

On Apr. 7, 1917, our nation became involved in the First World War. Rather unjustly, the Dutch people were identified with the German nation, and were accused of lacking love for their adopted country. Governor Harding issued a proclamation that no foreign language was to be spoken in a public building and at this time officials would appear in church checking to see if the Dutch language was being spoken. This was a real hardship as many of the people understood very little English. Feelings ran so high that Rev. Weersing received threats against his life and was forced to leave the community. The Christian School was also under attack.

On June 14, 1918, a mother up with a sick child spotted flames on the horizon. Sparks from the school which had been deliberately set on fire also spread to the nearby church building. Both the school and the church were completely leveled by the flames. Older people still recall the frantic ringing of the church bell and the fear which caused all the Dutch people to evacuate the town that night.

There was difficulty obtaining proper building materials due to the war so it was decided to use one of the horse barns for a meeting place. Throughout the winter of 1918-1919 the congregation met in the horse barn and still experienced the Lord's blessing.

During the year 1919 the new church was built. It was decided to have one English service on the third Sunday afternoon of each month. In July of 1929 a used pipe organ was purchased. The year of 1942 was a time of rejoicing for all the indebtedness on the school, church, and parsonage had been payed. Also this year it was decided to discontinue the Dutch language entirely in the services. The minister's salary in 1944 was $2000. A new pipe organ was purchased in 1951. Evening services were begun during the months of June, July, and August, of 1955. In 1956 a Sunday School was organized.

In 1958 the congregation decided to have evening services for nine months. In June of 1962 the congregation decided to add three classrooms on the east side of the church and to remodel the southeast entrance to the auditorium. This was done to add more room for the societies and Sunday School classes to meet. Later the west entrance to the church was also remodeled to accommodate the handicapped. A new roof was placed on the church in 1986.

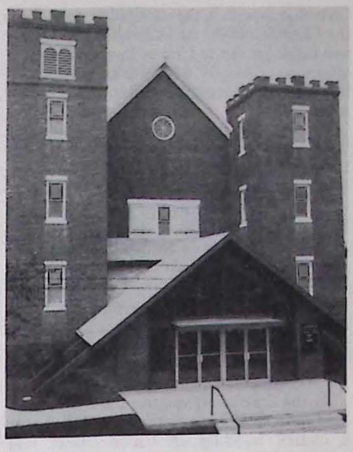
Today the church has 100 families with 238 professing members. From the church many have been called to a special kingdom work, some as pastors, missionaries, and teachers. As we approach our 100th birthday we are truly thankful for the many blessings and God's faithfulness in spite of the many difficulties. We trust that our church may ever be a shining light in this community and be His witness as long as He tarries.

The following ministers have served our church: The Reverends S. Brokstra, 1894-1897; G. Westenberg, 1897-1901; P. Jonker, Sr., 1901-1907; A.J. Brink, 1908-1911; H. Bultema, 1912-1916; J.J. Weersing, 1916-1918; P. Van Dyke, 1919-1921; D.H. Kromenga, 1922-1926; M. Vander Werp, 1928-1932; J. Weidenaar, 1932-1936; D.J. Hoitenga, 1937-1943; R.H. De Haan, 1943-1945; J.S. Mulder, 1946-1950; H. Verduin, 1953-1959; D. Vander Wal, 1959-1962; D.J. Van Beek, 1962-1966; D.J. Drost, 1968-1973; P. Van Drunen, 1973-1982; and our present pastor R. Bouwkamp came to serve us in 1983.

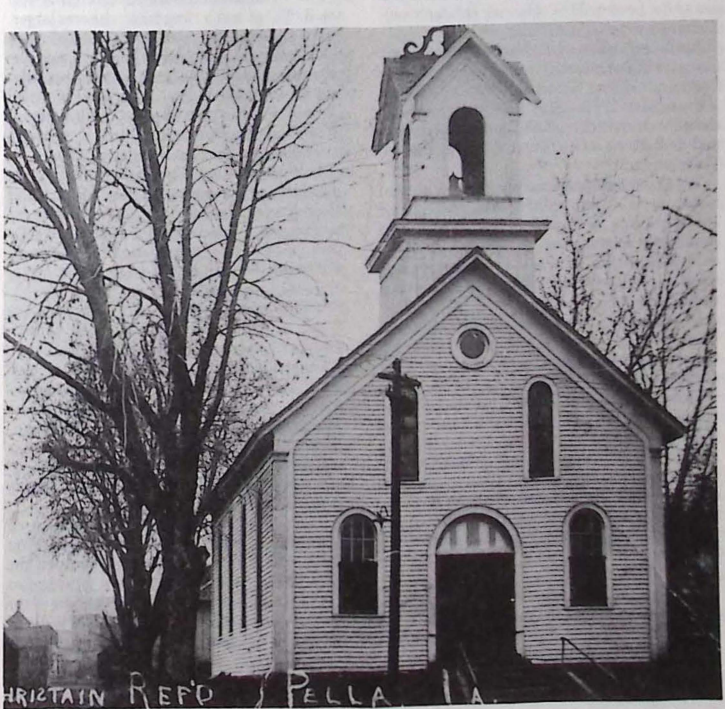
by Dorothy Van Kooten

SECOND CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
T76

In the year 1847 Dr. Hendrick Scholte, with a band of some 800 followers, came to the Pella Community where the Pella Colony was founded and the "Scholte" Church was established. This church remained independent for some time before joining the Presbyterian Church. The Dutch colonists did not feel a kinship with an English American – speaking church and soon left the Presbyterian Church. They requested, and were granted permission, to unite with the Reformed Church in America. They became known at this time as the Fourth Reformed Church of Pella. In 1896 Rev. R. Vande Kieft, an evangelist and religious instructor from the Netherlands, arrived in Pella and was engaged to lead the worship services. Since they no longer felt at home in the Reformed



This new edifice was built in 1925 as the home for Second Christian Reformed Church.



This church building on Union St. was purchased from the Presbyterian Church and was the first church home of the Second Reformed Church.

Church in America, they desired to unite with the Christian Reformed Church. This desire was made known to Classis Iowa and on the afternoon of Aug. 17, 1897, our church had its birth. We numbered 22 families, a total of 109 souls.

From 1898-1986 we have enjoyed the Ministry of 15 different pastors: Rev. R. Vande Keift, 1898-1907; Rev. E. Vander Berge, 1908-1911; Rev. I. Fles, 1911-1915; Rev. G.G. Haan, 1915-1921; Rev. H. Walkotten, 1921-1925; Rev. D. Hollebeek, 1925-1933; Rev. M. Monsma, 1934-1943; Rev. T. Verhulst, 1943-1948; Rev. H. Vander Kam, 1950-1955; Rev. L. Van Laar, 1956-1961; Rev. B.T. Haan, 1961-1964; Rev. A. Zylstra, 1965-1970; Rev. H. Petersen, 1972-1980; Rev. B. Leiter, 1980-1984; Rev. P. Hoekstra, 1985- .

Highlights of our 88 – year history include the following:

At the time of organization, services were held for a short time in the City Hall. Later a church building on Union Street was purchased from the Presbyterian Church which became the first church home of our congregation.

Awakening of a need for Christian Education occurred during the tenure 1911-1915. A new church was erected in 1925 and a new parsonage in 1926. Our congregation passed the one-hundred-family mark during the ministry of Rev. Monsma – 1934-1943. We celebrated our Golden Anniversary with fitting celebration in 1948.

Remodeling of our church basement took place in Oct. of 1950.

1953 showed that we had hit a peak year in our history with 180 families in our church membership.

In 1954 we called and supported an associate pastor. Rev. Harold Bossenbroek remained with us until May of 1965.

April 1960 showed a change to the front entrance of our church – removing all outside steps and adding classrooms.

From May 1967 – May 1968 we remodeled the church chancel, adding more classrooms and dedicating a new Three Manual Electro Voice organ.

We extended a call to Rev. Wm. Van Tol to be our missionary to Nigeria. In Sept. of 1967, he was ordained in our church in impressive ceremonies.

In Dec. of 1977 we began broadcasting our church services over KXJX radio continuing until early 1986.

In Oct. of 1981 we began construction of a new parsonage at a new location on Union St. Open house was held upon completion in the spring of 1982.

December of 1981 showed us installing a new chair lift for use of the handicapped and elderly.

It was evident that our church needed new windows and in July of 1984 all new windows were installed throughout the church.

During 1986 we once again made plans to purchase a new organ. At this time a Dobson Pipe Organ is being made especially for our church.

January 1987 shows a total of 133 families on our membership roll. Together, with God's help, we take courage and with uplifted heart, willing hands, and the eye of faith, press on, holding fast that which we now have and have had for the past 88 years.

by Dena Bokhoven

PELLA PROTESTANT REFORMED CHURCH

T77

Pella Protestant Reformed Church, 410 Franklin St. in Pella.

The Pella Protestant Reformed Church dates from the year 1927, when it was organized as a small church of some eight families.

The Protestant Reformed Church did not grow as a daughter church from one of the Christian Reformed or Reformed Churches, but came into being due to a doctrinal question concerning the particularity or generality of grace – whether God shows a non-saving grace to those whom He does not save in elective love.

The charter members of the Protestant Reformed Church came from both the Reformed Churches and from the Christian Reformed Churches.

The Protestant Reformed Church is still small. There was a time when she was larger, but a renewed doctrinal conflict disturbed the Protestant Reformed Churches, and the result was that there were some members who left and rejoined the Christian Reformed Church. For the past 30 years the Protestant Reformed Church continued intact, although it remained a very small congregation.

The original church property in Pella is situated on the corner of Peace Street and Main Street. For the past years the present building is located at 410 Franklin St. The parsonage of the congregation used to be at 609 Peace St.; today it is a somewhat better house situated at 1314 Main St.

Those who have served to minister the Word in the Protestant Reformed Church are: Rev. Leonard Vermeer (1929-1931), Rev. HermanVeldman (1932-1936), Rev. George C. Lubbers (1937-1944), Rev. Leonard Vermeer – a second time (1945-1948), Rev. Martin Gritters (1948-1953), Rev. Dale Kuiper (1970-1974), Rev. George C. Lubbers – a second time (1975-1978), Rev. Rodney Miersma (1978-1980), and Rev. George Lanting (1981-1986).

The Pella Protestant Reformed Church has been in existence since before the first Tulip Time Festival. She lived through the time of the Second World War. It was most disturbing for the Pella Church to hear of the bombing of the United States fleet in Pearl Harbor. That was eventful and earth-shaking news on the Sunday afternoon when the radio announced the bombing. It was then also that the young men in the Pella Protestant Reformed Church were called to the colors.

by Catherine Vander Wiel

CHURCH OF THE OPEN BIBLE

T78

Church of the Open Bible has served the community of Pella for 55 years as the result of revival services held at the local Legion Hall by Reverend John R. Richey.

In Feb., 1931, Mrs. Clarence Truitt was conducting regular scheduled services at the Polk County jail in Des Moines, Ia. She met a man who was incarcerated for a crime which drew a penalty of not less that 15 years imprisonment. This man was from Pella, Iowa. A burden of prayer was laid upon the hearts of these jail workers for this man. In less than a week prayer was answered. His lawyer and other legal advisors said there was too much evidence against him, and he must reconcile himself to pay the penalty of the law.

As a result of this definite answer to prayer the Truitts became concerned about a gospel work in Pella. Accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Williams they motored to Pella and procured the Legion Hall for services. Before entering on this initial trip they halted just outside the city limits and asked God to open the way.

On Saturday evening, June 4, 1932, the first service was held. Several Des Moines friends were present, but less than 20 local people were in attendance. Rev. John Richey delivered the opening message. From the opening service to the following Wednesday there were no evident results. On Thursday afternoon there was a prayer meeting and those involved prayed and marched around the walls seven times, as Joshua and the Children of Israel did. That night eight precious souls made a decision for Christ.

In the following two years more than 200 decisions were recorded. Fifty of this number followed Our Lord in water baptism. Attendance gained until many times three or four hundred were in attendance at the hall. The first water baptismal service was held at the Des Moines River with about 800 people gathered to witness this impressive service. About 1,500 were present at the baptismal service the following year.

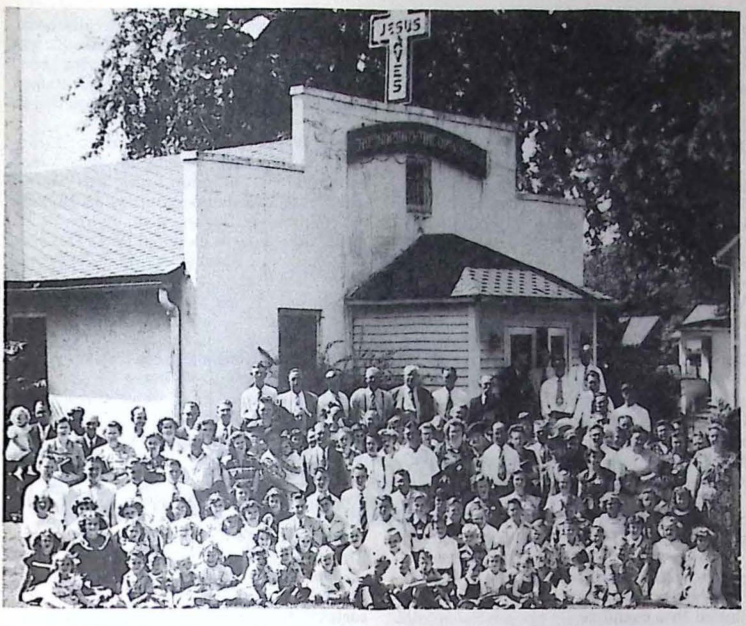
The church was organized on June 4, 1933. Mildred and Lillian Nelson came to assist the Truitts and Williams in their newly – established work.

An old store building which was located where the post office now stands served as the first church building and parsonage. The Truitts with their daughter Edith lived in a small 10 x 12 room on the side of this building. In 1934 Rev. Paul Rippee came to be pastor. In 1935 shortly after Rev. and Mrs. Lester Pease came as pastors, the challenge of building a church was very evident.

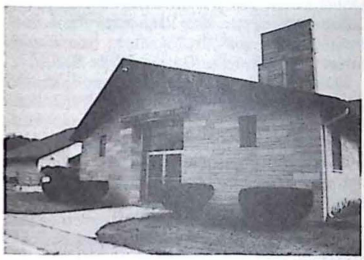
Though these were depression years Rev. Pease would not permit his spirit to be dampened. He found a beautiful lot on which the present church now stands. The lot was purchased and one with a liberal heart made available a loan to further the progress of the church. Rev. Pease secured a spade and started digging footings. The basement was dug with horses and a slip scraper. Men working at the factories would come at 4 o'clock in the morning until it was time to go to work and back again in the evening. The old church cost $800.00. On Thanksgiving

PELLA GOSPEL CHAPEL

T79



Church of the Open Bible Sunday School in 1951 or 1952.



Church of the Open Bible 1979.

Day 1935, the roof was put on and by Christmas the congregation was ready to move into their new church home. An apartment was built into the back of the church for the pastor. Most every family gave a week's wages to help with the building program.

During the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Theron Tousley in 1940 a full basement was dug and made under the church.

The mortage was paid off during the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Earl Lee in 1943.

In 1946, during the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Wright, a new parsonage was built next door to the church.

In 1947 an annex was built on the church during the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Charles Anderson.

During the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Cye Coller in 1955 the property adjoining the church to the east was purchased for $9,000.00.

Rev. and Mrs. Leo De Prenger became pastors in 1956. In the three years that followed various types of remodeling took place, especially giving the basement a most versatile change. New pulpit, communion table, piano, oak flooring, carpeting, etc. gave a new look to the sanctuary. In 1960 the big step of building a new church took place. The old church was dismantled, the house on the adjoining lot was moved, and on a volunteer basis the building of the new stone structure accomplished. Many hours of labor were involved. The cost of the new structure in its entirety was $35,000.00. The building was then valued at $75,000.00. Such accomplishments have been possible through the years because of capable leadership and dedicated laity working together to glorify and exalt "His Blessed Name."

In 1979 and 1980 the church underwent remodeling and expansion due to a growing congregation. An addition was added to accommodate the increasing membership. Rev. Laverne and Mrs. Hill served the church as pastors at the time of this expansion program.

In 1975 acquisition was made of property at 808 West First, a house to be used as a parsonage for the Assistant Pastor or Youth Pastor.

The church has been blessed by the ministry and leadership of the following pastors:

Clarence Truitt, 1932; Paul Rippee, 1934; Lester Pease, 1935; Orval Lelacheur, 1937; George Vawters, 1939; Theron Tousley, 1940; Dad Smith, 1943; Abraham Lee, 1943; William Christoplus, 1944; Charles Wright, 1946; Lester Pease, 1946; Charles Anderson, 1947; John Groen, 1952; Cye Coller, 1953; Leo DePrenger, 1956; David Sutton, 1962; Tom Eakes, 1970; Laverne Hill, 1973; Curtis L. Arne, 1981; David M. Rogers, 1983 – present.

Out of the congregation through the years many Christian Leaders have come forth. It is the desire of the Church of the Open Bible to continue to be a refuge for sinners, a body for believers, a savor of praise to the Lord, and lighthouse to the community, proclaiming the age-old message that "Jesus Saves."

by Pat Kelley

The Gospel Chapel.

One of the periods of history when God seemed to be especially at work was at the close of the 18th century and the beginning of the 19th. Some evidences were the first Sunday School, the London Missionary, the British and Foreign Society, and also the "brethren movement". At the time, the regular churches in Britian were cold, formal, and lifeless.

Most of the early brethren leaders were born at the turn of the century, were young and highly educated. Edward Cronin, Edward Wilson, John Parnell, and John Darby were early leaders. Benjamin Newton opened a work in Plymouth, England. Other leaders worked in England and Dublin. Brethren movements occurred in various parts of the world including North America which would also include the brethren in Pella, Iowa. A local group was started by James Steel who helped with a gospel campaign in Pella in 1940 and 1941 and that year a chapel was built. In 1942 a preacher and teacher from England, George Pinches, moved from Centerville, Ia. to Pella to help with the work. He traveled extensively throughout the USA and Canada as there are many brethren assemblies in the homeland and in Canada.

No minister is hired by these groups. Instead, gifted men of God take the responsibility of preaching and teaching in the Sunday School and other services. All must have experienced a new birth as Jesus taught in John 3.

A distinctive procedure in brethren assemblies is to follow the practice of the disciples in Acts, to have a time every first day of the week to remember and worship the Lord as He told his disciples, "This do in remembrance of me."

Collections are used to support missionaries and home workers such as evangelists and preachers, utilities, and upkeep of the chapel building. People who help care for the building and premises do not expect salary. Organists and pianists volunteer without pay.

Bible conferences are a feature of the church, missionary conferences are held, a monthly magazine is published by missionaries and is informative as to what God is doing on the mission fields. The term "Reverend" is not used for ministers as they believe that term belongs to God only as it states in Psalms 111:9, "Holy and reverend is His

name."

In the local group, as in all other groups, no certain man is hired to be a pastor. Christian men gifted of God teach Sunday School and do the preaching. These men are elders and shepherd God's people. One night a week is set aside for prayer meetings.

In Pella the ladies have a missionary meeting once a month when they come together to sew, pack clothing, etc. for missionaries and missions. Bible classes and Bible camps for youth are also a vital part of the outreach of the local groups.

by Jeanetta Vander Hart

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

T80

Trinity Reformed Church was formed amid enthusiasm and harmony and has prospered with these characteristics. Since her birth in 1953, Trinity has grown to over 500 communicant members with almost 250 baptized members and still has only her fourth pastor. The church did not begin as a splinter group from another congregation, but was born of a vision.

The vision for Trinity came from both the crowded conditions of the other Reformed churches and the desire to reach the unchurched in Pella. There was also the realization that the churches were too large for one pastor to serve adequately. Already in 1938 the president of the RCA General Synod strongly urged the churches of Pella to "swarm". The local impetus for this action came mostly from the Third Reformed Church and its pastor, Rev. Russell Redeker, who became Trinity's first moderator.

On July 17, 1953, fifty interested people voted to have a trial period of two months of worship services in Pella Christian Grade School. On Aug. 2, Rev. Edward Tanis of Second Reformed Church preached the first sermon entitled, "Foundations" to over 100 people present. Soon Junior and Senior Christian Endeavor Societies were formed as well as a Ladies Mission and Aid Society. A "Lydia" Girls' League was formed and a Men's Brotherhood a couple of months later. The vision was rapidly becoming reality.

Oct. 22, 1953, marks the date of organization with 39 families (89 communicants and 51 baptized members). One-half the members (19 families) came from Third Reformed along with a gift of $25,000 about a year later. Six elders were elected that day, who included Isaac Roorda, Simon G. Ter Louw, Henry Vande Voort, John R. Van Gorp, Gerrit Van Roekel, and Ben Vogelaar. The six deacons included Dan E. Dieleman, William G. Gosselink, Art Huyser, Bernie Menninga, Gerald Rempe, and Henry Roorda. The name of Trinity was chosen because there was a Fourth Reformed Church from 1869-1879 and again from 1894-1910, both of which disbanded. Trinity would survive and deserved a name!

What a vision the church had! Within one month the first pastor was called . . . without a parsonage . . . without a church building . . . without any property! There were few people, with limited resources, but with great faith. Before their eyes was a vision of a church that would be!

Rev. William C. De Jong accepted the call and began five years of ministry in Jan. 1954. Soon afterwards, the present property was purchased from the Garden City Feeder Works for $25,000. Three large buildings were dismantled by volunteers and the lumber sold for $8,000. On May 8, 1955, ground breaking ceremonies took place with plans for a $134,000 church building. The actual cost was $171,000 but was paid for in eight years. The first worship service was held in the present sanctuary on Apr. 15, 1956, less than three years after organizing.

Rev. George C. Muyskens was Trinity's second pastor, serving for eight years until Apr. 1968. These were years of rapid growth as many families were added to the church. The present educational wing was added during these years giving 17 more classrooms.

The Huyser home at 500 Franklin St. was purchased for a parsonage, having been rented before this. The beautiful stained glass windows in the church were added in 1962.

Rev. Wayne Hall became Trinity's third pastor in Dec. 1968, serving for eight years. He hosted two summer tours into Mexico with Youth Fellowship members. In 1974 the intern program began with Arlin Vande Zante. Other interns included Perry De Groot and Gary Van Heukelom. Al Edeker was Youth Coordinator for one year also. Dennis Vander Beek worked part-time beginning in 1978. Rev. Simon Ter Louw served as pastor of visitation for three years, 1978-1980.

Trinity's enthusiasm has always been displayed in music. In 1976 the current Allen Digital Computer Organ was purchased. In 1985, a Steinway semi-concert grand piano was donated. Among the many able organists, only Ilda Van Zee has a record of 30 years of continuous service. She served also as choir director for seven years.

In Aug. 1978, Rev. Donald W. Plantinga became Trinity's fourth and current pastor. The congregation grew too large for the sanctuary and began having two morning worship services in Sept. of 1979. The house east of the church, which had been purchased for parking, was remodeled and is now the Youth House with six classrooms. Children's sermons were begun as well as the Cadet and Calvinette program. Sue Plantinga was active choir director for almost eight years and currently teaches the Bethel Bible Series.

The first full-time Education and Youth Director, Jan Boss, was hired in 1979. Jan served five years, taking the youth on several work trips. She began the Mothers' Morning Out program. The present Director of Education and Youth is Tom Hochhalter who is doing a fine job in all areas.

The vision continued as Trinity purchased the adjacent property west and razed the old brick building in Apr. 1987. The car wash will become part of the expansion within 20 years to add to the parking facilities. The parsonage was sold in 1980.

The vision remains that of our Lord, to reach into the community and into the whole world with the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

by Rev. Plantinga and Rev. Simon Ter Louw

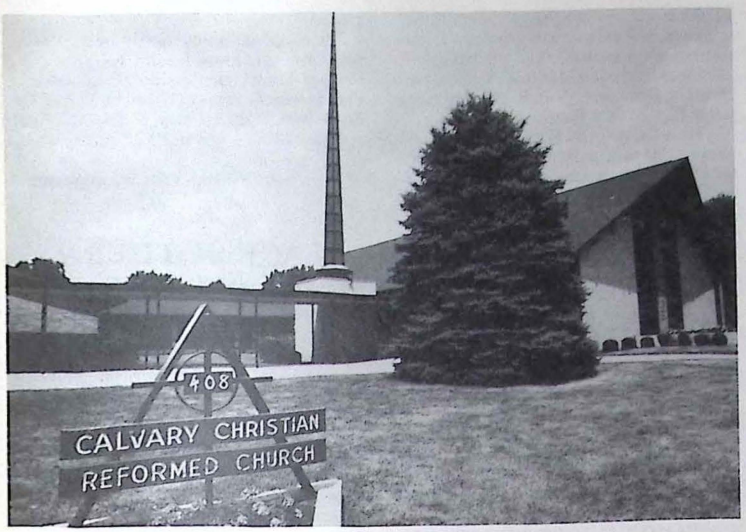
Trinity Reformed Church, Franklin & East 1st, 1987.

CALVARY CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

T81

Two passages of scripture have been the theme and inspiration of the Calvary Christian Reformed Church. I Timothy 1:17: "To the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God be honor and glory for ever and ever." Isaiah 54:2 "Enlarge the place of your tent. Do not hold back. Lengthen your cords; strengthen your stakes."

Under the guidance of the First and Second Christian Reformed Churches, 57 families and seven individuals became charter members of the third Christian Reformed Church. In the summer of 1955 services were conducted by a ministerial candidate, John H. Stek. The new church chose the name Calvary



Calvary Christian Reformed Church, block between Elm & Maple.

Christian Reformed and began to plan a building in the Highland Addition. On July 11, 1957, the cornerstone was laid and the service of dedication was held on May 28, 1958. Student Donald Grissioen served as pastor that year until Marvin R. Doornbos was ordained as the church's first pastor.

With Rev. Doornbos, members of the first consistory were: Max Hoeksema, Arie Engbers, Steve Gabrielse, Arie Van Engelhoven, John Vande Voort, Art Rus, John M. Vos, Paul Bandstra, Abe Bos, and Dick Hugen.

After Rev. Doornbos accepted a call to Illinois, Student Thomas Vanden Heuvel served in the summer of 1960. Rev. Gerald Van Oyen was installed as pastor on Dec. 13, 1960. In Aug. 1964 he was succeeded by Rev. Arthur Pontier who served until 1973. In 1964 a new parsonage was built at a cost of $32,000.

Rev. Robert Holwerda served for over a decade. In 1984 he accepted a call to Mount Vernon, Wash. The pulpit remained vacant until Dec. 7, 1986, when Rev. John Gorter was installed. Rev. Siebert Kramer came to Calvary as the Minister of Calling in 1978 and still serves in that capacity.

Since its inception, Calvary Christian Reformed Church has been mission minded, helping support many missionaries in this country and abroad. Two sons of the church have entered the ministry, John Engbers and Stanley De Vries. Many young people have served in SWIM, Summer Workshop in Ministries.

When the Otley Christian Reformed Church disbanded in 1958, 13 families and two individuals transferred to Calvary. In the same year, seven families and two individuals joined from the Protestant Reformed Church.

Three new churches were nurtured by Calvary, the Davenport I Iowa Christian Reformed Church, the Trinity Christian Reformed Church in St. Louis, Mo., and the Faith Christian Reformed Church in Pella.

The little Wayside Chapel east of Pella on Highway 163 is a project of Calvary Church. Members of the church have organized morning services at the Red Rock Dam Campsite.

At the end of 1987 there were 505 communicant members, 224 baptized members with a total of 201 families.

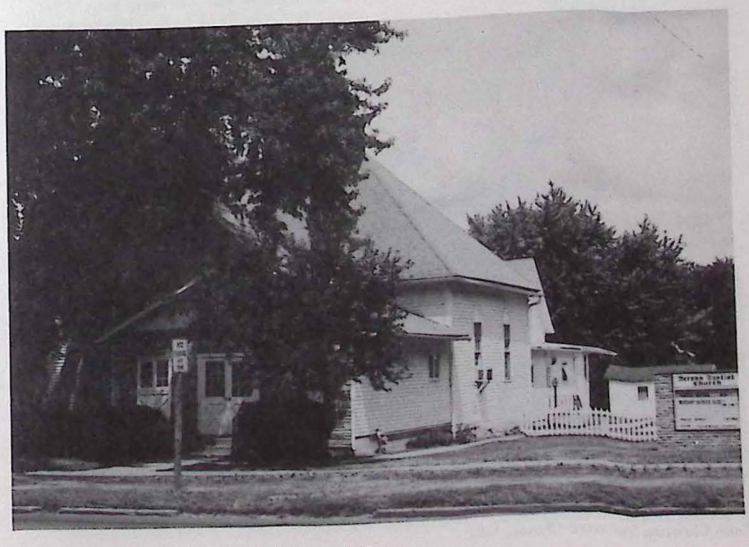
by Evie Stravers

BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH

T82

The Bible study, which eventually became Berean Baptist Church, met for the first time on Mar. 1, 1962, under the leadership of Reverend Eugene Mohr. The group met in the multi-purpose room of the Pella Christian Grade School and the attendance was 24. On Apr. 5, 1962, a charter membership was opened to those wishing to sign as members of the Bible class. The following signed the Bible class charter: Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Van Wyk, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schuring, Mr. and Mrs. Marion DeBruin, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Van Zante, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Plate, Mrs. Norman Terlouw, and Reverend Eugene Mohr. The weekly Bible classes continued on a regular basis and the attendance grew. On Aug. 30, 1962, Reverend Harold Nieman, a church planter with Hiawatha Baptist Missions, accepted the call to become the first pastor of Berean Baptist Church. The name "Berean" was chosen based on Acts chapter 17, verses 10 and 11. The church was officially organized and the church charter closed on Apr. 9, 1963. The following were charter members of the newly organized church: Mr. and Mrs. Marion DeBruin, Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kamerick, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Terlouw, Dr. and Mrs. Ken Van Wyk, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schuring, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Frederick, Karen Musgrove, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Van Zante, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Plate and daughter Alberta, Margaret Tuinstra, Tena Van Rees, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Van Zante, Clarence DeBruin, Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Klyn, John DeKock, Mr. and Mrs. Max DeJong, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Nieman, and Marcia, Becky, and Patricia Nieman. The First Baptist Church of Monroe was the parent church and contributed generously to the finances of Berean Baptist Church.

On Apr. 18, 1963, the parsonage and vacant church (formerly known as the Protestant Reformed Church) at 314 Main St. were purchased for $9,500.00. The church and parsonage, which are yet begin used as a church and Sunday School rooms were built in 1870 by the Methodist Church. The history has some interesting facts. In 1872 a severe winter storm damaged the building heavily. In 1900 the church was remodeled and rebuilt. In 1919, fire burned the entire roof and second story of the parsonage. Another interesting fact reveals that the amount of money which was spent on the church and parsonage from 1870 until 1922 including



Berean Baptist Church, corner Main & Peace, 1987.

rebuilding, additions, alterations, repairs, new furnace and water system in the parsonage, insurance, street paving, painting, ministers' salaries, fuel, lights, etc. was $175,000. The accompanying photo was taken in 1910 when the property belonged to the Methodist Church. Several improvements have been made since it was purchased by Berean Baptist Church in 1963. A new foyer was added in 1965, an annex in 1971, and a baptistry in 1978. The church has purchased two pieces of property south of the church, the latest in 1986. A new parsonage at 307 Independence was purchased in 1970.

Over the years, Berean Baptist Church has conducted many ministries. In 1964 the first Vacation Bible School was held with an attendance of 103. In 1982 a JOY Club children's ministry was begun. Other ministries include services at Fair Haven, Fair Haven East, Hilltop, and Pella Community Hospital Nursing Home. Twenty-two missionary projects are supported and two families have gone into full time Christian work: the Ron VanderHarts who pastor in Runnels, Ia. and the Gaylor Carters who are serving in Australia. Pastors who have served the church are: Reverend Harold Nieman from 1962 until 1958, Reverend Melvin Mattox from 1969 until 1975, Reverend Buel Liming from 1976 until 1981, and Reverend Michael Craighead from 1982 until the present.

Berean Baptist Church is presently in the early planning stages of a building program which will result in a new sanctuary and Christian Education wing on the present property. The present membership is nine-five.

by Jeanette DeBruin

FAITH CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

T83

Faith is Pella's youngest Christian Reformed church. Pella's fourth Christian Reformed church organized Oct. 10, 1968, in a meeting of 185 people (42 families) at Calvary Christian Reformed Church with Calvary's pastor Rev. Arthur Pontier in charge.

Because Calvary C.R.C.'s congregation had outgrown its sanctuary, Calvary's consistory had begun separate services to test congregational interest in a fourth Christian Reformed church. These services had first been held at Pella Christian Grade School on June 2, 1968. An interim steering committee had supervised these trial worship services. Also during this trial period, the Calvary congregation had offered a very generous financial gift to the fourth church group.

At the Oct. 10 organizational meeting, the newly formed congregation chose the name Faith Christian Reformed Church and elected its consistory. Elders were: John De Nooy, Bernie Van Ee (vice president), Louis M. Van Haaften, Louis Van Wyk (clerk), and Gary J. Vermeer. Deacons were: Syburn De Vries, John Lanser, Jr., Leroy Nugteren, and Martin Sietstra (treasurer). Rev. Peter A. Spoelstra served as interim pastor until Jan. 1969.

In Feb., 1969, a church site and adjacent home were purchased at University and East 12th. Groundbreaking ceremonies for the new sanctuary were held Apr. 8, 1969.

Faith C.R.C.'s first pastor, Rev. Siebert Kramer, was installed Apr. 23, 1969. By Feb., 1970, the congregation was worshipping in its new sanctuary, although pews did not arrive until the next month. Fifty-seven families were charter members of the congregation.

Rev. Siebert Kramer retired Oct. 30, 1977. Pastor James Stoel was installed on Apr. 22, 1979.

In the summer of 1980 a new parsonage was built.

In Jan. 1987, Faith C.R.C. has 569 members (144 families). Current church programs include adult and youth choirs, Sunday school, Bible study groups, Calvinette and Cadet Clubs, and Coffee Break Evangelism groups.

The congregation currently provides support for missionaries Jason Chen (Iowa City Campus Ministry), Celsino Gama (Brazil), Francis Vander Zwaag (Nigeria), Verlan Van Ee (Barstow, Calif.), Larry Van Zee (Nigeria), and Jose Lamigo in the Philippines.

by Carol Van Klompenberg

Faith Christian Reformed Church, 1987.

PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

T84

Nearly 128 years after Dominie Scholte and his small band of followers founded their "City of Refuge" in pursuit of religious freedom, another small band of Lutherans sought a similar freedom to have their own ministry in their own city. Pella was, in fact, the largest city in Iowa without a Lutheran ministry. Yet Pella industries had recruited many whose religious preference was Lutheran. These people sought the freedom to worship in their faith.

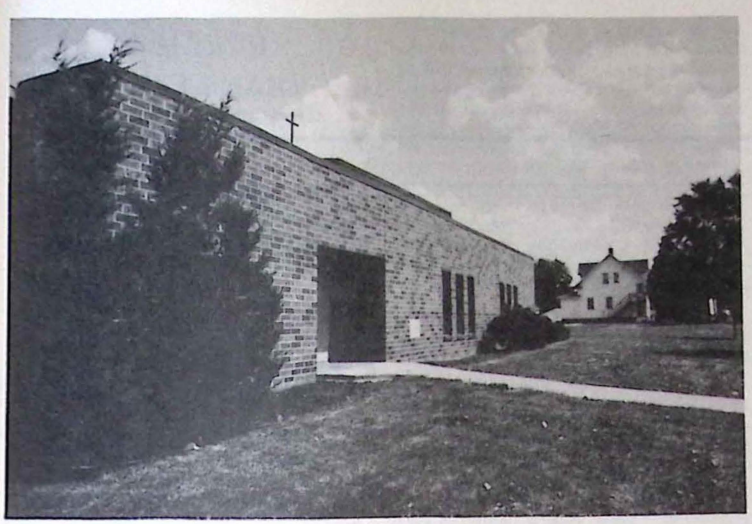
The wheels for establishing a Lutheran Church in Pella started in motion in Nov. 1975, when a core of only 16 people met for an informational meeting. Lutheran church officials had pointed out the need for about 60 families for a congregation to become self-sufficient. The group had a long way to go, yet they never lost hope; they never stopped praying.

By Christmas of 1975, 35 families plus about a 100 Lutheran college students at Central College formed the base of what would become Peach Lutheran Church. Much effort was involved in laying the groundwork, with many discussions held between this core of people and officials of the American Lutheran Church's Division for Service and Mission of America. Finally, in mid-March of 1976, the request for assistance cleared the Lutheran Council in the U.S.A. The group was assigned to the American Lutheran Church for mission development.

The Pella Historical Society generously offered use of their new Scholte Church which was part of the civic Bicentennial Restoration Project. The church, designed as a lasting memorial to Pella's heritage, is a replica of the one built by Dominie Scholte in 1853. Furnishings in the church include an organ and the original pulpit in which Scholte preached in the Netherlands. Scholte had been raised as a Lutheran but in his later life followed John Calvin's theology.

In May, 1976, Rev. Duane Kamrath accepted the call as pastor of the mission congregation. The first worship was held at Scholte Church on July 18, 1976. The organizational meeting was held on Nov. 21, 1976, with 47 families; 154 baptized members and 88 confirmed members. By Nov. of 1977, groundbreaking was held for the congregation's own building at West Fifth and Independence. Membership had grown to 70 families. It was a glorious day of praise and celebration on May 7, 1978, when members of Peace Lutheran Church marched in procession from the historic Scholte Church to their new facility. The building was dedicated on June 4, 1978. Membership was then 72 families; 242 baptized members.

Mission and outreach have held high



Peace Lutheran and the "Peace House" in the background.

priority at Peace Lutheran right from the beginning. Before too many years had passed, Peace made many innovative moves to facilitate much needed social ministry programs within the city of Pella. Pastor Arvid Dixon was instrumental in beginning ministries like the Community Food Shelf, shopping services for the elderly, Alcoholics Anonymous, Overaters Anonymous, and a community clothing exchange. The editor of the *Pella Chronicle* wrote on Jan. 3, 1982, "These are examples of how a church ought to work, they are what a true church was designed for . . . unselfish, unheralded giving".

The year 1984 brought excitement to Peace when the congregation voted to become the base for an outreach ministry, later sponsoring a new ALC congregation in neighboring Knoxville, under the guidance and supervision of Peace's Pastor Larry Lenning. Such sponsorship is an honor usually reserved for older, more established congregations, but the commitment and vitality of Pastor Lenning and the people of Peace helped the ministry thrive! Part of Peace's celebration of its 10th year of ministry included special prayers on behalf of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Knoxville, as they voted to call their own pastor and buy land for their church building.

Shortly before its 10th anniversary, the people of Peace took another step forward in faith when they voted to purchase a house just south of the church property. The house quickly became known as Peace House and just as quickly became fully utilized for Sunday School classrooms, meeting space, retreat facilities, and as a supervised gathering spot for Middle School (and older) age youth to enjoy fun and fellowship.

At the end of 1986, Peace Lutheran Church lists its membership as 124 households, 360 baptized members, and 247 confirmed members. Peace's growth has been steady in its first ten years, its foundation firmly placed as reflected in the congregations five-prong mission statement: 1. Go and make disciples; 2. Worship God in Spirit and Truth; 3. Call the church to renewal; 4. Work for the moral health of society; 5. Seek peace and justice in the world.

In the years to come, Peace Lutheran Church will strive to be, for both its members and for the entire community of Christ, a place of peace and a source of power which can come to each one through God's gift of the Holy Spirit.

by Kristi L. Switzer

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

T85

In the first issue of the *Town Crier* of 1983, an announcement appeared, stating that anyone interested in the Church of the Nazarene was invited to church services on the following Sunday in the Pella Memorial Building at 829 Broadway. Prior to this, Forrest E. Whitlatch, district superintendent of the Iowa District Church of the Nazarene, had rented the Memorial Building for one month for a meeting place.

Dr. Whitlatch had for some time sensed a burden for a local Church of the Nazarene in the community of Pella. Just a few weeks prior to this new beginning he was contacted by some Pella residents who expressed their interest in a local Nazarene congregation. Time would soon reveal how these various details would prove to be the hand of God.

On a cold morning, Jan. 9, 1983, at 10:30, 43 people assembled in the Memorial Building for worship. God's presence was manifested in the new congregation from the very first service. A Sunday evening service was also part of the agenda and the following week a Sunday School hour began for children, youth, and adults.

The church was officially organized Oct. 23, 1983, in the Memorial Building with a charter membership of 25.

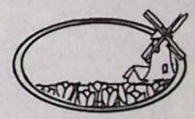
Dr. Whitlatch continued to serve as interim pastor until Apr. 6, 1983, when Rev. Dave Childress arrived to pastor the growing congregation.

In Dec. 1984, a group of residential lots was purchased at the corner of Prairie and University Streets in Pella for a new worship facility.

Plans progressed and ground was broken Oct. 4, 1985, for the new building. Dedication services for the new facility were held Nov. 17, 1985. Construction continued in the spring of 1986 and the congregation held its first service in the new building on June 16, 1986.

The congregation continues to grow as it reaches out and shares the redeeming love of Christ with the Pella community.

by Rev. David Childress



The Church of the Nazarene was dedicated in 1985.

VIII.

FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

A street scrubbing scene at Tulip Time northwest corner of the square on Broadway.

THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

T86

Measured by some standards a quarter of a century is a long period of time, but in the building of a civilized community in a virgin country, where farms and homes had literally to be hewn from the forests, 25 years is but a very brief span. And yet, be it said to the glory of our pioneers, that although they planted their colony in a strange land, 120 miles from the nearest railroad, and although they were strangers to the customs and even to the language of the new country, yet such was their determination, industry and thrift, that in the brief space of time between 1847 and 1872, they had developed a settlement here that would compare favorably with many that were much older in Iowa.

If there is one fact established by a study of the early history of Pella, it is that we have a just cause to remember the sturdy men and women of that time with pride and gratitude. Occasionally we observe an attitude, on the part of the more frivolous of the present generation, indicating that they consider our fathers and grandfathers to have been crude and uncultured, and fitted only for the rough life of the frontier. Nothing is farther from the truth; and if this book will do no more than to dispell this inexcusable ignorance, and to record for all time to come, the fact that the most advanced and prosperous citizens of present day Pella, have no greater cause for proper pride, than is to be found in the character and worth of those who laid the foundation on which later generations are building.

On July 27, 1872, a meeting of the citizens was held for the purpose of arranging for the proper observance and celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the planting of the colony. A general committee was appointed consisting of the following men: Isaac Overkamp, Sr.; Ads. Van Stight; Phillippus J. Koelman; Antonie J. Betten, Sr.; Jan Akkerman; Auke H. Viersen; Gerrit H. Overkamp; Ernest F. Grafe; Jan F. LeCocq; Dirk Synhorst; August Wigny; Brouwer 't Lam; Jacob van de Roovaart; Ads. Veenman; Stfanus van Zee; Pieter O. Viersen; Koenraad van Zee; Hendrik Kars; Pierre H. Bousquet; Wiggert Rietveld; Levi Beintema; Jan Hospers; Jacobus Muntingh; and Jacobus Verhey.

This committee held a meeting on Aug. 8 and elected Isaac Overkamp as president and J. Hospers as secretary. By motion it was decided to hold the celebration on Aug. 28, commencing at 9:00 A.M. and that the day would be inaugurated by holding a religious service in the new church.

The heavy rainfall of the evening of Aug. 27, and also during the day of the 28th threatened to spoil the celebration. Notwithstanding this unfavorable condition, when the time arrived for the opening services, a vast throng filled the large audience room of the new First Reformed Church, and after an earnest prayer had been offered by Rev. H.G. Klyn, the audience listened to eloquent addresses by Rev. A.J. Betten, Rev. W. van der Klei, Rev. E. Winter, and Rev. K. Weyland. Between the speaking there was congregational singing, in which the vast audience expressed their gratitude to the God of their fathers, who had so signally blessed them in the land of their adoption.

After the services the people were invited to the old church building, one block west, on the corner later occupied by the William Langerak residence. Here four large tables fairly groaned under their load of good things to eat and drink. After doing full justice to this part of the day's proceedings, the participants repaired to the Scholte grove, where the old settlers had charge of a program fitting to the occasion. Here they were entertained with music and listened to a number of short but eloquent speeches. Major H. Post, son of Rev. Moses Post, was one of the speakers who addressed the audience in the Holland language. Although he was a native American, he had attended school under James Muntingh and to the end of his life he took great pride in his complete mastery of the Dutch language.

taken from *The Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa*

OFFICE OF

Pella Drain Tile Company.

CLERK & PRIVATE.
HERMAN RIETVELD.
PELLA, IOWA.

"If I am not good, I will be."

P E L L A ' S Great Feast held on the 31 st of Aug . 1897. In commemoration of its foundation in the year 1847

Days Program.

Order of Procession, eight blocks long.
Isaac Overkamp in Carriage.
Pella Brass Band .
Old Settlers of 1847 and other years.
Speakers in Carriages.
Invited guests,not old settlers.
Peoria Band.
Carriages and Wagons.
Citizens on horse back.
Citizens on foot.

Exercises on the grounds will be opened by Pella Band .
Vocal Music By the c oir.
Invocation by Mr I Overkamp
Address by A Van Stigt.
Vocal Music Psalm 89 vs 1
Instrumental Music by the Band.
Address by Henry Hospers.
Vocal Music " My Country Tis Of thee" .
At 2 O'clock --- D I N N E R . / la Picnic.
Band Music . " Wie Neerlands Bloed ".
Vocal Music by the Choir .
Address by John Hollen Jr.
Instrumental Music by the Band.

Addresses by H Kuyper . P Koelman Jas Hunting. E Possaman.
Music
Adaresses by Jno H Steubenrauch . G T Clark. De De Vink .
and a few others that were called .
Vocal Music -- Long Meter Doxology& Psalm 134 vs 3.
Instrumental Music . followed by about three hours of enjoyment on the College Grounds.

Program.

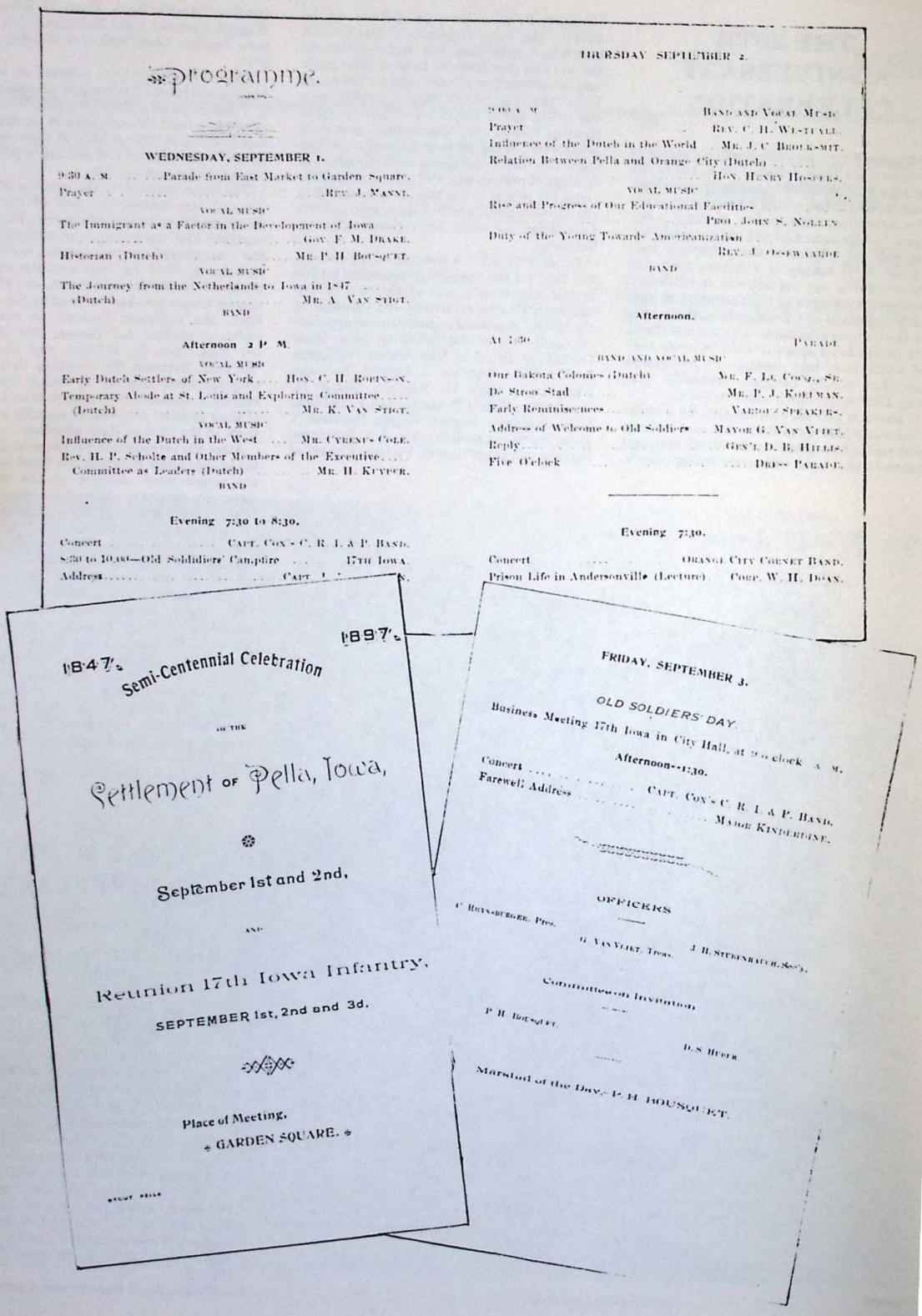
THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

T87

A Semi - Centennial Celebration in 1897

On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the first three days of Sept., 1897, the city of Pella celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its settlement by the Hollanders. Former residents of the city came from all parts of the state and some from St. Louis, Chicago, and even New York. Henry Hospers, founder of the Holland colony in Sioux County, Ia., and a former mayor of Pella, came down from Orange City with about three hundred others on a single excursion train. Many came by wagon, one hundred and fifty conveyances, all loaded to their full capacity, coming from Mahaska Co. By nine o'clock Wednesday morning it was estimated that two thousand wagons and carriages had been driven into the city.

Wednesday's feature was a grand proces-



Programme.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1.

9:30 A. M. . . . Parade from East Market to Garden Square.
Prayer . . . . . Rev. J. Mannl.

VOCAL MUSIC

The Immigrant as a Factor in the Development of Iowa . . . . . Gov. F. M. Drake.
Historian (Dutch) . . . . . Mr. P. H. Bousquet.

VOCAL MUSIC

The Journey from the Netherlands to Iowa in 1847 . . . (Dutch) . . . . . Mr. A. Van Stigt.

BAND

Afternoon 2 P. M.

VOCAL MUSIC

Early Dutch Settlers of New York . . . . Hon. C. H. Robinson.
Temporary Abode at St. Louis and Exploring Committee . . . . (Dutch) . . . . . Mr. K. Van Stigt.

VOCAL MUSIC

Influence of the Dutch in the West . . . . Mr. Cyrenus Cole.
Rev. H. P. Scholte and Other Members of the Executive . . . . Committee as Leaders (Dutch) . . . . . Mr. H. Kuyper.

BAND

Evening 7:30 to 8:30.

Concert . . . . . Capt. Cox's C. R. I. & P. Band.
8:30 to 10:00—Old Soldiers' Campfire . . . 17th Iowa.
Address . . . . . Capt. [illegible]s.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 2.

9:00 A. M. . . . Band and Vocal Music.
Prayer . . . . . Rev. C. H. Wetzel.
Influence of the Dutch in the World . . . Mr. J. C. Broekhuit.
Relation Between Pella and Orange City (Dutch) . . . . . Hon. Henry Hospers.

VOCAL MUSIC

Rise and Progress of Our Educational Facilities . . . . . Prof. John S. Nollen.
Duty of the Young Towards Americanization . . . . . Rev. J. Oosterwaarde.

BAND

Afternoon.

At 1:30 . . . . . Parade.

BAND AND VOCAL MUSIC

Our Dakota Colonies (Dutch) . . . . Mr. F. L. Cossel, Sr.
De Stroo Stad . . . . . Mr. P. J. Koelman.
Early Reminiscences . . . . . Various Speakers.
Address of Welcome to Old Soldiers . . . Mayor G. Van Vliet.
Reply . . . . . Gen'l D. B. Hillis.
Five O'clock . . . . . Dress Parade.

Evening 7:30.

Concert . . . . . Orange City Cornet Band.
Prison Life in Andersonville (Lecture) . . . Corp. W. H. Doan.

1847. Semi-Centennial Celebration 1897.

OF THE

Settlement of Pella, Iowa,

September 1st and 2nd,

AND

Reunion 17th Iowa Infantry,

SEPTEMBER 1st, 2nd and 3d.

Place of Meeting,
GARDEN SQUARE.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3.

OLD SOLDIERS' DAY.

Business Meeting 17th Iowa in City Hall, at 9 o'clock A. M.

Afternoon--1:30.

Concert . . . . . Capt. Cox's C. R. I. & P. Band.
Farewell Address . . . . . Major Kinderdine.

OFFICERS

C. Buys-berger, Pres. G. Van Vliet, Treas. J. B. Steenbracker, Sec'y.

Committee on Invitation.

P. H. Bousquet.

D. S. Huber.

Marshal of the Day—P. H. Bousquet.

Woensdag, 1 September.

VOORMIDDAG.

9:30.—Optogt van het Oostermarktplein naar het Square.
Gebed. . . . . Ds. J. Mansi.
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
De landverhuizer als een middel tot de ontwikkeling van Iowa. . . . . Gouverneur F. M. Drake.
Geschiedenis der Nederzetting. . . . Mr. P. H. Bousquet.
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
De reis van Nederland naar Iowa in 1847. . . . Mr. A. van Stigt.

2. *NAMIDDAG.*
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
De eerste emigranten uit Nederland in New York. Hon. C. H. Robinson.
Tijdelijk verblijf te St. Louis en het Committee van onderzoek. . . . . Mr. K. van Stigt.
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
Invloed van de Nederlanders in het Westen, Mr. Cyrenus Cole.
Ds. H. P. Scholte en andere leden van het uitvoerend committee als leiders, ... Mr. H. Kuyper.
BAND.

AVOND.
7:30 tot 8:30.—Concert door Kap. Cox's C. R. I. & P. Band.
8:30 tot 10.—Campfire der Oud Soldaten van het 17de Iowa Regiment.
Toespraak. . . . . Kapitein J. A. Spielman.
Korte toespraken door Oudgedienden.

1847. 1897.

PROGRAMMA

VAN HET

Vijftigjarige Gedenkfeest

VAN DE

Hollandsche Nederzetting

TE

PELLA, IOWA,

TE HOUDEN OP DEN

1sten en 2den September, 1897,

EN

Reunion van het 17de Iowa Regiment.

September 1, 2 en 3.

Plaats van bijeenkomst Garden Square.

Donderdag, 2 September.

VOORMIDDAG.

9.—Band en Vokaal Muziek.
Gebed. . . . . Ds. C. H. Westfall.
Invloed der Nederlanders op de Wereld, Mr. J. C. Broeksmit.
Pella en Orange City en de andere Nederzettingen in het Westen. . . . . Hon. Henry Hospers
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
Begin en Voortgang van onze Opvoedkundige Instellingen. . . . . Prof. John S. Nollen.
Pligt van het Jeugdige Geslacht met betrekking tot Americanisatie, ... Ds. J. Ossewaarde.
—BAND.—

NAMIDDAG.
PARADE.
—BAND.—
VOKAAL MUZIEK.
Onze Nederzetters in Dakota, ... Mr. F. LeCocq, Sr.
De Strooijen Stad, ... Mr. P. J. Koelman
Herinneringen uit den Eersten Tijd der Nederzetting. . . . . Verschillende Sprekers.
Welkomstgroet aan de Oud Soldaten, Burgemeester G. van Vliet.
Antwoord . . . . Generaal D. B. Hillis.
Dress

7:30 *AVOND.*
He Band.
Toespraak. . . . . Gouv. W. H. Doan.

Vrijdag, 3 September.—Soldaten Dag.

VOORMIDDAG.

9.—Business meeting van het 17de Iowa op het Stadshuis.

NAMIDDAG.

1:30.—Concert door Kap. Cox's C. R. I. & P. Band.
Vaarwel Toesprank. . . . . Majoor Kinderdine.
TAPTOE.

OFFICERS

C. Rhynsburger, Pres't. J. H. Stuchsrauch, Sec.
G. van Vliet, Tres.

COMMITTEE ON INVITATION.

P. H. Bousquet. D. S. Huber.

Marshal of the Day, P. H. Bousquet.

Many of Pella's population still spoke Dutch in 1897 and for that reason, the program was also printed in the Dutch language.

Semi-Centennial Celebration,

September 1 and 2, 1897.

Pella, Iowa, August 1897.

.....

.....

Dear Sir:

The Executive Committee of the Semi-Centennial Celebration of the settlement of this colony by the Hollanders, has instructed us to invite you to honor us with your presence. The festivities will take place on September 1st and 2nd next.

We enclose a programme and shall esteem it a favor, if you will advise us with a word, whether it will be convenient for you to be present, so that arrangements can be made for your entertainment during the feast.

Very Respectfully,

.....

.....

COMMITTEE ON INVITATION.

The invitation to the Semi-Centennial in 1897.

sion, which formed at the east square and paraded through the principle streets led by Henry Cox's band of 44 pieces. Following the band came 70 girls in the their "teens", each dressed in white, with red and blue sashes, and carrying a red, white and blue umbrella. Next came the first settlers, who were young men and boys when the first colonists arrived in 1847. Two of the floats in the procession are thus described by the *Knoxville Express:*

"On the first were four young ladies, the Misses Marie Bousquet, Sara Nollen, Bessie Scholte, and May Keables, grandchildren of Rev. H.P. Scholte, founder of Pella. They were dressed in picturesque Dutch costumes, the helmets of solid gold, covered with lace caps — that is as near as ordinary English can come in describing this headgear. Their faces were pictures framed in gold and lace. The rest of the costumes also were Dutch-girdles, skirts, shoes, and sturdy stockings. They represented a Dutch tea party, the tea served in dainty Delft ware, brought from Holland fifty years ago.

"On the second float were the Misses Agnes Bousquet, Julia Bousquet, Annie Wormhoudt, Alice de Pree, Helen Brinkhoff, Bessie van der Linden, and Artie van der Linden. They were dressed in costumes very similar to the ones in the first float, except that their head plates were of silver, the silver covered with lace. They represented, in a sense, the

Marie Middleton as she appeared in the 1897 Semi-Centennial Parade.

industrial women of Holland. They had the old-fashioned spinning wheels and other contrivances of the past. Some of them knitted – but none were idle, for idleness is a vice among them. These two floats were greatly admired and attracted any amount of attention."

One unusual feature of the celebration was that no Dutch flags were displayed. On St. Patrick's Day the green flag of Erin is always very much in evidence in the cities of the United States, but the committee on decorations decided to put out no flags except the Stars and Stripes of the American Republic. This attitude of the residents was partially explained by Rev. J. Ossewarde, "They came not for wealth, which they might in later years enjoy in the parent country. They came rather seeking a home of refuge, where civil and religious liberty, denied them in The Netherlands, might be enjoyed and where those noble principles and virtues, dear to them as life, might be established and expanded and developed. And when they came here they came to become Americans."

Another parade was given on Thursday, preceding the speech making, and at three o'clock P.M. on Friday, the semi-centennial gave way to the reunion of the Seventeenth Iowa Infantry, in which Marion Co. was well represented.

from *The Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa*

Scene from the Semi-Centennial held at Pella, Sept. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, 1897.

The Four Grandchildren of Rev. Scholte. Left to Right: Bess Scholte Gaass, Mae Keables Smith, Sara Nollen, and Marie Bousquet Wills.

WHITE WAY PICNIC

T88

Twenty-five women and girls from Pella, Ia. dressed in genuine Holland costumes, invaded Des Moines today, boosting for the fourth annual picnic of the Great White Way Association, to be held at Pella on July 24. The party traveled to Des Moines this morning in autos, spent the day in the city and will return home this evening.

A committee from the Pella Commercial Club brought the women to Des Moines. After a short rest at the Cargill Hotel, the party went through the business district, passing out handbills announcing the big picnic. The girls wore wooden shoes, quaint headgears and typical Dutch dresses. They made a hit everywhere and won many converts to the Great White Way. Dinner was served to the party at Evan's cafe, where Louis Evans, director for the Great White Way in Polk Co., acted as host.

The trip to Des Moines today is only an example of the preparations being made by Pella citizens for the Great White Way picnic and an indication of the manner in which the Pella Boosters will entertain those who attend the picnic. Pella is preparing to entertain the visitors to the picnic in royal style and the Commercial Club of the town is spending nearly $2,000 for entertainment purposes.

from *The Evening Tribune* July 17, 1913.

(See photo next page.)

PELLA'S PRETTIEST GIRLS IN DES MOINES TODAY IN DUTCH TOGS TO BOOST WHITE WAY PICNIC

Front page of the *Des Moines Evening Tribune* , July 17, 1913.

THE GREAT WHITE WAY

T89

Another of Pella's great festivals took place July 24, 1913 — the White Way Picnic promoted by the Pella Boosters and the Iowa Good Roads Association.

Quotes from the *Pella Chronicle* remind us of this auspicious occasion.

"The object is to make the Great White Way the best highway in the United States. It is now the best road across the State of Iowa, few turns, long straight stretches of smooth, wide, well- dragged road and getting better every day." (The stretch of highway linking Ottumwa with Des Moines was paved in Oct., 1930.)

"This is the most popular route in Iowa. Follow the easy-to-see white poles. This highway holds the world's cross-country speed record, from river to river through Des Moines."

The *Chronicle* continued, "Considered from the point of view of length, topography, character of road bed, importance of towns through which it passes, and the general spirit of hustling and working shown by the White Way Boosters, the road can scarcely fail to make a powerful appeal to the locating -committee when Congress takes steps to establish a great inter state highway across the continent. It would certainly be a misfortune to our great state if such an inter-state road should cross it by any other route. The very heart of the corn belt, where Iowa's most important product is grown, is transversed by the Great White Way, and the tourists who fail to see the cornbelt at its best, as it is seen along this route, fail to see Iowa in the height of her glory." It is sad, but interesting to note, that neither the Lincoln Highway, built in the mid thirties, nor Interstate 80, built in the sixties, were allowed to follow the path of the Great White Way.

C.C. "Buck" Buerkens in "Buck Saw" of the Nov. 21, 1973, *Pella Chronicle* described the festivities. "By way of entertainment, the Booster Club, which had it's headquarters in Central Park, promised music, baseball, vaudeville, contests, dancing, and speeches. The latter, however, were advertised as "no long speeches". Harvey Ingham, Des Moines, president of the White Way Assn., was to deliver the main address of the day.

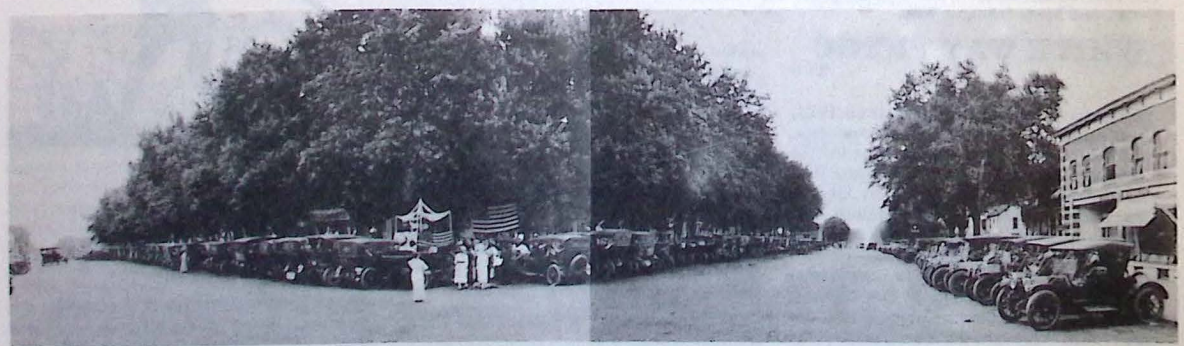
The day dawned bright and fair. The weather was ideal, and the temperature was 80 degrees. The streets were well sprinkled, the dust laid, 'Just right for comfort.

There were many kinds of music by the 30-member Pella Band, a fife and drum corps by veterans from Des Moines, and Prof. Groet's combined chorus of 60 voices.

There were vaudeville acts, acrobats, contortionists, wooden shoe races, pie eating contests for boys, and a tug of war between the east and the west (the latter was without a decision because the rope broke.)

Baseball games between teams from Pella and Oskaloosa were held. Pete Bloem and "Heinie" Kuyper were the battery in the forenoon and "Skillett" Carson and George Boyd in the afternoon. A home run by Hernie Van Spanckeren was the highlight.

Thus, the White Way Picnic of 1913 was declared the greatest event in the history of Pella. Never were so many cars gathered in any town of Iowa for a similar purpose. The crowd of visitors was established at 5,000 with every city along the White Way represented."



Taken from northeast corner of Central Park (corner of Washington and Main).

(Series of 3 photos) Southeast corner of park, corner of Franklin & Main (panoramic view).

THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

T90

The 75th Anniversary of the founding of Pella began Tuesday, Sept. 12, 1922, at 10:00 a.m. with an opening thanksgiving service in Beard's Grove (formerly known as Scholte Grove and today called Scholte Gardens) on

De Wit Bros. Grocery Store with Dixie Band.

75th Annviversary float made by George Heeren.

The Model Clothing Co. float.

LET'S GO TO PELLA

OUR NEIGHBORING CITY OF PELLA IS CELEBRATING ITS 75th ANNIVERSARY NEXT WEEK AND WE ARE INVITED

———Let's Go Enmasse on———

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

and show the people of Pella that Knoxville is interested in their celebration and wants to help make it a big success. Pella people came to the fair by the hundreds. Let's return the compliment and do it with a right good will.

WE WANT 200 CARS

in line for the big parade. The procession will form on the public square at 3 o'clock, Thursday afternoon and move promptly at 3:30, headed by the band. There should be lots of banners, lots of noise and lots of enthusiasm.

Let's "Be a Good Fella and Visit With Pella"

ARE YOU ON?

Knoxville Chamber of Commerce

the north side of Garden Square. The weather was very warm with temperatures hitting close to 100 degrees on the street. However, the winds were brisk and the crowds came out. It was thought that 10,000 to 12,000 people attended the festivities.

Van Zante Bros. Hardware float on the west side of Central Park.

PROGRAM

of the

PAGEANT

of the

All Epfos Red Nall Oh

Written, Arranged and Directed by Miss Julia Haymond Watson

In Commemoration of the Founding of Pella in 1847

Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1922

East Third and University Streets, Pella, Iowa

ADMISSION - - - 50 CENTS

Reserved Seats 25c Extra, on Sale at General Headquarters on the South Side of the Square

Committees

CHAIRMEN PAGEANT COMMITTEES

General Chairman and Business Manager---F. M. Frush
Costumes---Mrs. Dick Van Gorp
Assembly---Mrs. Mitten
Grounds---J. T. Van Zante
Music---Prof. G. F. Sadler
Lights---I. O. Gauss
Publicity---Y. T. Van Niewaal
Properties---Ed Van Gorp

VICE CHAIRMEN OF ASSEMBLY

Indians---Tunis Klein
Hollanders---D. C. Van Zante
Wild Flowers---Marie Lefeber, Emma Reeverts
Students---Mrs. H. J. Rhynsburger
World War Soldiers---Tunis Kempkes
Red Cross---Martha Verheul, Leona Reuvers
Assistant Stage Manager---Lon Wormhoudt

ORCHESTRA

Hugo W. Kuyper---Director
Ardean Van Arendonk---Pianist

Verle Ramsey,
J. B. Van Hemert,
John Van Dyke,
Nicholas Gosselink,
George Ramsey,
Cornie Ver Ploeg,
Bert Vander Ploeg.

PROGRAM

of the

PAGEANT

of the

All Epfos Red Nall Oh

DOMINIE SCHOLTE
Founder of Pella 1847

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6, 1922

PROGRAM

EPISODE I—PRIMITIVE IOWA

Spirit of the Prairie---Lucille Van Niewaal
Spirit of Indian Days---Martha Gosselink

1—Wild Flowers.
Wild Roses.
Daisies.
Jack-in-the-Pulpits.

2—Spirit of the Prairie.
Scatters wild flowers.
Beckons the Indians.

3—Spirit of Indian Days leads on Indians.
Indian Maidens set up tepees.
Braves perform the War Dance.
Maidens perform the ceremonial "Hymn to the Sun."

4—Warned by the Spirit of the Prairie of the approach of strangers
Spirit of Indian Days leads the Indians to new Hunting Grounds.

Roses

Lenore Gauss
Lydia Hoffman
Adelaide Sybenga
Anna Ruth Bloem
Viretta Van Zante
Alberta Gambell
Dorothy Cook
Ruth Pietenpol

Daisies

Virginia Klein
Genevieve Little
Evelyn Schakel
Marjorie Roelofsen
Catrau Klerz
Gertrude Hankamp
Frances Van Rees
Bernice Blommers

Jack-in-the-Pulpits

Alfred Vander Ploeg
LeMar Hankamp
Elvon Hollebrands
Roy Pietenpol
Hospers Kuyper
Ruard Cochrane
Earl Grandia
Don Dykstra

(Indians continued)

Anna Van Zomeren
Hattie Van Ee
Marion Kuyk
Paul Lautenbach
Bertha Ulrich
Hattie Gezel
T. H. Klein
Janet Gezel
Hattie Grootveld
Tillie Van Roekel

Indian Men and Women

Marie Byers
Jeanett Van Der Wilt
Anna De Haaf
Alice Van Der Helden
Verna Smorenberg
Marie Miehmerhuizen
Harriet Town
Prof. A. P. Kuyper
Mrs. A. P. Kuyper
Fred Van Doornick
Cernie Smorenberg
Charles Klein
Harold Ver Steeg
Earl Klein
Lee Lautenbach
Charles F. Dykstra
Carrie Van Rheenen
Luella Van Rees

Girls in Ceremonial

Martha Gosselink
Harriet Frush
Helen Vanderpol
Frances Vander Linden
Irene Grandia
Ethel Bloem
Grace Van Ryswyk
Jennie Stureman
Edna Reeverts
Henrieta Plette
Tillie Heerends
Irene Haan
Lucille Plette
Wilda Vanderpol
Edith Sedrel
Leota Schakel
Marie Stureman
Bessie Vander Ploeg

5—Interlude—Frolic of the Winds,

Hollanders appear seeking location.

6—Interlude—Tree Nymphs.

Winds

Florence Bout
Mae Plette
Nellie De Haai
Grace Terpstra

Tree Nymphs

Olive Fox
Ila Fox
Elizabeth Brumekool
Sophia Lautenbach
Dora Van Hatten
Artie Gaass

EPISODE TWO—SETTLEMENT OF PELLA

Spirit of America---Magedlene Kuyper
Spirit of State---Mrs. Gary Vogelaar
Spirit of Pella---Mrs. D. C. Van Zante
Dominie Scholte---Chas. Sipkema

1—Coming of the Hollanders.

Spirit of America offers them the flag and citizen ship.

Spirit of State presents Spirit of Pella

Hollanders receive her gladly.

Spirit of Prairie surrenders her Do main.

2—Interlude—Dutch Drill.

Holland Men and Women

Simon Douwstra
Arie Schilder
Dr. Wormhoudt
Mrs. Wormhoudt
Henry Vander Meulen
Mrs. Henry Vander Meulen
Harold Vander Meulen
W. A. Young
James Lankelma
Gerrit Popma
Wm. Den Hartog
Harry Beyers
Fred Veenstra
Bert Janz
Clarence Vander Meulen
Arthur De Winter
Edward Vanden Oever
Ed Cook
Mrs. Ed Cook
John Lankelma
Fred Van Rheenen
Nell Johnson
Aart Klein
Mrs. Aart Klein
Ardus Klein
Paul Scholte
George Stout
Mrs. George Stout
John Ulrich Jr.
Mrs. John Ulrich
Mrs. George Ramsey
John Nieburg
Dick Van Gorp
Mrs. Dick Van Gorp
Miss Marie Lefeber
Mrs. Paul Scholte

Girls in Dutch Drill

Bessie Morris
Mable Morris
Henrietta Vanden Oever
Dena Kofenbrander
Viola LeCocq
Mary Bott
Marion Frush
Nina Gosselink
Anna Tysseling
Edith Kyzer
Katherine Cochrane
Sybil Terpstra
Lenore Ballenger
Wilma Van Doornick
Jeanette Dekker
Esther Kuyper

3—Scene in Dominie Scholte's Church.

Psalm Singing.

Extract from Dominie Scholte's Sermon.

Psalm Singing.

4—Recessional.

Dutch Psalm Singers

D. Den Adel
N. Bogaard
Rev. H. Douwstra
D. W. Gaass
J. D. Gaass
P. G. Gaass
G. H. Gosselink
G. Gosselink
L. Goubooze
Isaac De Haan
Rev. J. De Haan
Rev. J. Heemstra
A. T. Van Houweling
D. A. L. Jans
A. P. Kuyper
G. Klooderman
J. Kruseman
C. Kruseman
H. Van Otmen
J. Vander Ploeg
F. Rooze
J Stursma
H Ver Meer
G. H. Wormhoudt
H. Van Zante
J. R. Van Zee
A. N. Vander Linden

Women of the Church

Wives of the Psalm Singers

EPISODE THREE—FOUNDING AND EARLY HISTORY OF CENTRAL COLLEGE

Spirit of Central---Estelle Kuyper
Mrs. Stoddard---Leona Reuvers
War---L. Van Rees

1—Spirit of Central.

Sends out Buds of Central.

Students Gather.

Spirit of Central enters.

Mrs. Stoddard enters.

2—War interrupts.

Boys leave for war.

3—Pantomime. Star Spangled Banner.

4—Recessional.

5—Interlude—The passing of the Years.

Students

Miss Agnes Bousquet
Mrs. C. F. Dykstra
Mrs. S. B. Baron
Mrs. Meyer Langerak
Mrs. H. J. Rhynsburger
Mrs. T. G. Fultz
Mrs. J. P. Dykstra
Mrs. Chas Sipkema
Miss Dora Sybenga
Miss Gertrude Dykstra
Miss Eva Stubenrauch
Miss Myrtle Vander Meulen
Oren Van Niewaal
Alfred Alonzo Johnson
John Hoeven
Earl Boat
John De Haan
Harold Thomasen
Harry Neyenesch
Walter Butt
Russell Druz
Gerald Dykstra
Harold Ver Steeg
Ray Fox

Buds of Central

Dorothy Gambell
Elizabeth Butt
Beulah Veenstra
Margaret Cochrane

Years

Bertha Plette
Helen Gaass
Jeanette Boseveld
Antoinette Vander Ploeg
Hilda DeCook

EPISODE FOUR—PELLA TODAY

Spirit of Patriotism---Mrs. M. McWilliams
Church---A. B. Van Houweling
Education---Dean W. H. Pietenpol

1—Spirit of Patriotism presents town interests to Spirit of Pella.

Church.

Education.

Play—Folk Game, May Game.

Folk Game

Mae Meppelink
Gladys Burkens
Velia Keaning
Adelia Gladstone
Louise Gladstone
Henriette Plette
Lucille Cochrane
Mary Bruins

May Song

Helene Slob
Erma Visser
Christine Ver Steeg
Frances LeCocq
Wilma Van Gorp
Florence Grandia

PELLA INDUSTRIES

Pella Caning Co.
Blommers Milling Co.
George Heeren,
Garden City Feeder Co.
Pella Overall Co.

PELLA MERCHANTS

Awtry and Lankelma,
Wm. J. Bruinekool, Sheet Metal Worker,
Bell Clothing Co.,
C. Boat,
Mrs. Black,
C. N. Cole,
De Wit and Bousquet,
De Wit Bros.,
De Jong Floral Co.,
De Reus Hat Shop,
Ever Ready Sales Co.,
Farmers Produce Co.,
Gambell's Store,
F. C. Hakkers,
Klyn and De Winter, Meat Market,
Kuyper Music House,
Model Clothing Co.,
Puritan Drug Co.,
Pella National Bank,
Pella Motor Co.,
T. Plette and Co., Grocers,
Royal Candy Co.,
Right Price Store,
B. H. Sack, Tailor,
Singer Sewing Machine Co.,
Star Automobile Co.,
M. Vander Linden,
L. Van Rees,
Vander Ploeg, Bakery and Groceries,
Vanden Oever and Vanden Berg,
Van Zante Brothers,
Gary T. Vogelaar, Farm Implement Dealer,
Wm. Van Rees, Dry Cleaning,
G. H. Vanden Berg and Co.,
Y. T. Van Niewaal,
F. C. Warner,
J. S. Wilson, Jeweler,
Wormhoudt and Plette,
Byers Battery and Electric Sales Co.,
Ulrich's Meat Market,
Electric Shop represented by Elizabeth and Jack Rhynsburger,
C. W. Clement Auto Paint Shop,
Waechter Lumber Co.,
Kuyper Lumber Co.,
The Pella Chronicle,
Security State Bank,
Farmers National Bank,
Manhattan Oil Co.
Booster Press,

BOOSTER SONG

Words by Mrs. F. M. Frush.

Music, Chorus, "The Bells of St. Marys"

All Epfos Red Nall Oh,
Thy hardships we all know;
Who laid out—with great care
Our city so fair;
Our crops are the rarest,
Our town is the fairest,
Our songs of praise
With joy we raise
To Honor Thee.

2—Spirit of Patriotism and Boy Scouts bring in Civil War Soldiers

3—Followed by the World War Soldiers,
Who will reproduce a battle scene of France.

3—Red Cross formed by Public School Children.

4—All participants of the Pageant assemble during the singing of "America the Beautiful," led by Mrs. Mary Taylor-Liggett.

Boy Scouts

Frances Dykstra
Raymond De Grofft
Charles Mitten
Gilbert Boat
Mansfield Ver Steeg
Donald Waechter
Willard De Winter
Arthur Steenhoek
Garret Wormhoudt
Anthony Tysseling
Jean Kuyper
Cornie Jaarsma
Robert Crew
Arthur Van Arendonk
Tunie De Pree
A. De Winter
Rollin Klein

Civil War Soldiers

Murray Cox
H. F. Fisk
W. P. Fowler
Peter Ten Hagen
Stephen De Kock
F. N. Byram
A. Van Marel
J. J. Franklin

School Children

Mable De Haan
Elvaton Van Balen
William De Grofft
Catherine Popma
Jeanette Van Zee
Fay Porter
Richard Tysseling
Ruth Van Zee
Lucille Van Rees
Everdine Bruins
Johanna Schakel
Freda Terpstra
Herman Douwstra
Edward Vander Ploeg
Iris Hesselink
Marjorie Van Roekel
Ralph Kaldenberg
Margaret Van Gorp
Albert Langerak
Martin Heerema
Marjorie Baron
Frances Gaass
Jeanette Luberden
Minnie Langerstraat
William Wesselink
Tena Van Oostrum
Harriet Helt
Gladys Fennema
Elma LeCocq
Gertrude Veripps
Johanna Vander Hoek
Ruth Vander Linden
Emeline Gezel
Gertrude Van Niewaal
Cora Jansz
Jeanette Langerak
Alida Stureman
Elizabeth Michmehuizen
Harriet Hurzegan
Yvonne Aschenbrenner
Arthur Van Roekel
Elizabeth Blommers
Luella Beerends
Antonia Naaktgeboren
Lucile Den Adel
Lester Jelsma
Francis Douwstra
Ethel Roorda
Ruth Lautenbach
Verlan Porter

(School Children continued)

Bernice Gezel
Margaret Hocksema
Louise Vander Linden
Dora Scheffers
Ruth Dykstra
Gertrude Steenhoek
Elva Mae Van Houweling
Gertrude Hensing
Margaret Billiu
Fanny Popma
Florence Van Sittert
Jeanette De Reus
Florence Vroom
Edith Grover
Avis Vroom
Edith Roorda
Ralph Huizenga
Lavina Klein
Donald Renaud
Sarah Wormhoudt
Robert Rouwenhorst
Guelph Aschenbrenner
Orville Dykstra
Walter Arens
Leonora Helt
Ruth Ten Hagen
Cornelia De Kock
Anna Ver Hey
Esther Den Hartog
Welena Plette
Jeanette Rouwenhorst
Jennie Huizinga
Josephine Thomas
Mildred Burdick
Dorothy Rozenberg
Robert Baron
Viola Vroom
Mildred Cole
Leona Arens
Minnie Naaktgeboren
Edna Boyer
Mary Crew
Lucile Klein
Elizabeth Wesselink
Olive Schakel
Dorothy Verrips
Ruth Fennema
Cornelia Schippers
Esther Kaldenberg
Martha Crew
Clara Plette
Willard Langerak
Thelma De Grofft

PROGRAM

of the

75th Anniversary

of the Founding of Pella

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th

10:00 a. m.—Thanksgiving Service.....Beard's Grove.
Subject—Principles of Immigration. One service in Dutch. One in American.
1:30 p. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Pella Junior Band.
2:00 p. m.—Program, public park:
Address of Welcome.....M. J. Hoffman, President Central College.
Music—Iowa Corn Song, Riley, Sung by Tunis Kempkes and Children chorus.
Selection—Happy Spring Waltz, Osgood.....Childrens Chorus
Selection—When the Frost is on the Pumpkin, Herbert.....Childrens Chorus
Address.....Smith W. Brookhart, Candidate for U. S. Senate.
3:30 p. m.—Ball game, Central Athletic Field, Pella vs. Winterset.
5:30 p. m.—Balloon Ascension with Parachute Leap, north Main Street near Laundry.
7:00 p. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Monroe Band.
8:00 p. m.—Program and Free Entertainment.....Public Park.
Selection, "Praise the Lord," Rannager.....Adult Chorus.
Iowa Corn Song, Community Singing.....Led by Chorus.
Celebration Song, Community Singing.....Led by Chorus.
Selection "Out Where the West Begins," Pailleo.....Adult Chorus.
8:30 p. m.—Free Entertainment:
Max Brenton, Muscular and Physical Culture Acts.
Wire Walking and Juggling Act with Trained Dogs.
Sam Ewing and his Dixie Quartet.
Lee Planet, Cloud Swing and Flying Trapeze.
Cavilla, One Man Band will entertain on the streets at all hours.

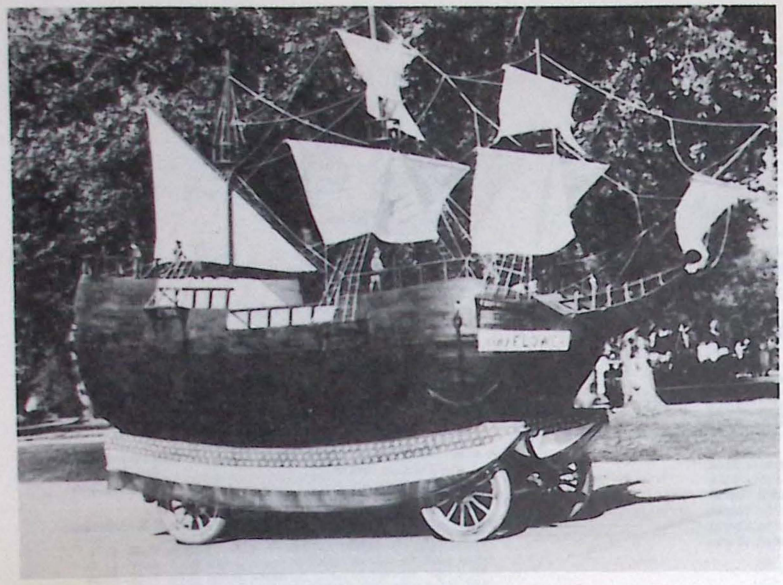
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6th

9:00 a. m.—Band Concert in public park.....Pella Senior Band.
9:30 a. m.—Religious Service.....Beard's Grove.
Subjects—1. Principles and Significance of Immigration. 2. Hardships and Victories. One service in Dutch and one in American.
10:30 a. m.—Free Entertainment:
Max Brenton, Muscular and Physical Culture Acts.
Sam Ewing and his Dixie Quartet.
11:00 a. m.—Parade, Featuring Prairie Schooner with Ox Team, Elaborate Floats, American Legion, Bands, and many other interesting things.
1:30 p. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Pella Senior Band.
2:00 p. m.—Program.....Public Park.
Celebration Song. Community Singing.
Address—J. R. Files, Candidate for Governor of Iowa.
Selection, Kipling's Recessional.....Male Chorus.
Address—Ben J. Gibson, Attorney General, State of Iowa.
3:30 p. m.—Ball Game, Central College Athletic Field, Pella vs. Victor.
4:30 p. m.—Free Entertainment, public park:
Lee Planet Cloud Swinging and Flying Trapeze.
Wire Walking and Juggling Act.
5:30 p. m.—Balloon Ascension with parachute leap, north Main Street. Cavilla, One Man Band will entertain on the street at all hours.
6:30 p. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Oskaloosa Band.
8:00 p. m.—Pageant.....All Epfos Red Nall Oh.
This will be given near East First and University Streets about five blocks south and three east of the public park. Admission 50 c. Reserved seats 25c. Autos free. This is one of the main features of the celebration. (In case of rain it will be given Thursday night).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th

9:00 a. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Pella Senior Band.
9:30 a. m.—Religious Service.....Beard's Grove.
Subjects—1. Principles of this Immigration and the Present. 2. Principles of this Immigration and the Future.
One Service in Dutch and one in American.
10:30 a. m.—Athletic Events.....North Side of Square.
Sack race, free-for-all, prizes, $2.00, $1.00, 50c.
Potato race, free-for-all up to 16 years, prizes $2.00, $1.50, $1.00.
Girls race, free-for-all up to 16 years, prizes $2.00, $1.50, $1.00.
Boys race, free-for-all up to 16 years, prizes $2.00, $1.50, $1.00.
Fat Mans race, 200 pounds or over, prizes $2.00, $1.50, $1.00.
Greased Pole Climbing Contest, prize $7.00.
Water Fight between two teams Pella Fire Dept., prize $15.00
11:30 a. m.—Parade.
Hundreds of dollars has been spent in preparing this parade; it is well worth seeing.
1:30 a. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Pella Senior Band.
2:00 p. m.—Program:
"Sing Hallelujah Forth".....Double Male Quartet.
Address.....Clyde L. Herring, Candidate U. S. Senate.
Solo, Selected.....Mrs. Mary Taylor Liggett.
3:30 p. m.—Ball Game, Central College Athletic Field, Pella vs. Milo.
4:30 p. m.—Free Entertainment:
Sam Ewing and his Dixie Quartet.
Max Brenton, Muscular and Physical Culture Acts.
Lee Planet, Cloud Swinging and Juggling Act.
Wire Walking and Juggling Act.
Cavilla, One Man Band will entertain on streets at all hours.
5:30 p. m.—Balloon Ascension with parachute leap, north Main Street.
7:00 p. m.—Band Concert, public park.....Knoxville Band.
8:00 p. m.—Program.....Public Park.
America—Community Singing.
"The Heavens are Telling," Hayden from Creation.....Adult Chorus.
Freedom Our Queen.....Childrens Chorus.
"Gloria" from 12th Mass, Mozart.....Adult Chorus.
Dixie.....Community Singing.
Celebration Song.....Community Singing.
"Farewell to Thee".....Solo, Carl Beyers and Chorus.
Finale.....Pella Senior Band.
Mrs. Mary Taylor-Liggett in charge of choruses.

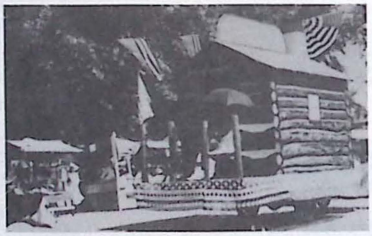
All the events on the Program are FREE except Ball Games and the Pageant for which a small admission fee will be charged.



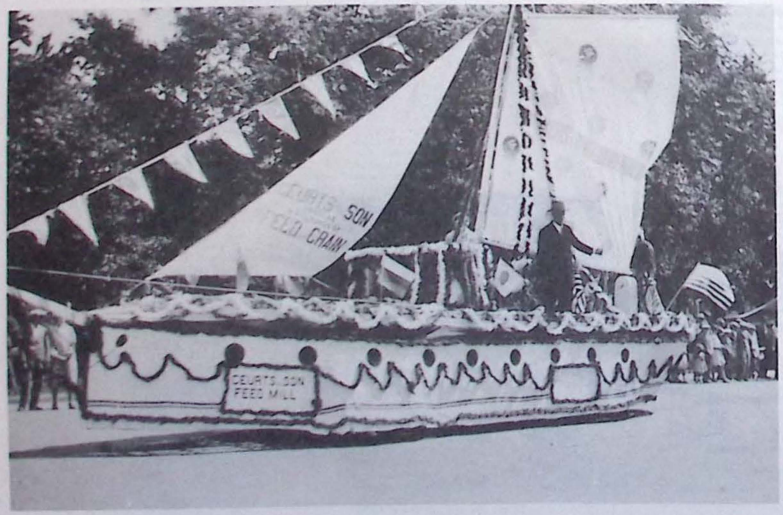
Mayflower float honoring the Pilgrims.

The Tuesday program consisted mainly of band concerts, vocal selections and various speakers along with a Pella-Winterset ball game and the Free Entertainment which was offered each day. The most popular acts with the children were: Max Brenton, a strong man, who bent nails and heavy iron rods with his teeth and lifted heavy weights; Leo Planet, the trapezeman; and a trained-dog wire walking act.

Replica of Hollanders arriving in covered wagon.



Log Cabin float in 1922 parade.



Geurts & Son Feed Mill float.

Each evening there was a beautiful balloon ascension. The balloon was filled east of Main St. across from the feed mill, (wnere Sunken Gardens is now located) and a mild south wind carried it north where the balloonist dropped to the ground in a field near the First Reformed Cemetery (now known as Graceland Cemetery.)

Wednesday and Thursday's morning programs began with band concerts and worship services and culminated in the grand parade starting at 11:00 A.M. There were over 40 units representing businesses and organizations in the line-up.

A beautiful white swan displayed the skill and craftmanship of George Heeren, builder and designer of many of the other floats and maker of the first, and justly famous, Corn Dollar. This was fashioned as a large coin with the face side reproduced as a mosaic in kernels of corn.

Another outstanding float depicted a log cabin with Mrs. G.A. Vander Meulen, the first white girl to be born in Pella, sitting in the doorway. She had traveled all the way from California for this event.

A real prairie schooner which was pulled by a team of oxen was also well worth special mention. Music for the parade was furnished by Pella's two bands, the Ramsey Band and the Chamber of Commerce Band.

The highlight of Wednesday's program was a pageant entitled *Eptos Red Nall Oh* (The title in the language of the American Indian) which was held in a natural ampitheater at East Third and University St. The pageant was written, arranged and directed by Miss Julia Haymond Watson of Central College and told the history of Pella in song and pantomime. Dancing was greatly frowned upon so the words "drill" and "games" were substituted for that activity on the printed programs.

Over 150 people participated in the production which was most enthusiatically received by the crowds that attended.

On Thursday afternoon the Knoxville Band surprised the crowd downtown with an unscheduled appearance on the square for a concert and short march down Franklin St. They were followed by about 50 carloads of Knoxville well wishers reciprocating Pella's support of the Marion County Fair held earlier.

Continuously throughout the festival, rides were provided to the delight of the young folks on a Ferris wheel and merry-go-round as well as games of skill set up in booths in the downtown area.

PELLA'S CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION - 1947

T91

Pella's Centennial year was celebrated during the tenth annual Tulip Time, May 15, 16 and 17, 1947. The original plans were postponed one week because the tulips were

The Pella Historical Society

and

The Pella Chamber of Commerce

present

"The City of Refuge"

Historical Pageant-Spectacle

Rehearsed and Staged by

Paul T. Haagen, Jr.

Representing the John B. Rogers Producing Co., of Fostoria, Ohio.
All costumes, scenery and lighting by the Rogers Co.

Rehearsal and Show Pianist - - - - - - - - Joan Farver
Amplification - - - - - - - - - - Andrew Buwalda
Narration - - - - - - - - - - Paul T. Haagen, Jr.

NARRATORS

Jean Leu	Jack Bootsma
Harriet Prins	Tunis Prins
Louise Van Hemert	Del De Haan

Swimming Pool Park, Pella, Iowa

May 15, 16 and 17, 1947

8:15 P. M.

SYNOPSIS OF

"The City of Refuge"

The mammoth historical spectacle with a cast of over 600, depicting the history of Pella from the time of the Indian to the time of the modern city of 1947.

PROLOGUE

Greetings to you assembled here as we present the thrilling story of the founding, growth and development of Pella over a period of one hundred years.

Couriers and banner bearers arrive to make an avenue of flags through which the Tulip Queen and her attendants come into view.

Address of welcome by Miss Ruth Vander Geest.

Grand Procession of Honor.

EPISODE I

"ENCAMPMENT OF CHIEF BLACKHAWK"

Before the white man came, Marion County saw the Sac and Fox Indian tribes settled here. We show, in this opening scene, the camp of Blackhawk, chief of the Sacs, at the time immediately prior to the Blackhawk War of 1832.

EPISODE II

"BLACKHAWK CAPTURED"

We see Blackhawk and his people as they were brought back to the lands west of the Mississippi after the revolt.

EPISODE III

"THE OLD INN"

This scene takes us to Holland in the year 1832. Hendrik Peter Scholte and a group of fellow students from the University of Leyden meet to discuss religious and economic questions of the day.

EPISODE IV

"WONDER OF GOD"

Scholte, now a minister of the Gospel, is arrested because he dares to preach as he believes, instead of following the ordinances prescribed by the State. His wife, Sara Maria, who is very much in sympathy with his views, is with him when the soldiers come to take him away.

EPISODE V

"SCHOLTE IN PRISON"

Here we see Scholte, alone in a dismal cell imprisoned, but undaunted and unafraid.

(Part 2)

EPISODE VI

"THE BEAUTIFUL MAREAH"

Although Scholte and his followers are prosecuted at every turn, he keeps on preaching to small groups—often in secret. At one of these meetings he meets the beautiful Mareah Krantz. A few months later they are married.

EPISODE VII

"THE LEADERS MEET"

Conditions in Holland grow worse and Scholte and his followers consider the question of emigration. At a meeting of the leaders, they form an Association and decide to emigrate to the United States—to settle in the newly formed state of Iowa.

EPISODE VIII

"PELLA, PLACE OF REFUGE"

It is the autumn of 1847. The Association of Hollanders has reached St. Louis, and a committee of five comes to Iowa to find a suitable location for the Colony. They are met by a group of early settlers.

EPISODE IX

"ARRIVAL OF THE COLONISTS"

As this scene opens, we see the Colonists arriving at the site of Pella—City of Refuge. Their dreams have been realized—their hopes fulfilled.

EPISODE X

"THE FIRST SCHOOL"

As soon as the first crude homes are finished, the thoughts of the Colonists turn to a school for their children. Here we see the first "Meester" teaching the "three R's".

EPISODE XI

"THE FORTY-NINERS"

The "forty-niners" come through Pella on their way to the California Gold fields. Their arrival causes a great deal of excitement in the colony.

EPISODE XII

"AN EARLY WEDDING"

The guests assemble to witness the marriage of two of Pella's most loved young people—Auke H. Viersen and the lovely Henrietta Roelofsz.

EPISODE XIII

"THE CIVIL WAR AND CENTRAL COLLEGE"

War! The North against the South! The bell on "Old Central" rings forth a call for volunteers; and all her young men respond to that call and leave to join the Union Army.

(Page 3)

EPISODE XIV

"THE LEADER PASSES ON"

The life of Dominie Scholte, the leader, has ended; but the "City of Refuge" he has helped to build remains.

EPISODE XV

"THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY"

Pella celebrates the 50th anniversary of her settlement. It is a gala event.

EPISODES XVI and XVII

In these final episodes of our pageant we show in tableau and pantomime form two historic scenes of the late world conflict which our audience will immediately recognize, and to which you will thrill again as you did when they were first enacted and the pictures of them were first flashed around the world.

GRAND HISTORICAL SPECTACLE FINALE

The entire cast of this Historical Spectacle, featuring representatives of the allied nations, join in the grand finale. Their common pledge and our prayer is not only a salute to America, but a salute to all mankind that has ever since time began, hungered, searched, and fought for the right to freedom and individuality.

PANORAMA OF PAST ACHIEVEMENT
CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE

A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

The Pella Historical Society and the Pella Chamber of Commerce, sponsors of the Pageant-Spectacle "City of Refuge", M. M. Dockendorf, General Chairman of the Tulip Time Centennial Festival, and Paul T. Haagen, Jr., Pageant Master, wish to express their appreciation to the many members of the Cast who have given so graciously of their time and talent. Also, we particularly wish to thank the Pageant Committees who have done a magnificent piece of work—General, Script, Talent, Construction, Seating, Stage Crew, Properties, Costume and Make-up, Tickets, Program, Lighting, Grounds, Publicity, Policing and Ushering. Lack of space does not permit the names of all Committee members in detail. We consider ourselves deeply indebted to those who loaned or constructed properties and to everyone who evidenced faith in the pageant by giving us their wholehearted cooperation.

(Page 4)

The Pella Historical Society
and
The Pella Chamber of Commerce
Present
"The City of Refuge"
Historical Pageant—Spectacle

PERSONNEL OF THE CAST

TRUMPETEERS

Lou Ann LeCocq — Priscilla Dingeman — Judy Allen
Caroline Lautenbach — Dorothy Toom — Marilla Vander Meulen

MONITORS OF THE NATIONS AND CENTENNIAL CADETS

Gary Thomassen — Nancy Vander Meulen — Phyllis Van Wyk
Sally Jo Ver Dught — Jean Den Adel — Darlene Van Wyk
Sally Borkhart — Anita Van Rees — Beverly Raney
Carol Klein — Barbara Bosch — Shirley Van Dyke
Sandra Cummings — Wilma Ver Neuy — Lila Klein
Gwendolyn Vander Berg — Sally Jessie Scott — Kathryn Rosenberg
Judith Cook — Darlene Broadhart — Eleaner Gasse
Bonnie Knipper — Arretta Ver Hoel — Luella Van Ekeren
Debra Van Werden — Delores Burkhart — Shirley Groendyke
Lillian Luther — Geraldine Schakel — Sherry Koopmans
Marilyn Andeweg — Barbara Buyert — Joan Ashers
Norma Jean Swaak — Betty Hekkelsrgen — Marilyn Visser
Patsy Schreiner — Anna Mae Van Zante — Dorothy Vanden Oever
Marilyn Lovetink — Nancy Grenda — Sandra Sels
Mary Ann Vanden Oever — Marlene Sels — Sara Davis
Deloris Smith — Darlene Fuller — Andrea Bost
Jean Ver Neuy — Mary Ann Tell — Norma Jean Hagen
Judy IetVeld — Evalena Olivier — Dorothy Dieleman
Elaine Plaga — Ruth Mordenga — Junella Van Hal
Janice Kuyper — Lester Van Zee — Vivian De Heus
Mary Lou Ten Hagen — Zada De Jong — Joyce Leydens
Beth Ann Brems — Magdalene Rozenburg — Phyllis Retzad
Aldora Buwalda — Marilyn Van Veen — Dorothy Schakel
Frances Van Veen — Margaret Olivett — Marlene Dykstra
Mary Lou Sheppard — Delores IetVeld — Junella De Zwart
Mary Lou Via — Patsy Rysdam — Mary Alice Buwalda
Sally IetVeld — Mary Ruth Kempkes

JACKIES

Lillian Goemaat — Mary Ann Tell — Donna Jean Van Dusselderp
Ellen June De Cook — Patty Vriezelaar — Elizabeth Kempkes
Mildred Vander Veer — Bonnie Thomassen — Lenna De Raaij
Ruby Leydens — Cordelia Vander Horst — Betty Brummel
Ruby Bozeman — Willa Zickel — Mary Armstrong
Nancy Van Maanen — Bonnie Van Zoomeren — Donna Jean Veenstra
Violet Kuiper — Helen Van Zante — Tomie Ikuta
Pauline Steenhoek — Carol Ver Steeg — Mickey Ver Ploeg
Ruth Buwalda

Muriel Te Selle — Arlene Eibring — Ruth Gusselink
Betty Jean Rozenboom — Charlotte Popper — Marianne Walvoord
Joy Douwsma — Helen Vander Meer — Rose Nelson
Lois Rozenboom — Ann Cermack — Pearl Bruining
Florence Meredith — Jean Gardner — Helen Bishop
Nora Baarda

QUEEN'S COURT

Ruth Vegtvlast — Della Dingeman
Bernice Herrera — Bernice Zastrma

QUEEN

Ruth Vander Goot

ATTENDANTS TO QUEEN

(Page 3)

EPISODE I

Encampment of Chief Blackhawk

Blackhawk — Tunis Prins
Fox Chief — Herbert Mentink

Braves

Bill Frundt — Edward Vos — Elmo Hughes
Lawrence Klein — Homer Johnson — Gerald Dieleman
Jack Pell — Everett Vande Voort — Louis Van Roekel
Chet L. Cross — John Van Berkum — Arnold IetVeld
Maurice Mineart — John Groendyke

Squaws

Elsie IetVeld — Elsie Whalley — Emmeline Vos
Hattie Klein — Wynona Van Berkum — Agnes Dieleman
Margery Andrew

Indian Maidens

Patricia Cox — Elmer Ver Meer — Betty Brands
Mary Furda — Marilynn De Boer — Joyce De Bruin
Catherine Hotaling — Ruth Ludwigsen

Indian Children

Paul Frundt — Lila Jay Klein — Bonnie Vos
Mary Frundt — Larry Dean Klein — Dorothy Dieleman
Edith Frundt — Harold Vos — Mary Dieleman
Arnold Dale IetVeld — Charles Vos

EPISODE II

"Blackhawk Captured"

General Atkinson — John P. Ver Meer

Soldiers

Elmer Ver Meer — Jack Fisk — Marvin Bosveld
Harry Ver Meer — Johnny Ver Meer — Harlan Kloostra
Wallace Kooyman — Jacob Hoe — Melvin Ver Meer
Kenneth Kooyman — Clarence Van Zee — Marvin Lanser
Bob Gusselink — Willard Bosveld

EPISODE III

"The Old Inn"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Peter George Gasse
Albertus Van Raalte — E. S. Cook
H. Van Beaming — Jean Kuyper

Students

Paul K. Tracne — Melvin De Vries — John A. Vander Waal
Robert Van Zante — Ralph H. Van Rheenen — John Kuyper
Bernard Kalkwarf

EPISODE IV

"Wonder of God"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Bob Lautenbach
Sara Maria Scholte — Doretha Klein
Sara Johanna Scholte — Sandra Klein
Sara Maria Scholte — Pamela Klein
Burgemeester — Dr. T. G. Fulte
Officer — Paul Farver

Hollanders

William Vos — Jeannette Roose — Janet De Jong
Clarissa Vos — Irene Bokhoven — Ella Vander Schaaf
Luella Vos — A. D. Ver Meer — Margaret Tibbali
Grace Visser — Gerald Ver Meer — Anna Mae Vander Wiel
Fred Visser — Garret De Boer — Marjory Vander Wiel
Johanna Van Engelenhoven — Andrew De Nooy — Henry T. Vander Ark
Nellie Van Engelenhoven — Alberta Ver Meer — Tracy Vander Ark
Bernice Tromp — Lena De Nooy — Calvin Vander Ark
Gary Tromp — Norma June Hoksbergen — Wilma Roose
Nellie Tromp — Alvin Lee Hoksbergen — Dena Ver Meer
Frank Tromp — Larry Hoksbergen — Marvin Ver Meer
Frances Stings — Alice Pleima — Dolores Ver Meer
Ruth Vander Ark — Shirley Vander Schaaf — Dora De Boer
Jean Vos — Dena Bokhoven — Minnie Roose
Arnold Vander Ark — Margaret Vos — Tillie Eckhoff

Soldiers

Roy Andeweg — Bill Koopmans — Ray Hugen
Paul Farver — Gene Wermbouldt — Dave Bevans
Andy Beverdis — Melvin Van Houweling — Robert Klein
Andy Tysseling

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EPISODE V

"Scholte in Prison"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Peter George Gasse

EPISODE VI

"The Beautiful Maresh"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Peter George Gasse
Maresh Krantz — Leonora Gasse

Hollanders

Fred Visser — Henry Vander Ark — Cora Ver Ploeg
Grace Visser — Tracy Vander Ark — Donald Ver Ploeg
Hattie Kuyper — Calvin Vander Ark — Anthony D. Ver Meer
J. Kuyper — Sophia Versteeg — Deana Ver Meer
Jane Gusselink

EPISODE VII

"The Leaders Meet"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Peter George Gasse
G. H. Overkamp — Len Wermbouldt
Isaac Overkamp — Dr. H. O. Wermbouldt
J. F. LeCocq — Tunis Kempkes
Heerkes Viersen — Will Van Sittert
Jan Rietveld — Bert Baren
Jacob Smeenk — T. H. Klein
A. J. Betten — Del S. De Haan
A. Wigny — Chas. Sipkema

EPISODE VIII

"Pella, Place of Refuge"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Bob Lautenbach
Isaac Overkamp — Dr. H. O. Wermbouldt
Jan Rietveld — John Vander Wal
Tennis Keppel — Edgar Van Ark
G. Vander Pol — W. M. Clark
Major Post — W. M. Clark
William Welch — Ray J. De Haan
Elizabeth Welch — Jean De Haan
Johnnie Welch — Warren De Haan
Wellington Nossaman — D. O. Thomas
Sara Welch Nossaman — Kate Thomas
Welch Nossaman — Tommy Nimmo
Mary Nossaman — Cala Boden
Josh Porter — George Grisel
Mary Ann Porter — Edith Grisel
Robert Hamilton — Walter Koopman
Rebecca Hamilton — Delores Koopman
Charlie Hamilton — Rudy Koopman
Green T. Clark — Ray Van Roekel
Nancy Clark — Ada Van Roekel
Louisa Clark — Phyllis Ruth Van Roekel
Thomas Clark — Jerry Van Roekel

EPISODE IX

"Arrival of the Colonists"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Bob Lautenbach
Maresh — Leonora Gasse
Wellington and Sara Nossaman — Dave and Kate Thomas
Pirate — Cornelia Koopman
Sara Johanna Scholte — Peggy Kuyper
Sara Maria — Alayne Van Dellen
Sara Johanna Susanna — Kay Kuyper
Dr. Joost Hoekstra — Gilbert Vander Waal
Mrs. Jan Synhorst — Freda Vander Waal
All Hollanders from Episode IV

EPISODE X

"The First School"

Isaac Overkamp — Dr. H. O. Wermbouldt

Children

Roger Atkins — Jerald Kuiper — Judith Huyser
Lloyd Ballenger — Robert Leydens — Karen Palmquist
Glen Boat — Melvin Vander Sikel — Joyce Peterman
Larry De Bruin — Evelyn Dykstra — Ellen Rempe
Charles De Bruin — Mae Goemaat — Katherina Rozenberg
Donald Heerema — Carol Ann Grootveld — Mattie Baker
Ralph Janssma — Norma Hagen — Janice Steenhoek

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EPISODE XI

"The Forty-Niners"

Dr. Henry Keables — Renaud Rysdam
Mrs. Carolyn Keables — Cleo Rysdam
George Keables — Douglas Rysdam

Forty-Niner Men

Gilbert Boat — Will Grootveld — Arnold Johnson
Will Van Sittert — John Van Zee — George Kerr
John Ulrich — Ray Hugen — Melvin Hugen
Renaud Rysdam — Herbert Steenhoek — Gary Friezelaar
Verle Ver Dught — LeRoy Steenhoek — Chas. F. Dykstra

Forty-Niner Women

Esther Boat — Cleo Rysdam — Vera Johnson
Mary Helen Van Sittert — Eva Grootveld — Marie Dykstra
Emma Ulrich — Anne Hugen

Children

Carol Ann Grootveld — Tommy Van Zee — Bonnie Kerr
Bernice Van Zee — Sally Ann Hugen — Elmer Dillen
Mary Boat

All Hollanders from Episode IV

EPISODE XII

"An Early Wedding"

Auke H. Viersen — Andrew Klyn
Henrietta F. Roelofer — Charlotte Klyn
Hendrik Peter Scholte — Bob Lautenbach
Maresh Scholte — Leonora Gasse
Rev. E. H. Brarff — Bert Baron

Wedding Guests

Ruth and George Steininger
Helen and LeRoy Stults
Edith De Witt and Howard Lubach
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Leete
Mary and Ralph Hays
Carol Hall and Chet Cross
Verna Mae Hitzenbuhm and Warren Dare
Elma Finger and Maurice Mineart
Alice Price and Russell Miller
Anna Mae Williams and Clyde Evers
Verla Vander Streek and Jack Lysens
June Klyn and Gene Vander Linden
Ruth Van Ee and Leon Vander Schaaf
Beverly Demerest and Howard Van Peursen

EPISODE XIII

"The Civil War and Central College"

Prof. Amos N. Currier — Prof. Ora Niffenegger

College Students

Keith Rankin — Adem Stroh — Robert O. Heus
Elmert Dykema — Dwain Steenhoek — Ward Bailey
Leroy Prins — Don Thomas — Dennis Dreesman
Eugene De Wild — Ila Van Roekel — Sheldon Vos
Don Sedrel — Marilyn Klemstra — David Prins
John Jutting — Phillip Ehlers — Bud Lautenbach
Eugene Den Hartog — Le Roy Reuter — Lesley Teye
Silas Schirmer — Eugene Vander Wel — Carl Wade
Andrew Bandstra — Vernon Dethmer — Jack Fisk
Bert Bandstra — James Van Roekel — Bob Barchouse
Henry Van Leeuwen — William Welper — George Lahfeld
John Heen — Dirk Wiersink — Charles Lahfeld
Jane Gray — Kenneth Thompson — Ted Murphy
Lester Ter Louw — Roy Manning

EPISODE XIV

"The Leader Passes On"

Hendrik Peter Scholte — Peter George Gasse
Maresh Scholte — Leonora Gasse
Doctor — M. M. Deukendorf
Maid — Helene Deukendorf

Men of Pella

Kenneth Vanderlinden — Ralph Hays — George Steinenger
Howard Lubach — Russell Miller

EPISODE XV

"The Golden Anniversary"

Gay Ninety Belles and Beaux

Darlene Bevan	Betty Van Vark	Glen Van Zee
David Bevan	Nick Ver Meer	William Gosselink
Robert Dingeman	Etta Ver Meer	Ardella Gosselink
Betty Dingeman	Ed. Wesselink	Roy Andeweg
Verle Ver Dught	Joyce Wesselink	Wilma Andeweg
Hilda Ver Dught	Ruth Ver Meer	William Grootveld
Elmer Van Zee	Willard Ver Meer	Eva Grootveld
Mavis Veerman	Harriet Van Zee	Jean Dingeman
Robert Van Vark		

Town Crier	George F. Sadler
Burgomeister	Dr. T. G. Fultz
Medicine Man	Dr. J. E. Shultz
Indian	Ray Doornebaas

Can-Can Girls

Jane Klyn	Verla Vander Streek	Margaret Zoerner
Edith Maas	Martha Braum	Alice Price

Dutch Band

Leader, Fred Whalley

Charles Vander Ploeg	Jean Van Zee	Lloyd Vander Streek
Mark Vander Ploeg	Robert Evers	Dean Sadler

EPISODE XVI

"Iwo Jima"

Corrie Tromp	Byron E. Ver Meer	John A. Martzahn
Kenneth E. Thompson	Gument J. Ries	

EPISODE XVII

"Peace on the U.S.S. Missouri"

Gen. Douglas McArthur	Bert Bandstra
Gen. Jonathan Wainwright	Howard Borgman
Gen. Sir Arthur E. Percival	Clyde Evers

Japanese Diplomats

Lawrence Tysseling	Dick Wissink	S. W. Schirmer
	Louie Schultz	

Men on the Missouri

Marvin Kallemyn	S. Williams	Andy Bandstra
John Budding	Dave Bevan	Carl Vegelaar
Frank Moore	Zane Gray	William Vander Molen
John Vander Ploeg	Harry Ostendorp	Anthony C. Bekhoven
Bill Dornan	Buck Terlouw	Gerald Dieleman

GRAND HISTORICAL SPECTACLE FINALE

U.S.A. Girls

Ardith Van Houweling	Thelma Rose Grandia	Alma Visk
Leonora Klein	Betty Joyce Den Hartog	Hattie Van Woert
Delores Swank	Rosemary De Bruyn	Janice Van Zomeren
Thelma Van Roekel	Marcia Van Maanen	Joyce Buwalda
Norma Van Dyke	Donna Mae Van Halen	Mary Jane Menninga
Beulah De Heer	Betty Peterson	La Velma De Penning
Dixie Baletad	Marcily Van Zee	Betty Lou Rempe
Mildred Hoogen	Helen Van Zee	Audrey Roorda
Artie Ruth Van Wyk	Lorraine De Haan	Erma Van Roekel
Elaine Vander Ploeg	Donna Schakel	Sylvia Goemaat
Colleen Renaud	Gertrude Steenbeek	

Nations

Evelyn Prange	Beverly Thomassen	Nola Beat
Betty De Prenger	Virginia Groendyke	Susan Grandman
Eleanor Vos	Jane Van Sittert	Betty J. Vander Beek
Arvena Huyser	Myrtle Evers	

Attendants to the Nations

Joan Stientjes	Marjorie Bensink	Pauline Tysseling
Eunice Rempe	Barbara Vander Werff	Dorothy Blom
Marcella Vander Wilt	Norma Vis	Sally Vriezelaar
Shirley Vander Werf	Bertha Rozendaal	Jeanette Vander Werff
Wilma Van Zee	Tonetta Keuning	Florence Van Maanen
Marcia Klein	Bertha Van Weelden	Geraldine Van Haaften
Dorothy Van Zante	Marjorie Van Zee	Lois Eysink
Joyce Ver Heul	Darlene Halverson	Clara Hasselman

And the Entire Cast.

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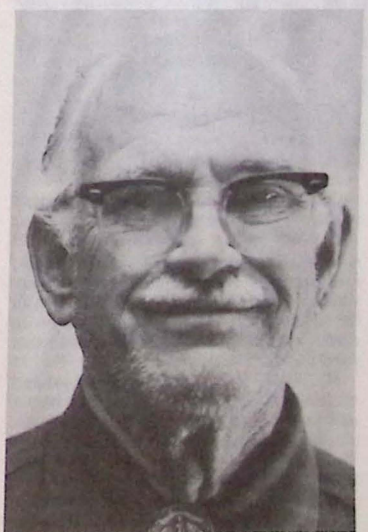
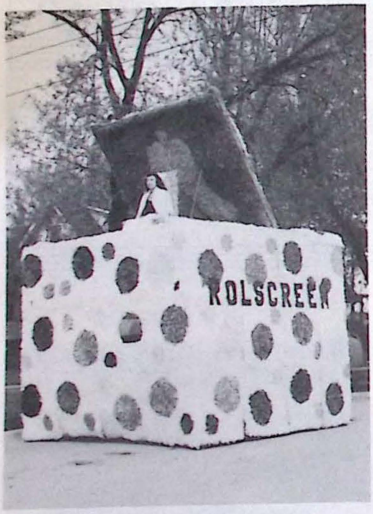
Pella Christian High School float.



M.M. Dockendorff, recent photo, general chairman for the Centennial celebration.

1947 Tulip Queen Ruth Vande Geest, on right, entertains former Tulip Queens. L to R. Leonora Gaass, Martha Van Berkum, Lee Schilder, Bernace Vander Linden, Ruth Klein, Freda Den Burger and Marge Veenman.



Rolscreen Jack in the Box float in the Centennial Parade.

Scene from 100th anniversary pageant held at Swimming Pool Park during Tulip Time. Wellington Nossaman and his wife Sara welcomed Dominie Hendrick Pieter Scholte and his wife Mareah and the accompanying Hollanders when they arrived at the Nossaman home south of the present site of Pella. History records that the American pioneer families were very kind to the Dutch when they came to this strange land one hundred years ago. In the picture, left to right: Robert Lautenbach as Scholte, Mrs. Leonora Gauss Van Dellen as Mareah, D.O. Thomas as Nossaman, Mrs. D.O. Thomas ash Nossaman, Paul Haagen, Mrs. Paul Haagen and Mrs. R.C. Lautenbach as Hollanders. The baby is Roger Nimmo, great-great-grandson of Wellington Nossaman. As the pioneers welcomed the Dutch so Pella folks welcome friends of other ancestry to the Centennial Tulip Festival of 1947.

so slow in blooming due to low temperatures, rain, and lack of sunshine. This is the only time that Tulip Time has been postponed so far in its history but it proved to be a wise decision as the tulips were in prime condition for the event.

Mr. M.M. Dockendorff was the general chairman, Doctor T.G. Fultz was the mayor, and Ruth Vande Geest was the Queen. Her attendents were: Ruth Vogelaar, Bernice Heerma, Bernace Jaarsma and Uella Dingeman.

The great centennial pageant "A City of Refuge" was presented each day in Swimming Pool Park and served as the focus for the festival. For two hours everyone sat in rapt attention as the history of Pella unfolded in colorful scenes on the immense stage. The seating was filled and overflowed to the lawn for each performance.

Such scenes as "The Forty-Niners", "The First School", and "An Early Wedding", were delightful as were the scenes depicting the Indians in full color, the adventures of Dominie Scholte in The Netherlands, the arrival of the pioneers at the site of Pella, Central College's part in the Civil War, and the death of Scholte. The finale of "The City of Refuge" was most impressive with all the over 650 participants on the stage at the same time.

It was believed that one hundred thousand people came to enjoy Pella's Centennial Tulip Time. "Floats in the parade were exquisite. Every one was so fine that it would hardly do to pick out any for special mention. For uniqueness, however, two were outstanding. They were the Rolscreen "Jack-in-the-box" and the Pella Christian High School with the singing chorus. Then that bicycle for two, ridden by Sidney DeHaan and Patty Vriezelaar, and that old high-wheeler bicycle ridden by Bill Gosselink were just exactly right to go with the curious. Fred Dekker with his scissors – grinding wagon, Tunis Kempkes as the Kippe Boer, Les Liter as the Italian organ grinder, the old milk art and the wooden shoe – maker all added color and humor to a grand parade. Not to forget Doc Shultz and his glamor gals in the medicine show, that was an inspiration".

Big crowds, gorgeous tulips, cooperative weather and the hard working people of Pella, all contributed to a most successful centennial.

from the *Pella Chronicle*

OVER THE COFFEE: PELLA'S 100TH

T92

"We stopped at Pella on our way back from the high school commencement at What Cheer, to buy some bologna & Dutch cookies, & ran slap-bang into a sort of a preview of the tulip festival. It was just about the prettiest sight I've ever seen in Iowa. A sort of a dress rehearsal party for the home folks.

All around the square strolled boys & girls from 6 to 60, in wooden shoes, furry gray caps or lace bonnets. In front of the drug store a large group was singing the songs of Holland. Others climbed atop the parked cars to look on.

Over at the park the floodlights illuminated the platforms & stands where men were putting the finishing touches on the amphitheater . . . On the sidewalk in front of the bank Martha & Bob Lautenbach & their friends formed a circle around the b.w. & danced as they sang "May She Live in Glory" in Dutch.

In the Central cafe a handsome young fellow in wooden shoes & a curly gray cap told us his cap cost $2. I wanted one like it, but Van Sittert was all sold out. Editor George Ver Steeg sat down in our booth & told us Pella had bought 90,000 tulip bulbs at such a low price that it was strictly confidential.

The curbs along Highway 163 were gay with tulips in a hundred tints, some enormous, some tiny . . . The experts say it's useless to expect a very vigorous bloom after the second year; better to get new bulbs . . . Best tulip climate in the U.S. is in the states of Oregon & Washington.

Probably no town in America sends so many food & clothing parcels overseas per capita as Pella sends to Holland . . . Thousands of Hollanders want to come to America, but like other desirable immigrants they're blocked by the quota . . . A Hollander wanted for Central college's faculty is ten-thousandth on the priority list . . . At 500 visas a year it'll take him 20 years to get over.

Few towns have such a high proportion of handsome blondes as Pella . . . And there are some striking brunets, too; quite a brunets strain was introduced during the period when

the Spaniards dominated The Netherlands . . . The bakeries were closed, so we got no Dutch cookies, though we admired the pastry "letters" in Vanderploeg's window. We bought two links of bologna & drove on home in deep admiration of the Hollanders."

This material appeared in the May 16, 1947, edition of the *Des Moines Register* in the "Over the Coffee" column.

by Harlan Miller upon his visit to Pella's 100th anniversary celebration

THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

T93

A certificate was awarded for a "Bicentennial Community." L to R: Gladys Nieuwsma and Maurice Birdsall (Co-Chairs), Marie Blecha and Patsy Sadler.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Commission issued a nationwide summons calling on citizens to recall our "Heritage, to celebrate with Festival," and to establish something for the future called "Horizons". The Iowa 63rd General Assembly established the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Committee and on Apr. 24, 1975, Governor Robert D. Ray proclaimed Apr. of 1975, through Dec., 1976, as Iowa's Bicentennial Era.

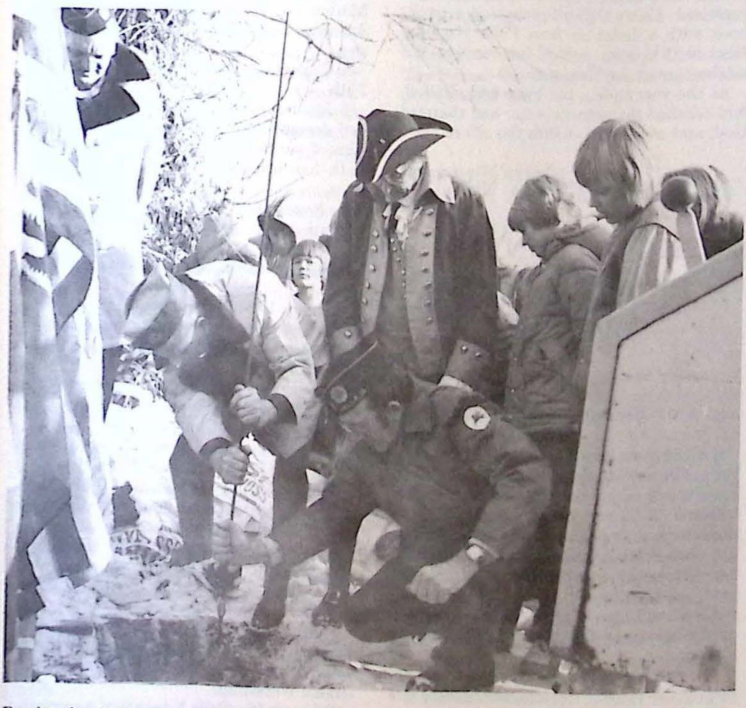
In Marion Co., a county committe was established with Martin J. Heerema as Pella's delegate. The American Legion Post No. 89 urged the city council to begin planning and become Pella's s firt sponsoring organization. State appointed fieldman, Phaene Hibbs, recommended and Heerma endorsed having a Pella Committee to plan its own celebration. Forty organizations in town were invited to an organizational meeting at which a steering committe was chosen. Martin Heerema, Sonja Overman, Darrell Dobernecker, Ken Vandevoort, Maurice Birdsall and Gladys Nieuwsma served, with the committee electing Birdsall and Nieuwsma as Co-Chairman. The entire group met at 6:30 a.m. monthly on Saturday mornings at the Pella National Bank to act on Steering Committee suggestions and report on committee progress.

Exciting plans developed. The committee devised a full-year program which began with a prayer breakfast in January. "Heritage" and "Festival" merged as school events, Tulip Time, Fourth of July and town activities adopted the Bicentennial theme. An activity was scheduled for each month of the year and almost all of them occurred, but the June Chatauqua proved too ambitious and had to be cancelled.

The 'Horizon" mandate was to have a project with lasting value. To register all cemeteries in Marion Co., Pella cooperated with Knoxville. A taping project of Senior Citizens' memories was begun. Establishing a play park on Christian Opportunity Center grounds for C.O.C. clients and neighborhood children became a JAYCEE project.

The biggest project began with the Pella Garden Club pledge of $10,000 toward a Bicentennial Restoration Project which became a full committee effort. The budget required $100,000 for moving an old pioneer house to town, for restoring an existing late 19th century Dutch house, and constructing a replica of both the Vierson house featuring a Dutch hip roof, and the old Scholte church. Plans included using this complex as a meeting house, a Senior Citizen Drop-In center, a craft workshop, a show and reception area, and a second floor over an existing garage to house the miniature Dutch village. Patsy Sadler from the Garden Club drafted a grant requesting the state commission to supply some of the funding. Ken Vandevoort supplied a variety of colored postal cards and Gladys Nieuwsma prepared packets for each commissioner. Mr. Birdsall and Patsy made the presentation, getting $8,000 in the grant. Martin Heerema led a successful fund drive for the balance. Tulip Time that year was a blend of heritage and patriotism with special programs and wonderful music. The parade used the heritage theme and the state Bicentennial Commission decided to hold their May meeting in Pella to attend the festival and view the Restoration Project.

Joyce Kuyper composed a special Bicentennial hymn. "The Pella Chronicle" ran a



Burying the time capsule near the courtyard of the Sterrenberg Library at the Historical Village.

L to R: Dave Bevan, Mart Heerema, unknown, Dick DeWeerd, Ed DeJong, unknown and Gary Gezel prepare to bury the time capsule.

column on *America — 200 years ago.* Pella Rolscreen installed a dozen 4 x 6 historic flags along their street whose origins extended from early colonial days to the present. Randy Rolffs, a local artist, composed four historic etchings which were offered for sale. The Steering Committee approved framing a set for the Historical Society.

Joy Hedrick served as the Fourth of July chairperson. Darrell Dobernecker organized the Kiwanis Club to hold games for family fun at various city parks. There were races, eating contests, hatchet and rolling pin throwing contests, greased pig contests and many others. Joy had committees from many organizations responsible for parade entries or food stands. This parade was for fun. The Legion had a large contingent. Because families stayed in Pella rather than travel that year, many children were in the parade riding bikes and trikes, pulling wagons or just walking. The Steering Committee supplied hundreds of small flags and balloons. The League of Women Voters organized an old-fashioned suffrage march and the most elderly women in town were invited to ride on a suffrage float. (These women had lived during the fight to gain the vote even though some of them were not very comfortable with the concept.) The bands played and the people clapped.

In the afternoon there was a political rally in Central Park as well as a concert by the kitchen band. There were contests for the elderly — old fashioned dress, hard times costume, old fashioned hat, husband-calling, rooster crowing and several more. On Sunday, all the church bells pealed at 8:00 a.m. A circuit preacher appeared at the campgrounds. There was a great joint church service in Central Park with State Auditor, Lloyd Smith, preaching. Larry Grooters, Central music professor, led a mass choir which included the special bicentennial hymn by Joyce Kuyper. At 1:00, church bells rang clear across the nation.

There was a Bicentennial flavor for the remainder of the year, but the Fourth of July was the climax. Gary Gezel of the American Legion was in charge of the time capsule project. It was manufactured at Ring-O-Matic where owner Bill Van Zante designed it. Foulke rubber prepared a special rubber lining and gasket. On Dec. 31, 1976, a special ceremony was held in the courtyard of the Historical Village site where it was later buried. Hundreds of items were placed in the container. Claire Gifford presented a bank-book with a donation from Pella National Bank which is to accrue for funding the celebration of the Tricentennial.

As the year ended, the town had exulted, had relished the extravaganza, had thanked God, and was satisfied with the effort.

by Gladys Nieuwsma

BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

T94

Our Bicentennial Project

It all began with a $10,000 pledge from the Pella Garden Club. The Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission contributed *8000 and the people of Pella and their friends donated the rest to add this $100,000 Pella Historical Society Bicentennial Project to the Historical Village. The group of buildings to be restored and constructed will form a multipurpose structure on the corner of Franklin and East Second Streets.

The project involved moving an old pioneer farm house to town, restoring the existing late 19th Century Dutch house, constructing a replica of both the Viersen house featuring a Dutch hip roof and the old Scholte Meeting House.

All of the buildings will be connected on the inside to create large display areas. A second story over an existing alley garage is planned. Eventually it will house the Dutch Village.

The Bicentennial Restoration Project will be used as a meeting house, Senior Citizen Drop-In Center, craft workshop, show area for visiting displays, and the site of the Pella Garden Club Tulip Time Flower Show. In addition archive and storage space will be provided particularly for the storage and curing of thousands of tulip bulbs used in Pella parks each year.

We look upon the project as a birthday gift to Pella — A Bicentennial memorial to sustain an appreciation of our Dutch – American heritage and to serve future generations.

Pella Bicentennial Steering Committee

Maurice Birdsall and Gladys Nieuwsma Co-Chairman; Darrell Dobernecker, Martin Heerema, Treasurer, Sonja Overman, and Ken Vandevoort.

The Original sponsoring organization was American Legion Post No. 89.

The Complete Bicentennial Committee was composed of representatives from forty organizations.

Other Bicentennial Projects

1. A special Bicentennial Song by Joyce Kuyper commissioned by the Pella Bicentennial Committee.
2. America 200 Years Ago, a weekly column in the Pella Chronicle.
3. Permanent registration of every grave in Marion Co. in co-operation with the Iowa American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.
4. Taping of recollections of early days in Pella.
5. Monthly store window heritage displays.
6. Jaycee C.O.C. Park opening and dedication of a recreation area in north Pella for both handicapped and neighborhood children.
7. Registration of Century Farms in co-operation with the Iowa Farm Bureau.

Pella's Bicentenial Calendar

January 10 – Proclamation by Mayor at Community Prayer Breakfast sponsored by Pella Ministerial Association. Site. Pella Christian High School.

January 18 – *Freedom Foundation, Valley Forge* Women's Federated Program. Site: Second Reformed Church.

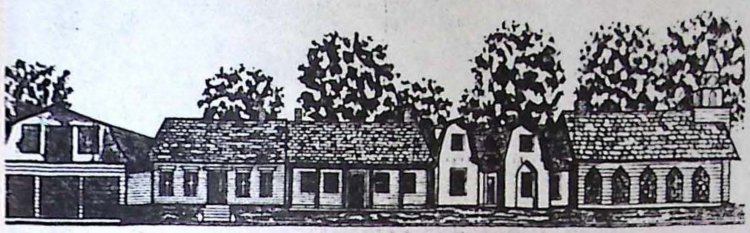
February 2 – Tulip Queen's Announcement Party. Site: Pella Christian High School.

February 2 – A conference: "The Dutch" influence in America. Site. Central College. Cost $5.00 with banquet.

February 5 *American Dream – History and Trends* Eight-week seminar conducted by John Allen begins. Site. Central College-Vogelaar Room in Student Union.

February 5,6,7 – *You Can't Take It With You* , a Central College production about the days of the American Depression. Site: Drama Workshop.

February 12 – Pella Education Association Bicentenial Program. Site: Lincoln Elemen-



Pella's Bicentennial Restoration project was started in Nov. 1975 and was completed May 1, 1976, on the corner at 501 Franklin St.

tary School.

March 4 – Pella Christian Schools with present *Music In Our Schools Day* with a Bicentennial theme. Site: Pella Christian High School.

March 12 – Pella Christian Schools (K-8) Fine Arts Interscholastic Contest with a Bicentennial theme. Site: Pella Christian High School.

March 16 – *Your Home in 1776* , Maurice Birdsall presents a look at Colonial life Women's Federated program. Site Second Reformed church.

April 1-30 – Exibit of American quilts coverlets and pottery. Site: Mills Gallery. Central College.

April 5-14 – Tours of the Pella Historical Village for students of Pella Community Schools. Pella Christian Schools and COC.

April 23 – Pella Christian Grade School (K-5) Bicentennial program. Site: Pella Christian High School gym.

May 6,7,8, – *Tullip Time.* The theme for 1976 is *This Land Is Our Land* Parade depicts 200 years of American History. Flower Show. window displays of American and Dutch heritage. Evening show *Cavalcade of America* Three day Pella Bicentennial Band Contest sponsored by Dr. and Mrs. Frank H. Overman.

May 19 – Fifth District Federation of Garden Clubs convention. Theme: American Heritage Site: Pella Historical village Amsterdam School Revisited Pella Grade School students return to the old days of education with a day of classes in the rural Amsterdam School.

May 30 – Special Memorial Day Service by the American Legion. Site: Oakwood Cemetery.

June Free Chatauqua in the Park – a return to the entertainment of yesteryear sponsored by AARP, Women's Federated club and American Legion Auxillary. Site: West Market Park.

July 3 – *Old Time Fourth of July Celebration* Pella Day. City-wide contests, square dance, displays, music.

July 4 – Sabbath Day Sunday the 4th, special ringing of the church bells, specila services at Red Rock Dam and Roberts Creek.

July 5 – Marion County Day. County-wide get together at Red Rock Lake with water duels, lake activities, fireworks, lighted boat parade.

July 30 – Yankee Tradeer Day. Pella merchants take to the streets to sell their wares.

August 1-31 – Art Show. An exibit of paintings and drawings, 1840-1976, by local artists. Site: Mills Gallery, Central College.

August 7 – Threshers and Antique Auto Show demonstration of old time equipment by Pella Threshers and Dutch Masters Auto Club.

September – *Agri-Industry Days* . Tours of local farms, displays of Pella's industrial products of the past.

September – Pella Squre Dance Festival. Site: to be anounced.

October 8 – *Fall Festival* . Barbeque, machinery and auto displays and arts and crafts fair at the Historical Village.

October 15-17 – Homecoming at Central Theme: *Your Land is My Land* .

November 21 – Thanksgiving mass choir concert. Site: to be anounced.

December 2 – Pella Garden club annual Christmas tour of Homer with Heritage theme.

December 4 – Central College Christmas City Bazaar Old year service closing out the Bicentennial year.

200TH ANNIVERSARY OF DUTCH – AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

T95

In the year 1982 the 200th Anniversary of friendship between The Netherlands and the United States was observed by the two countries. It was on Apr. 19, 1782, that the Amity Treaty was signed by the two countries. There were many special events, among them was the issue of a commemorative stamp in both countries.

In Pella, plans were made to make this a special year full of observances significant to the occasion. The committee was chaired by Barb Dieleman. Other members of the committee were Maurice Birdsall, Jay Vermeer, John De Jong, Phil Webber, Alice Lammers, Bea De Jong, Dick Vander Laan and Patsy Sadler.

A conference on Dutch – American Studies met in Pella to review the papers of Dominie Hendrick Pieter Scholte, founder of Pella. Local school children, in the same month, October, wrote letters creatively to accompany the official invitation to Her Majesty Queen Beatrix to visit Pella, Ia., during her upcoming visit to the United States. Central College hosted distinguished Dutch theologian Hendrikus Berkhof from Leiden University as guest lecturer to students and area pastors.

Articles were planned for the year's anniversary, the first of which was written by Dr. John De Jong featuring Senator Arthur Vandenberg. The articles were planned to appear monthly, written by local scholars on either immigrants or children of immigrant Dutch parents who had distinguished themselves in American life in a variety of fields.

In February, announcement of a community contest to creatively design an appropriate logo for a commemorative postal cancellation and cachet which would be sold at Tulip Time in May.

Alice Lammers presented an article about Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo, outstanding minister of the gospel, a famous Dutch/American. Linguist Dr. Phil Webber was collecting and recording Dutch folklore as remembered by our aging citizens. He also presented a study and implementation of a tour of Pella as influenced by early Dutch architecture immigrants. The city parks were ordered to fly the special Netherlands – American flag bearing the official commemorative logo.

The three essay contest winners were announced.

The observances began in Apr. of 1982, with publication of an article on the famous Dutch – Americans, the Nollen family who are well-known contributors to education, business, and finance and for whom Des Moines' Nollen Plaza is named. Historian Martha Lautenbach wrote the article. Apr. 9, 1982, was proclaimed in Iowa as Dutch – American Friendship Day by governor's proclamation. The signing by Governor Robert D. Ray was witnessed by legislators of Dutch descent and the proclamation was given to the Historical Society.

New carillon tapes were cut in April for the carillons at Central College and Tulip Toren which included twelve folk and patriotic songs.

In May, Dr. Donald Huffman contributed an article about Paul Henry De Kruif, Dutch bacteriologist and writer. Tulip time that month featured many commemorative events with pins, coins, stamps, and stationery available. A new evening musical performance, "Fiesthouden" was written and directed to integrate Dutch – American relationships. School children learned Dutch songs.

Articles appeared in June written by Jay Vermeer and Dr. Phil Webber on the subject of Cyrenus Cole, legislator and local historian. That month the winners of an essay contest left for a two-week all expense paid trip to The Netherlands. Thirty-five local people traveled to Chicago where they were pleased to meet Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus.

Dr. John De Jong wrote an article about Carl Lucas Norden, inventor and mechanical engineer of Dutch – American ancestry. Kermis was celebrated in the same month, July. A local Hindeloopen painter, Sallie De Reus, demonstrated and taught the art as part of Kermis. An architectural tour designed by Dr. Webber was added and a 200th

The essay winners of the 200th anniversary of Dutch/American relations prepare to go to Holland. Left to R: Kim Ver Hey, Barb Dieleman, Ray Dieleman, Bob Bosch, Eunice Kuyper, President of Historical Society, and Stephanie Vruwink. The Historical Society awarded the free trips to Holland to student winners. The Dielemans were chaperones at their own expense. (1982).

The 200th Anniversary cake was baked by local baker, Ralph Jaarsma. Eunice Kuyper displays it in this photo.

anniversary cake was baked by local baker, Ralph Jaarsma.

Pieter De Vries, comic novelist, was portrayed in an article written by Case Vande Ree. During this month of August six scrolls were strategically located for receiving signatures of those in the area who either were born in or had visited The Netherlands.

Willem De Kooning, contemporary artist, was described by Joline De Jong. Pella entertained the Amsterdam Orchestra after having attended concerts in Ames, Ia. The orchestra members toured the town of Pella, the museums and were entertained by costumed Dutch dancers and musical groups. They enjoyed a pig roast. It was this month of September that adult education classes teaching the Dutch language were again in session with the largest enrollment ever.

The Urk Zangers from The Netherlands, by invitation, presented concerts in churches, high schools and Central College. A Community Dutch Psalm Sing was part of the itinerary. Klaas Bolt, organist at St. Bavo Kerk, Haarlem, The Netherlands, appeared in organ concert, lecture, and workshop sessions sponsored by the college and community. Dutch Psalm singing was also part of this event. Dr. Davis Folkerts wrote an article featuring Jan Bender, organist and composer of Dutch – American origin.

Plans were made in Nov., 1982, for building a replica of the Dutch Sinterkloos boat to be used in December and to be used as a float

in the Tulip Time parade. Articles for November and December were written about Daniel De Leon, labor leader, and Hendrich W. Van Leon, historian. These articles were written by Dr. John De Jong and Dr. Harriet Heusinkveld.

The Sinterklaas celebration in December was complete with a parade of children, the Tulip Time Queen, musical groups and the Piets accompanying Sinterklaas as he arrived.

The goal of the committee had been to make the citizens of Pella more aware of the Dutch heritage through a series of events which appealed to all ages. The year of Dutch - American Friendship was truly a time of contemplation for each citizen of Dutch heritage. It was a time to participate in activities promoting the pleasures of "being Dutch". It was a year to savor.

by Barb Dieleman

Kermis Round table discussion. L-R: Loren Vander Zyle, Bob Klein, Dr. Phil Webber, Avis Van Zomeran, Martha Lautenbach, and Alice Lammers.

SUMMER FESTIVALS

T96

The first ice cream social was held July, 1977, with over 300 members touring the village, viewing the miniature village before restoration began.

In 1978 the summer festival was a potluck picnic with ice cream as a treat, provided by Eunice Kuyper. Games were played during the evening.

New furnishings in the Bicentennial Complex in 1979 were the reason for the open house Aug. 20. Joyce Kuyper provided organ music and punch and cookies were served. Plans were being made to hold a Dutch Kermis, or Summer Festival, in 1980.

The first Kermis was held Aug. 2, 1980, with ethnic food, music, penny carnival, and entertainment provided by children's groups.

Kermis in 1981 was a big celebration with Jaarsma Bakery creating the world's largest Dutch letter as a fund raiser for the Village's Dutch Bakery. Mart Heerema organized the ticket sale for the Dutch letter which sold at $1.00 per inch. The Friesland Youth Orchestra performed an evening concert on the Tulip Toren following a potluck supper for 300 at the Village.

A cultural Kermis was held in 1982 organized by Phil Webber as part of a grant from the Iowa Humanities Board. July 15 was Hindeloopen Day with a Dutch luncheon at Scholte Church and special slide display of Folk Art. Sallie De Reus taught Hindeloopen painting in classes during the week. July 16 was the Architectural Tour of Pella with tour wagons used to transport people around town as a narrator pointed out architectural highlights. *The Pella Chronicle* produced a special guide to Historic Pella's Walking Tour. The evening featured a potluck supper and slide presentation of the tour. Kermis was held on Saturday for children.

The Buerkens folklore program featured discussions at Scholte Church. C.C. Buerkens presented his many Chronicle "Buck Saw" columns to the Historical Society at that time. They were cataloged and have been valuable in research for the new Pella History Books.

In 1983 the Kermis potluck was a special thank-you to volunteers at the Village. Barb Dieleman conducted a Dutch sing-along. Donations were taken to purchase a Dutch doll collection. The event had a small attendance. Kermis was held on Saturday.

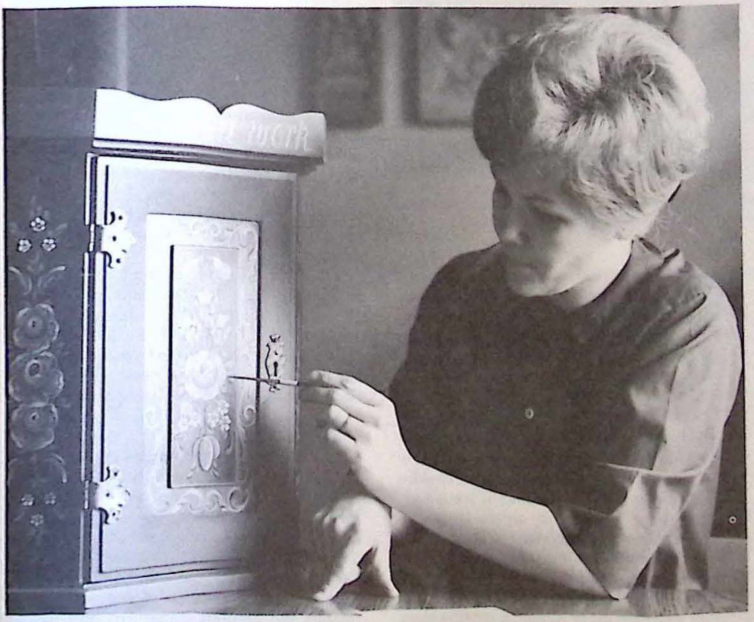
1984's Kermis was a craft festival with guest instructor Corrie Quataert from The Netherlands teaching classes in Staphorst painting, bobbin lace, Dutch sampler stitchery, costume design, and Dutch cooking. A potluck supper was held for Corrie and Pierre Quataert. They showed a film from Holland. Kermis for children was again on Saturday.

In 1985 the Society received a collection of antique costumes and jewelry from The Netherlands. The first Costume Kermis was a Dutch costume style show and jewelry exhibit was a result of this gift. A large crowd attended the potluck and viewed a film from Hindeloopen artist Harmon Glashouwer. Children's Kermis was on Saturday afternoon.

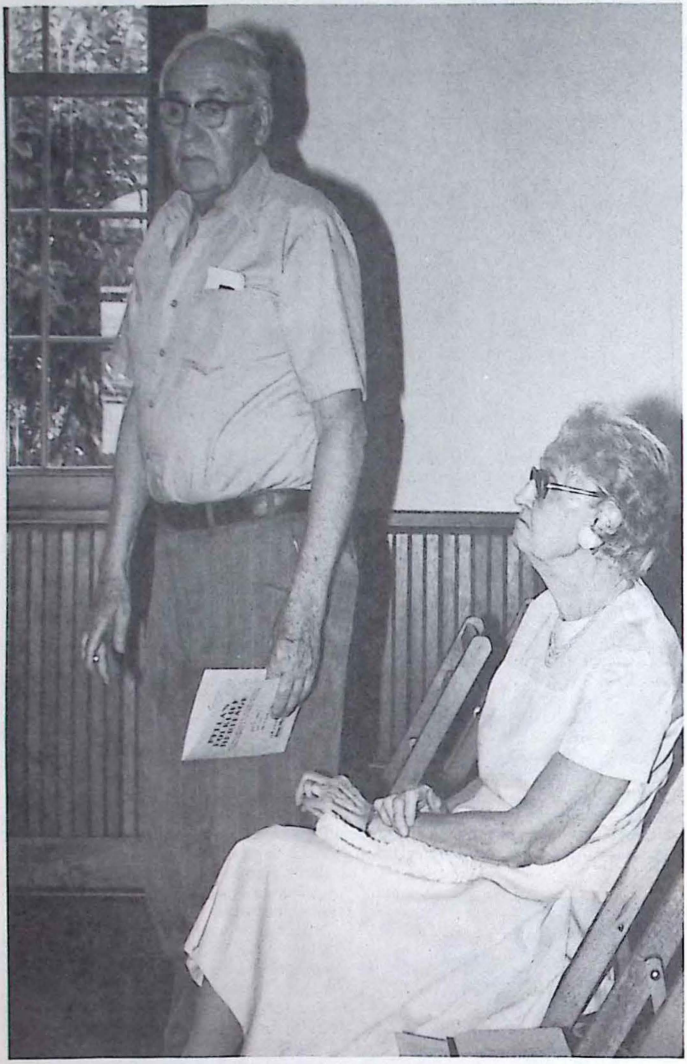
Additional costumes and jewelry from The Netherlands were received in 1986 and a second costume Kermis was held but was poorly attended. Children's Kermis on Saturday was again a big success.

A one-day Kermis was held in July, 1987, having the largest attendance in its history. The attraction for adults was the opportunity to sign the registers if there were relatives on the original immigrant ship lists. Crowds stood in line in Heritage Hall to sign the lists. Children's Kermis was held during the morning to escape the heat in Iowa that summer.

Persons who have been on Kermis Committees have been: Merlyn Vander Leest,



Sallie DeReus Hindeloopen Artist.



C.C. Buerkens and wife Florence at 1982 Kermis. During round table discussion on Pella. Buerkens donated his "Buck Saw" columns from *The Pella Chronicle* to the Historical Society at this time.

Murt Kooi, Patsy Sadler, Jo Harmeling, Lois Lent, Eunice Kuyper, Maurice Birdsall, Ralph Jaarsma, Irma Jansen, Shirely Weller and Elinor Bogaard.

(See photo page 150)

1982 SUMMER WALKING TOUR

T97

1. At the Historical Village, you'll find the Wyatt Earp home, Van Spankeren's store (1853), the Library, the Sterrenberg house (1848, restored 1972, the replica of the Scholte Church and the adjacent buildings on East Second Street. Note the typically Dutch style of beam anchors on the Wyatt Earp home, the strong preference (not exclusively, but typically, Dutch) for brick, and the love of many large windows facing the street. Inside the village complex, take a minute to enjoy the Werkplaats, the log cabin, the pottery shop, grist mill, and our newly-erected Dutch baker.

2. Both 506 and 510 Franklin are on the 1869 plat-like map of Pella, and are typical of the town's architecture during the early period. Note that the house of 510 Franklin is a typical example of the Dutch "one-and-one-half-story" house. Also on the 1869 map are 812 and 908 East Second Street. (The map, entitled a "Bird's Eye View of Pella," has been published in facsimile by the Central College Women's Auxiliary.) A comparable, slightly later home, is at 909 East Third Street.

3. 403 Washington, carefully restored by the present owner, was built by Greitje Cornelia Blom and Pieter Den Adel shortly after their marriage in 1876. The original owner of the home was employed by H.P. Scholte, and had, among his other duties, the care of Scholte's formal gardens. For his faithful efforts, the Rev. Scholte presented Mr. Den Adel with a silver tea service.

4. 1008 East Second Street was built in 1853 by C.M. McClatchey, who operated a woolen mill in what is now the barn behind the house. The house, with its prominent Gothic styling, features hand-carved supporting posts and a walnut – railed three-flight open staircase. Particularly striking is the houses's recessed entrance, with its decorative features.

5. 608 Lincoln, a restored log cabin, is believed to date back to 1843; it is one of the original structures built by pioneer settlers listed on an 1846 plat map. Note the style of corner notching, which would be typical of structures influenced by German conventions.

At this point in your walking tour you may wish to go one-half block north and take a break at Sunken Garden Park.

6. 618 Washington began as the studio and living quarters of Gerard Nollen, some of whose paintings are in the Historical Village. In 1864, the house passed to Gerard's brother John, who was married to a daughter of Pella's founder, H.P. Scholte. The family produced many prominent citizens, including a president of Grinnell College, and the luminaries for whom Nollen Plaza in Des Moines is named.

7. The fountain on Central Park is located near the site of Pella's first log cabin, owned by the Tuttle family; the bricks for the walkway around the fountain were originally used to pave the town's streets.

8. 734 Washington is the home of H.P. Scholte, Pella's founder. Arrangements for tours may be made at the Historical Village.

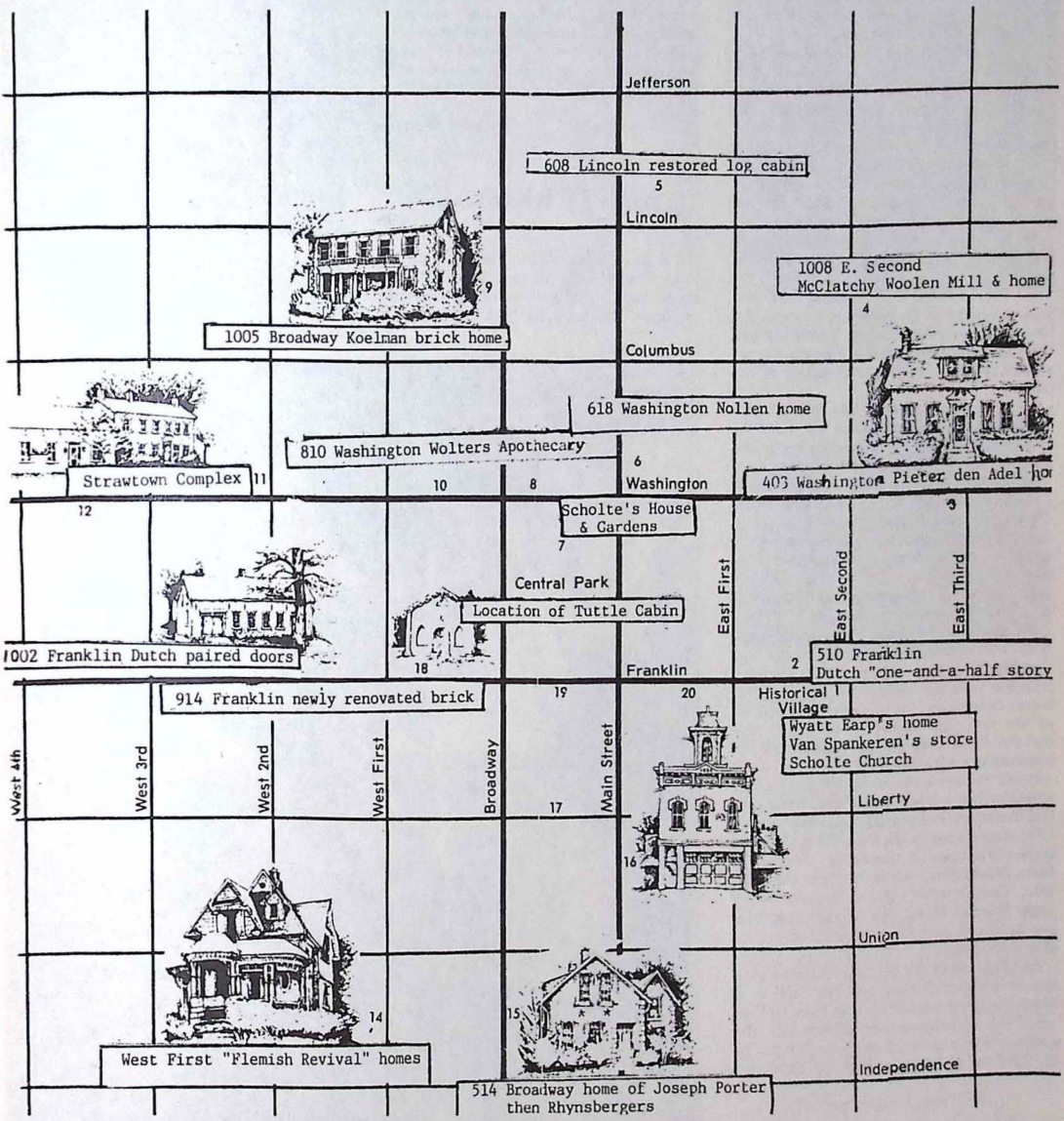
9. 1005 Broadway typifies the older large homes which once characterized the area. It was the home of Philip J. Koelman who helped plan and lay out the Scholtes' formal gardens.

10. 810 Washington (now the Holland Theater) began as the drug store and home of H.C.H. Wolters; it was later owned by the prominent Van Stigt family, whose shoe store once stood one door east. It has also served as a restaurant and historical museum. Note the stone with its inscription in Dutch, telling us that Wolters laid the first stone on June 5, 1856.

11. Along West Washington Street are several homes on the 1869 "Bird's Eye View," including 814, 915, 1004, and 1100 Washington; one of the oldest houses stands directly across from the Strawtown complex. Several of these show a cross gable with a door, a feature which may possibly reflect the Dutch convention of several doors in a vertical line up the front of the building.

12. The Strawtown complex is named after the temporary shelters, insulated by the native slough grass, occupied by many of Pella's first settlers. The building on the east end (1854) was the original home of Central College; the middle structure (1856) was a general store and homes. Both show the typically Dutch feature of mouse-toothing (angled and pointed courses of brick work) under the roof on the end walls. Note the windows particularly on the middle struc-

Historic Pella
—An Architectural Walking Tour



ture, whose design imitates that of a typically Dutch casement window, though these operate as sash windows. the Strawtown Inn (erected about 1856) began as a bakery and restaurant.

13. Among Pella's older structures are 1002 Franklin Street (with the characteristically Dutch paired front doors) and the newly renovated brick building at 914 Franklin Street. The structure at 914 Franklin preserves the division into living space and work area (added later), all under one roof. The west end, with its double doors, was used as a blacksmith's shop; the east end was used, as it still is, for residential quarters. The brickwork is in the style known as Dutch cross bond; note the casement – sash – style windows.

14. Along West First Street are some of Pella's finest homes, including examples of the so-called Flemish Revival styles; among

architectural features worth noting are the roof-crossed gable with its three-sided hipped portion on the house at 515 West First Street, and the decorative details on the house at 505 West First Street.

The Central College campus, affiliated with the Reformed Church in America (sometimes called the Dutch Reformed Church), is known for its many fine programs, including international studies at six overseas centers. Several examples of the Dutch influences are also found here.

15. The land at 514 Broadway was sold quite early by H.P. Scholte to Joseph Porter, on the condition that he build a steam sawmill. The property was acquired in the 1860's by C. Rhynsburger, who built his home there. Note the star-shaped beam anchors, which show a switch from a Dutch to a more typically American form, and the prominent use of stone for lintels and sills, for the quoins, and around the recessed entrance.

16. Main Street: you will recognize the old Fire Department building by its bell-tower and bell.

17. 708 Liberty, built around 1857, was once the home of H. Neyenesch, one of the first teachers in Pella and at Central College. He was also active in publishing and served as city recorder, mayor, and justice of the peace.

18. The so-called Soul Sleepers' Church appears on the 1869 map. Over the years, the building has served Pella's small but active congregation of the Plymouth Brethren.

19. Dutch fronts are found on many of Pella's downtown buildings. How many Dutch business names can you spot? Can you identify the function of the beam projecting out at the top of some facades? Can you find a brick on or near the square with an inscribed date, or with the stamp of the Pella Drain Tile Company?

20. On the south side of Franklin Street, note the upper story facade above the Gambles Store with its large, round windows. This was once the home of Pella's own opera house. Scholte and his wife were avid patrons of the arts, and music in particular was favored by a noteworthy number of the community's early leaders.

A bit farther out, but worth noting, are several other houses, 215 Main Street, the Cox house, built by a railroad employee in 1872, only a short walk from work. Close by is the old railroad station at the south end of Main Street. On his return from the Civil War, Cox founded the widely acclaimed Light Infantry Band. His name is perpetuated by the Cox – Snow Music building at Central College.

At 1401 University Street is Marion County's only stone house, built in 1856 with limestone quarried just south of town by Dirk Van Loon, a Dutch immigrant who was also a talented trumpeter. The house is listed in the National Register of Historical Places.

Acknowledgements

This tour owes much to the early planning efforts of Miss Margaret Hoeksema, who is recognized as one of the community's avid researchers and restorers. Mrs. Muriel Kooi has proved valuable insights into several structures through her series of articles in The Iowan for 1960-61, 1973, 1974, and 1975.

Carol Van Klompenburg published an unusually insightful feature article on "Pella's Landmarks Preserved" in the 1981 and 1983 souvenir edition of The Town Crier.

Miss Alice Lammers, Archivist at Central College provided access to records, photographs, and an architectural survey conducted in 1978 by CIRALG, the Central Iowa Regional Association of Local Governments. Useful direction came from Dr. Wayne Franklin, University of Iowa.

Completion of the tour plan and of an accompanying slide-tape show was made possible by a Humanist-in-Residence grant from the Iowa Humanities Board – National Endowment for the Humanities, directed by Dr. Philip E. Webber, Central College.

by Phil Webber

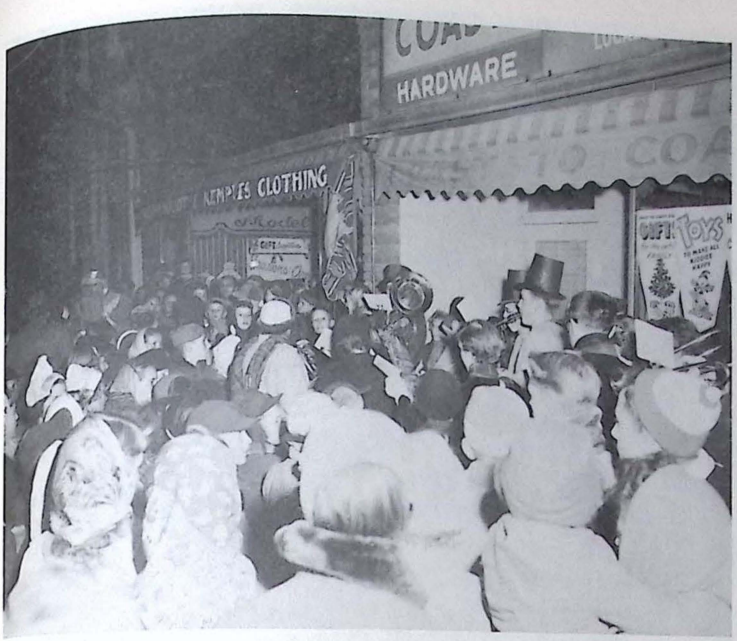
SINTERKLAAS

T98

The *Des Moines Register* carried a picture in its Dec. 6, 1936, issue of 'Sint Nikolaas' appearance in Pella to help Dutch children celebrate Christmas. St. Nick was George F.

The children in the William Kroes family prepared for Sinterklaas. Clockwise from below: Bill, Jan, Tina, and Jaap.

Dutch treats are distributed by Sinterklaas.



1st Sinterklaas celebration in Pella 1936 (Sinterklaas is at far left.)

Webster Elementary students and college student, Del Richards, brought the celebration of Sinterklaas to their school in 1971. Left to Right: Mary Jo Riddle, Peggy Petersma, Del Richards, Monte Sowles, and Sheryl Eyesink.

Sinterklass arrives on the ship float made by Kiwanis Club.

Sadler who was riding a horse. The burgemeester was T.G. Fultz and the Town Crier was W. Van Dort.

The article states, "While a blinding snowstorm raged, Sint Nickolaas proved himself as tough as his American namesake when he rode around the square here Sat. on a white horse distributing gifts to several hundred children."

It was the first public appearance of the legendary saint who gives gifts to good children and switches to bad ones.

Although St. Nikolaas day had been observed privately in Pella for 90 years, it was the first time local children had seen him. with Burgemeester Fultz in the lead, De Zwarte Piet guided the venerable old gent and his horse. More than 200 children were there jammed with other people who had come to witness the event but the full pageantry was curtailed because of the bad weather.

No mention of any additional public Sinterklaas celebrations in the 30's or 40's is chronicled. In the 1950's there were sporadic celebrations in '54, '55, '56, and the last in 1957.

In 1971, to teach about St. Nickolaas, Muriel Kooi, a fourth grade teacher at Webster Elementary School enlisted her college aide, Del. Richards, to become Sinterklaas. Trying to find the costume used in earlier decades proved futile so Mrs. Kooi made a costume with the help of the aide's wife. Members of her class accompanied Sinterklaas to all the classrooms in that school, telling about the Dutch tradition and distributing candy.

Ruth Brummel taught about Sinterklaas in her elementary music classes to third and fourth graders in 1976. She invited adults to tell about Sinterklaas in their childhood memories. Mrs. Frank Shearer, Mrs. Simon Ver Hoef, Joe Van Walbeek, and Mrs. Tunis Vander Broek shared memories. The children learned "Zie Ginds Komt de Stoomboot" and "Sinterklaas". Mrs. Brummel also taught first and second graders about St. Nick and Zwarte Piet.

Publicity from the 1971 Sinterklaas at Webster School and the music taught, formed the catalyst to bring the celebration back to the public. Sonja Overman wrote about the holiday in her newspaper column and in 1977 the Historical Society restored the tradition. During the fall of that year research was done on authentic costumes and volunteer seamstresses worked long hours to complete them. Fran Kuyper, and Patsy Sadler were assisted in planning costumes by

Sinterklaas and the Zwarte Piets visit with children in Scholte Church.

a woman living in Pella for a brief time who was a costume designer in Europe.

Sinterklaas was to appear on Dec. 5, 1977, at 7:30 P.M. but a blizzard delayed the event until the next evening. In 1978 the celebratoin was also in the evening but merchants had closed their stores and the route was rather dark. It was moved to the afternoon the next year with Sinterklaas riding a white horse.

Costumed Christmas characters joined the parade in 1980 and a few years later a permanent float created by Kiwanis Club was used for the Sinterklaas affair as well as in the Tulip Time parade.

Sinterklaas receptions are held at Scholte Church for Historical Society members and their families. The festival is planned as a family event that is short, but full of fun and Dutch tradition.

Serving through the years on the Sinterklaas committee have been: Meryln Vander Leest; Eunice Kuyper; Ralph Jaarsma; Anne Shearer; Vicki Schipul; Shirely Weller; Wil and Peggy Kirschman; Frank Overman, Mary Borg; Roberta Goemaat; Helene Ver Meer; Alice Lammers; Bette Brunsting; Bev Brand; Jo Harmeling; Bobby Klein; Nancy Lienenbrugger; Patsy Sadler; and Dena Bokhoven.

Since 1977, Wil Kirschman has portrayed Sinterklaas.

Very early Tulip Time photo. Note billard hall on west side of square.

TULIP TIME

T99

Picnics, family and regional, provided the festive preliminaries to a Tulip Time that was inevitably developing in Pella. Other celebrations forecast future festivals.

As early as 1897 there were celebrations with horse-drawn floats, Cox's band, curios and antiques displayed in store windows and thousands of people trekking to Pella to view

The most classic photo is of Jay Russell Hoogenakker taken at an early Festival.

Members of the Pella Historical Society pictured in 1942 in the building that then housed the Historical Museum (now the Holland Theater) all men pictured are deceased. Left to right: Lon Wormhoudt, Wm. Van Sittert, Harve P. Van Gorp, Robert C. Lautenbach, Bernie F. Vander Linden (seated) Tunis Kempkes, treas. and Dr. J.J. Sybenga, Curator. Tulip Time was being planned by Historical Society officers and directors and officers of the Chamber of Commerce.

1963 Tulip Time. Pella's J.C.'s wooden shoe stand on corner of Broadway and Washington.

Leonora Gaass
1936

Freda Den Burger
1937

Virginia Van Gorp
1938

Bernace Vander Linden
1939

Leona Schilder
1940

Marge Veenman
1941

Jeanne Van Gorkum
1942

Ruth Klein
1943

Martha Van Berkum
1944

Ruth Vande Geest
1947

Beverly Thomassen
1948

Lorraine De Haan
1949

Wilma Van Zee
1950

Carol Ver Steeg
1951

JoAnn Schagen
1952

Lou Ann LeCocq
1953

Judy Cook
1954

Gwen Vanden Berg
1955

Sandra Cummings
1956

Andrea Boat
1957

Hilma Schagen
1958

Sandra Sels
1959

Lois De Kock
1960

Glenda Steenhoek
1961

Kathy Gosselink
1962

Mary Ver Meer
1963

Beverly De Cook
1964

Elaine Schakel
1965

Mary Farver
1966

Judy Grandia
1967

Judy De Cook
1968

Andrea Ver Meer
1969

Sandra Ver Meer
1970

Tricia Steward
1971

Emily Vander Ploeg
1972

Marceta Roberts
1973

Karla De Cook
1974

Carol Kuyper
1975

Ruth Van Gorp
1976

Kathy Thies
1977

Mindy Roozeboom
1978

Marla Nieuwsma
1979

Monica May
1980

Kathleen Lucas
1981

Nancy Thies
1982

Brenda Boomsma
1983

Beth Boomsma
1984

Geselle Mulder
1985

Lee Ann Vander Hart and Patty De Nooy, 1987.

Tulip Time began in simplicity

The inspiration of people
in the mid-1930's
led to half-a-century
of pageantry, festivity,
and the traditional ethic
of hard work to make
Tulip Time succeed.

The spirit of Tulip Time
encompassed the town
in a fervency of
group participation.

We became united in efforts
to not only enjoy
Dutch heritage ourselves
but to share it with others.

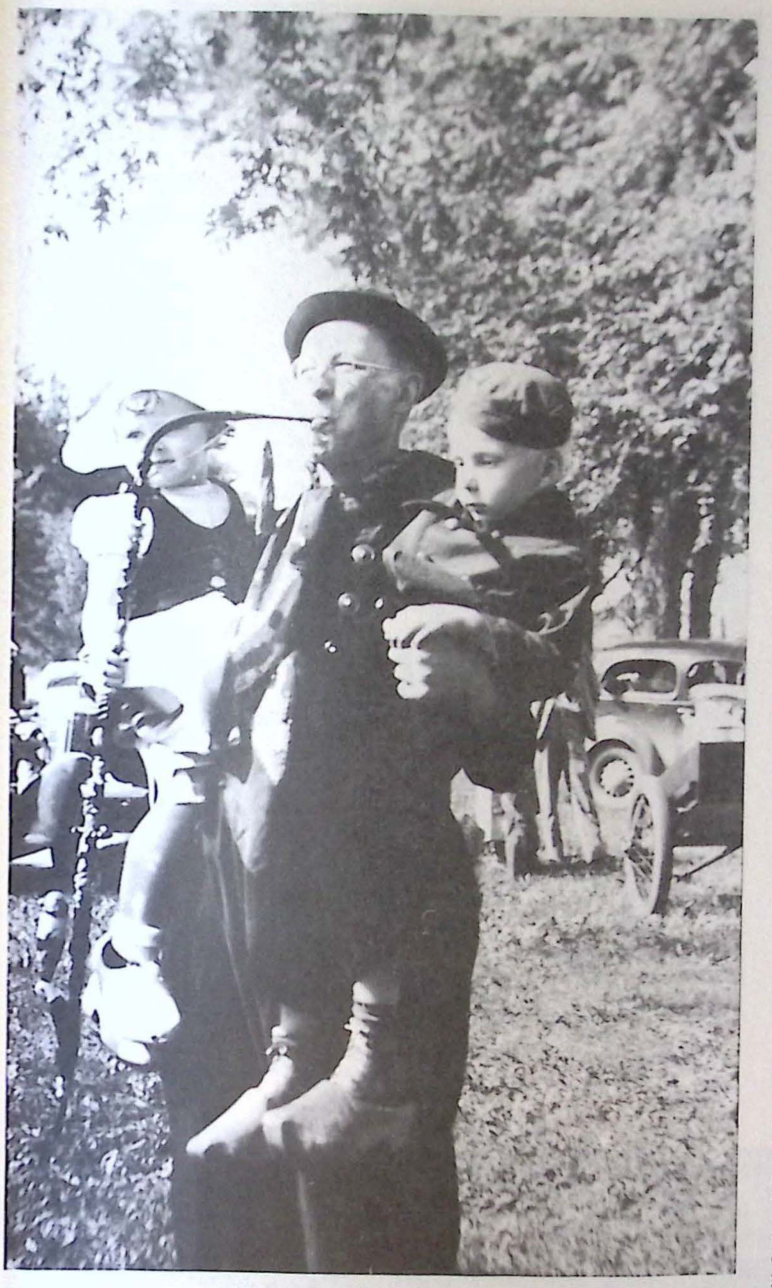
Our multi-ethnic backgrounds
merge in the month of May
and we all 'think Dutch'.

Those with whom we share
swell into throngs of thousands
enjoying our festivals.

We preserve our treasures of vintage,
delve into the unknown to
learn even more of our homeland.
The conglomerate of ideas, tastes
and beauties delights us.

The best Tulip Times are always
those that lie ahead.

MK



Trademark for George F. Sadler, Town Crier from 1935-1952, was his long-stemmed Dutch pipe.

the spectacle.

Friesian picnics at Vermeer's pond east of town were highlights in the lives of the older generations. Herwijnse picnics drew large crowds south of town.

The spirit of preserving their Dutch heritage and sharing it with others was inherent. When the operetta, "Tulip Time in Pella" was given in 1935, the idea of a festival came to the minds of civic leaders who were ever alert to promoting the town. Plans were hastily made in April for holding a one-day festival three weeks later.

There were no tulip beds in the town's business district but this was remedied by a local cabinetmaker, George Heeren, who made, in four days, 125 four-foot wooden tulips which were placed in the flag display holes on the square. This sufficed for that celebration but it was resolved to have thousands of tulips for the next event.

There were pessimists who said it would never "go over" but they were a minority. The first event sealed the aesthetic impetus needed for a permanent Tulip Time in Pella.

The group of enterprising business and professional men who organized the first one-day affair in 1935 were: Lewis W. Hartley; William Van Sittert; Dr. George Lankelma; Dick Den Adel; John Heerema; George Sadler; P.H. Kuyper; Lon Wormhoudt; Tunis Kempkes; Arie Schilder; H.P. Van Gorp; B.F. Vander Linden; Robert Lautenbach; and Dr. J.J. Sybenga. Inspired by the school operetta, they traveled to Holland, Mich. where there had been a Tulip Time since 1929.

Anné Tysseling with two other teachers, Mae Plette and Ann Schoenboem, and pianist Herbert Wormhoudt were responsible for production of the operetta which inspired the community in a wish to commemorate the sacrifices the founders had made 88 years earlier. The people of the community were ready to produce what was to become Tulip Time.

As summer waned into fall, avenues of tulips were planted. The Wolters building, a rejuvenated Historical Museum, was being filled with Dutch memorabilia. The simplistic celebrations in West Market Park were the ideas which were to be greatly embellished upon and refined.

In 1936 Tulip Time was the pattern for the form that we know today with its first real parade, inspection of the city streets by the Burgemeester and the city council, the first organized street scrubbing, thousands of tulips, and large crowds of people visiting Pella.

A song contest was announced and seven original songs were printed in the local newspaper with ballots to vote for the best-liked song. After a tie between two songs, another ballot was taken and "The Tulip Song" by the Harmony Class at Central College was chosen. Residents were urged to memorize this and also the first verses of Psalm 42 which would be used during the festival.

Professor George Francis Sadler, a music teacher, was the chairman of the first Tulip Time in 1935, and he was to continue for many years to greet visitors as the Town Crier. Dr. T.G. Fultz, local veterinarian, was appointed as the Burgemeester at the first Tulip Time and did not retire from this until 1971 when, at the age of 84, he retired and was replaced by others.

The Dutch have long been enamored with a queen and Pella was no exception. The great-granddaughter of the town's founder was elected by popular vote to have the singular honor of being Pella's first Tulip Queen.

For many years, Dominie Scholte's daughter-in-law, Leonora Scholte, played the role of Dowager Queen during Tulip Time. Others portrayed Queen Wilhelmina. Two Dutch queens have since rules The Netherlands, Queen Juliana and her daughter, Queen Beatrix. As a princess, Juliana visited Pella in 1942 when she was living in exile during World War II in Canada.

Pella's Tulip Queens and their attendents are often Dutch but being Dutch is not a prerequisite for being chosen. Past queens live throughout the United States but a small part of their hearts remain in the hometown. In May, whether they can return to Pella or not, those lovely ladies are here in spirit celebrating Tulip Time.

Queens are now chosen by popular vote at the first part of the process and then are

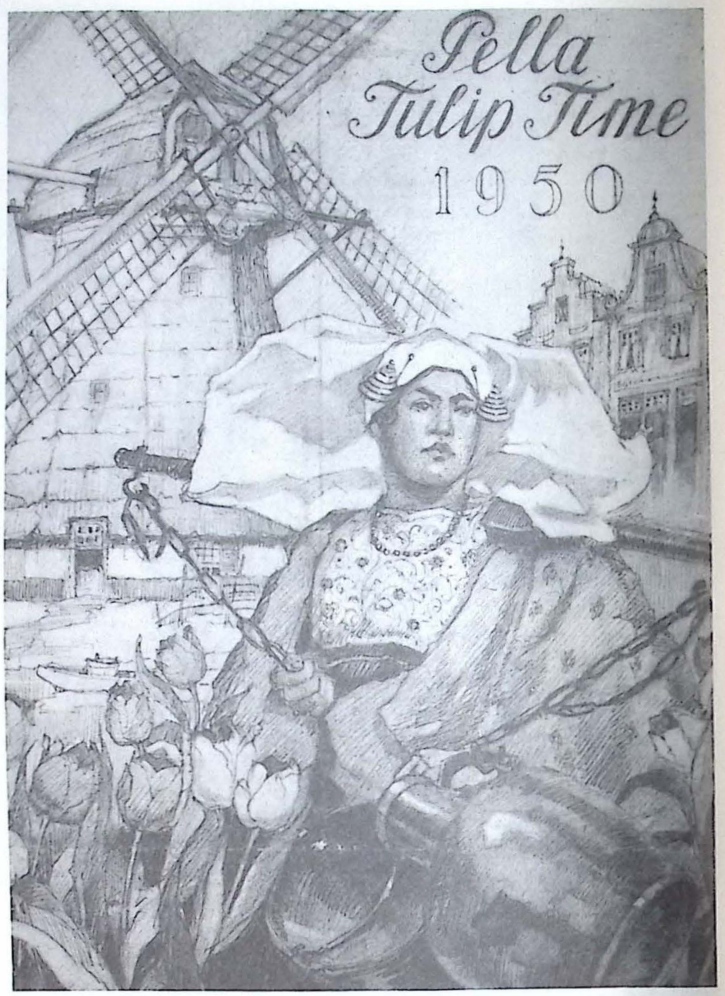
chosen by a panel of judges basing their selections on beauty, poise, personality, and speaking ability. Queen and attendants are now chosen in November of the preceding year in which they will reign. Queen of the 1987 Tulip Time was the fiftieth to be chosen. During World War II, festivals were not held (1945 and 1946) and no queens were elected.

For many years after the first Tulip Time, the queen and her court wore formals during festival ceremonies. By 1961, with increased interest in Dutch authenticity, decisions were made to research costumes of various historical periods in a variety of Dutch cities and villages. A fascinating metamorphosis resulted as local seamstresses met a new challenge. Patterns are made from photos from the Openlucht Museum in Arnhem, The Netherlands. The diversity of dress creates a panorama of color and style.

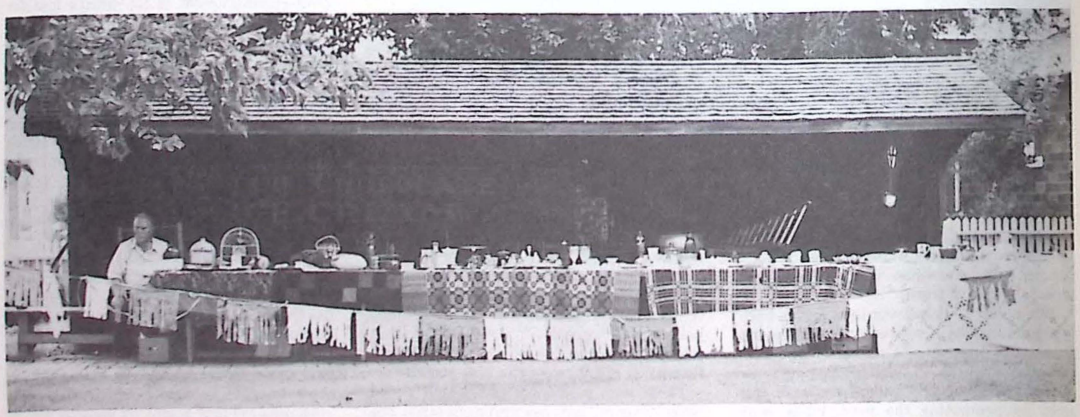
In 1942 a Tulpen Tower was designed by architect John Lautenbach. Made of plywood, it was not intended to be permanent and was used for three years. Twenty-five years after the first tower was demolished, a new, permanent structure was finally built to replace it. Designed by Stanley Ver Ploeg, the new Tulip Tower used lines similar to those of John Lautenbach. Bells and chimes and a clock were added to the tower in 1971. During Tulip Time, the colors of the flag of The Netherlands are flown from the soaring twin pylons.

Thousands of visitors come to Pella during the Tulip Time Festival and the celebration has grown to become a favorite with people from many distant places.

This story is taken from the book written and compiled in 1985 to document fifty years of Tulip Time in Pella. The book, *Festival,* written by Muriel Kooi, was a project of the Pella Historical Society.



Painting by Dutch artist C.A. Bartels.

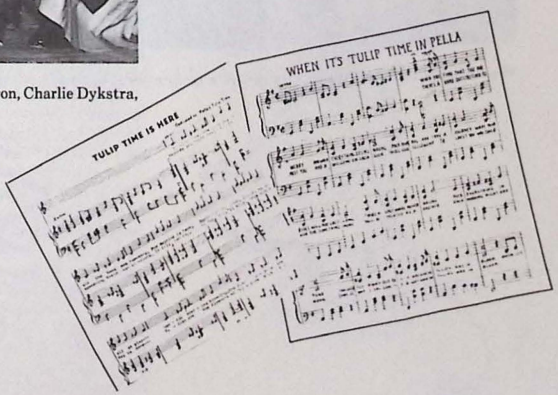


A familiar view of "Mr. B" and his flea market. (Summer Kermis early 1980's.) (See story T96)

Tulip Queen Float – Kathy Gosselink, Queen.

A humerous Tulip Time skit "Men Dressed in Ladies Costume" Left to right: Bert Baron, Charlie Dykstra, "Kamp" Wormhoudt, and Ralph Grundman.

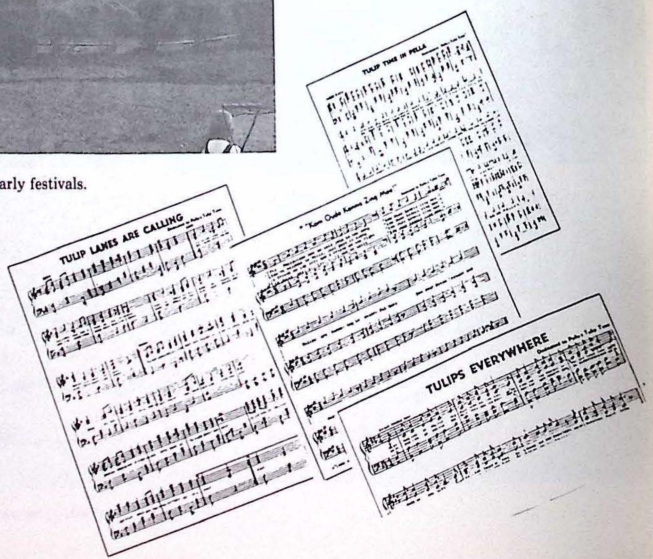
First Tulip Toren in Central Park, built for Princess Juliana's visit in 1942.



An early Tulip time Left to Right: Bert Baron, Verle Ver Dught, Mason Olcott and Dr. J.M. Cook

Two of the original wooden tulips made by George Herren in 1935.

West Market Park was the site for operetta performances at early festivals.



First parade of provinces, 1938. Left to right: Mrs. Hugo Kuyper, Mrs. H.B. Sixsmith, Mrs. Arie Schilder, Mrs. Fred Visser, Mrs. H. Roeffel, Mrs. Ed Van Gorp, Mrs. Ralph Grundman, Mrs. Hattie Vander Muelen, and Miss Marie Lefeber.

1935 First Tulip Time – South side of square, note wooden tulips along the street!

GEORG HEEREN, WOODCRAFTER

T100

Home of Georg Heeren Pella wood crafter, 901 Washington St.

Georg Heeren was born in Tenaard, Friesland, The Netherlands in Jan., 1867. There he trained in architecture. In the 1890's he and his friend Harme Jaarsma decided to visit the United States. Harme went straight on to Pella but Georg stopped in Chicago where he met his bride to be, Sophia. There they had two children, Rulouf and Jessie. The activities of labor unions in Chicago had resulted in riots so Georg and wife decided to join their friend, Jaarsma, in Pella in 1900.

The Heeren's first rented a house on Washington St. and George set up a cabinet-making business in the barn at the back of the house. As business improved, more space was needed. The property at 901 Washington became available so they purchased that. The original house on that block had been built by A. Wigny. Georg pulled that house down and built a table from the walnut logs that had been a part of that house. That table, with its history carved into the top, is now on display in the Pella Historical Museum. He built a new house at the address which still stands. A new cabinet-making shop was built in the back with a domed roof. It stood until destroyed by fire.

Harme Jaarsma and Georg Heeren remained good friends. They would often meet for "coffee time" at the back of the Jaarsma bakery. The Friesians often had Fries picnics. At one of these picnics the idea of Tulip Time was born. The whole community got involved with the idea. Members of the Chamber of Commerce travelled to Holland, Mich. to see how the festival there was run and after all ideas were combined, Tulip Time was started.

The first year of Tulip Time there were no tulips so the Heeren cabinet-making shop became the avenue for many volunteers to help make dozens of wooden tulips, about 3 ½ feet high, which were installed in flag pole sockets.

Over the years Georg contributed to several other projects to add to the Tulip Time festival. He made the scissor sharpening cart, designed the original turntable float to display the costumes of the different Dutch regions, and built a number of windmills around the town. He was also on the Park Board for several years.

In the 1930's he and his grandsons, Georg Jr. and Gysbert, built the miniature Dutch Village. They used old photographs and postcards to help in the design of the many buildings which made up the village.

Georg was an artist whose first medium was wood. He carved wood, built furniture, and worked with inlaid wood. He also painted and was always interested in design. As his grandchildren were married he made each couple a carved coffee table.

During the 1920's he went to see the exhibition of King Tutunkamen's treasures. That inspired him to design a complete parlor room furniture collection in the Egyptian theme which his daughter Jessie still uses.

Georg Heeren was a craftsman and an artist who was both a proud Dutchman and a proud American. He died in 1960.

by Martha Heeren

Georg Heeren with some of the things he made. The picture on the wall is of inlaid woods. The two itmes appearing to be casks were actually a record holder and ornate phonograph. The lamp was also his design.

FLORIS GUERTS

T101

Float Builder

Interviewed for the *Chronicle* in May, 1979, Flor Guerts told that since the first Tulip Time in 1935, he had built floats for the parades. He said that once he had gotten started doing it, he just got such a kick out of it that he did it every year. At the time of the interview he was 81 years of age. One of the first floats he had helped build was a huge ship used to advertise his father's business, Geurts and Son Feed and Grain. The boat had masts and sails he could lower when going under wires.

Flor designed floats using original ideas and some he gleaned from magazines.

Flor lived in the home his father had lived in next to the Pella Community School's old warehouse. The old mill was torn down long ago and the house in which Flor resided was razed after his death.

Flor Geurts had a unique talent that he shared with townspeople and the thousands of tourists who came to visit Tulip Time. His floats were truly beautiful. Elmer Van Waardhuizen was his "right hand man" in float construction.

FIFTIETH YEAR OF TULIP TIME

T102

Many plans were formulated and carried out to make the fiftieth Tulip Time one of the most memorable.

The first project was the development of a Tulip Time crest to be used as a continuing symbol of Pella's nationally-known festival.

Floris William Adrian Geurts.

The crest featured an eagle atop the shield which was similar to the one that appears on Scholte's 1847 map. In each niche of the shield is a significant symbol of Pella's history. The scholte Church appears symbolizing the religious aspect of the colony. A windmill and tulips in two other niches symbolize the Dutch heritage. The motto is from Psalm 46:1, "God is ons een toevlucht en sterkte." (God is our refuge and strength.) This Scripture verse also appeared on Scholte's original plat of the town. Pella was called a city of refuge.

Local artists contributed ideas to the committee for crest selection. Laurie Dykstra, Anne Struyk, and Jim Emmert were contributors, and Sallie De Reus created the final design incorporating all ideas the artists had envisioned for the crest.

Former queens and their attendants were issued special invitations to come back for the fiftieth Tulip Time and, to the delight of townsfolk and visitors, many of the special women were present for the Saturday parade and attended dinners and luncheons in their honor.

Events were coordinated with Rolscreen Company who was celebrating its 60th year celebration. An annual walk-run was initiated with hundreds of participants.

Pella Community and Pella Christian students comprised a massed band which under the direction of Krasnopolsky presented a concert just prior to the showing of a film depicting the history of Tulip Time. A gigantic screen was mounted between the pylons of the Tulip Tower with projection from across the street. Both events were exceptionally well-planned and executed.

A community worship service was held at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, May 12, at the Tulip Tower in Central Park. The speaker was Dr.

Planning committee for the Fiftieth Tulip Time in 1985 Standing, l-r: Jim Marvel, Randy Rumery, Herb, Lienenbrugger,S Rich Glendening, and Ken Uitermarkt; Seated, l-r: Jeannette Vermeer, Carol Verhey, Barbara Dieleman, Lee Zylstra, Sandy Heerema. Not present for the picture was Henry Vande Kieft.

Joel Nederhood, radio pastor of the Christian Reformed Church. Music was provided by the Feesthouden choir.

A special Tulip Time quilt was made by a group of local quilters. It was designed especially for the fiftieth anniversary and features the Tulip Time Crest as sewn by Susan Miller, supervisor of the project. There are 18 blocks of tulips, each designed by a different seamstress. Other special sewing projects were executed, the most unusual being a bobbin lace-making class taught by Corey Quataert who teaches in The Netherlands.

Steering committee for the 50th Tulip Time Festival. Left to right: Mark Recker, Jim Marvel, Charles Beintema, Tim Lucas, Steve De Zwarte, and Hilma Schakel.

Publicity for the Fiftieth Anniversary was gained when a segment of ABC's "Good Morning America" was given to the Queen and her court through the courtesy of Steve Bell an alumnus of Central College who hosted the show at that time. Much advertising promoted the fiftieth event in midwestern newspapers.

Dutch Ambassador Jan Hendrik Lubbers from The Netherlands was in attendance for the fiftieth. The Tulip Time Queen and her attendants who visited with the ambassador were: Geselle Mulder, Queen; and attendants Kelly Kredit; Sandy Gosselink; Glenda Vander Waal; and Stephanie Te Ronde. Their costumes were from the province of Huizen.

The Feesthouden Celebration held in the evenings was, in 1985, a pageant to celebrate Pella's heritage and history. The extravaganza featured school children en mass singing "We're the Kids from Pella" a song created by Bev Brand and Judy Steenhoek for the occasion. The Dutchesses sang and danced on stage and there was a Dutch Sing-Along. The Dutch Family Singers sang more Dutch songs, there was the traditional progressive dance and Pella's first Tulip Queen, Leonora Gaass Hettinga, was recognized. A patriotic note was added as the Dutch National Anthem was sung. The grand finale was the pageant titled "America-The Dream" which was a mini-musical with: chorus; band; balloons released of red, white and blue colors; and fireworks. The master of ceremonies and narrator was Lyle Borg.

Heritage Hall, a beautifully designed addition to the Historical Complex, was dedicated, as was the new Klokkenspel (a glockenspiel) in the Franklin Place Arch. The figures in the Klokkenspel represent Pella's heritage. The northside figures are: Scholte; his wife, Mareah; a blacksmith; and Wyatt Earp. Southside figures depict Tulip Time characters: two street scrubbers; wooden shoe maker; and a Dutch woman and child holding tulips. Five bronze bells are atop the arch and were cast in The Netherlands.

Local author, Muriel Kooi, asked by the Pella Historical Society, compiled a pictorial history of Tulip Time. The 72-page paperback booklet is titled *Festival* . It contains over 200 illustrations and features a large section in full color. Extensive historical copy accompanies the pictures with titles in both Dutch and English. The booklet met with much enthusiasm in sales and is still available in Pella.

"Babes in Toyland" was the Tulip Time operetta in 1985 and was produced by local and college actors and actresses. The operetta was presented at Douwstra Chapel on the campus of Central College.

Of course the usual activities took place at the 50th Tulip Time, the street scrubbing, the volks parade, the dancing, the bands, and flower show. The windows were filled with treasured antiques; tours were available through the town, the museum and the Scholte House. The tulips bloomed as they had for all but the first of the Tulip Times and the streets were even brighter with the colorful costumes. It was, indeed, a time to cherish our unique Dutch heritage and relish in the delight we provide for other who come to share Tulip Time with us.

IX.

MILITARY

Gerard Nollen's painting of Tommy Cox, a Civil War Drummer Boy.

MILITARY SERVICE ROLL

T103

Many Pella residents have proudly served this country in various military capacities. The following roll attempts to list as many as possible.

Credit is due those who served on committees to amass this information. Researchers: Herb Vander Waal, Marvin F. Van Gorp, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Ver Meer, John H. Vandervoort, and Bob Van Zante.

CIVIL WAR

Awtry, Simon

Bousquet, John J.
Bousquet, Herman F.
Bauman, Hendrik
Bruin, De Kryn
Bouman, J. L.
Beacon
Black, John
Black, Samuel C.
Bramey, Solomon
Blattner, Jacob
Brink, Gerrit

Canine, Cornelius
Cox, J. M.
Carr, John
Cory, Lewis P.
Clark, William
Chrisman, James
Carter, Cornelius

Aikins, Henry D.

Bousquet, Henry L.
Baston, W. L.
Beard, William E.
Baldwin, S. A.
Barker, Wm. H. H.
Bivans, Simon
Black, George W.
Botsford, A. B.
Burnham, George A.
Blockland, Van Teunis
Blom, Gelder

Carson, George
Cox, Thomas
Carr, James
Currier, A. N.
Chrisman, David
Chrisman, Leonard
Cluttler, William
Croll, Henry J.
Cole, C. C.
Cox, John

Dunaway, Thomas B.
Dunnington, Orville R.
Day, Hiram C.
Downs, Oscar
Dearinger, T. R.

Durham, George A.
Dingemans, Jan W.
Downs, Wm. O.

Earp, Newton J.
Earp, William

Fisk, Hezekiah
Fisk, Harvey
Frazier, William
Frazier, Thomas B.

Graham, Samuel
George, Fountain
George, Wilson
Garrison, John
Groen, John

Hutchinson, Daniel
Herbert, Henry C.
Henry, John
Howard, Charles M.
Honnold, Newton C.
Haven, John Q.
Howell, Sylvester
Hamilton, William
Hobbs, Albert
Haze, Peter
Hol, Gerrit

Croll, Daniel
Cox, Joshua
Cole, Andrew

Davenport, James
Day, Henry
Deweese, Charles
Downing, Harry
Dungan, J. W.
Duinink, Cornelis
Dingemans, Daniel

Earp, Virgil
Engelsma, Martin

Fisk, Henry
Forsyth, Thomas H.
Frazier, Benjamin
Fidler, Jacob

George, James
George, Abraham
George, Jacob
Griffith, Levi
Grafe, Fritz

Hutchinson, Arnold
Horn, Lewis P.
Howard, Peter
Howard, Jackson
Herbert, William
Hamrick, Allen
Hutch, Samuel
Hamilton, Joseph
Honnold, James W.
Hol, Martinus
Hagen, Ten Peter
Hesseling, Henry J.

Jaquias, Charles

Keables, B. F. Dr.
Klyn, Cornelius
Kamp, van der Gerrit
Kock, De Stephanus
Koolbeek, Johan

Hansall, Samuel

Jarnagin, Henry A.

Keables, Alonzo
Klyn, John C.
Kegel, Jacob
Koolbeek, Jacob A.
Kolk, van der Wieggert

Ledyard, George R.
Lemons, Jacob
Langerak, William
Lust, William
Leeuw, de Cornelius
Linden, van der Lukas
Ley, van der John

Metz, John
Moore, Alkan
Martin, Larkin
McLoide, John
Martin, Levi
Moss, De Thomas
McLead, Fred
Meyers, Dillin
McCullough, Wm. S.
Mathes, Valentine
Marele, van Arie
Moore, Nathan
Mozier, William
McCabe, William
Miller, Jacob
Morgan, John H.
Moss, De Franklin
Meyers, Hall
McMichael, D.
McCullough, Andrew
Meer, van der Isaac
Myer, Jacob
Molen, van der S. S.

Nelson, Frank
Nutter, Francis
Nieremeyer, John Sr.
Nieremeyer, Simon
Nealey, Henry
Nutter, Thomas
Nieremeyer, John Jr.

Olney, William
Owen, John W.

Pruit, Francis
Peters, Julius M. A.
Petty, Samuel
Parish, William
Pendroy, John M.
Paardekooper, Wm.
Prouty, Flavius
Price, Gilman
Parish, Orson
Pendroy, William
Paardekooper, Gerrit
Parsons, Jacob

Richardson, George C.
Ritner, Isaac
Roberts, Charles
Rysdam, Gidius
Rubertus, H. D.
Rhynsburger, A. J.
Roelofsz, Peter
Rice, Daniel
Richardson, Nathan
Reynolds, Lucien
Roorda, Henry
Rhynsburger, Dirk
Rhynsburger, Marinus
Rooyen, van Peter
Rips, van D.

Smith, James S.
Smith, George C.
Stem, Jacob
Sperry, C.
Smiley, Wm. P.
Shull, Henry
Shull, Charles
Simpson, John W.
Scheffers, Govert
Sleyster, Warnerus
Steenwijk, van Jan
Steenhoek, Gysbert
Sipma, Sjoerd
Soetens, John
Swain, Henry
Schooley, John W. Dr.
Sperry, A. F.
Stallard, Lukas
Sherman, Charles
Shull, Dick
Sheeler, Isaiah
Stegeman, D.
Schell, Gerrit
Steenwijk, van Wm.
Steenwijk, van Gerard
Simons, Lybert
Schippers, Nicholas
Steadman, Benjamin T.
Steadman, Robert H.

Tilma, Myndert
Thomas, Wm. H.
Towne, George N.
Templeton, Amaziah
Thomas, Theodore
Tailor, Jacob
Tol, Dirk

Ulsch, Henry J.
Ulsch, Daniel G.

Vannes, Daniel
Vinyard, Lamrick
Vinyard, Thomas
Vogelaar, Leendert
Vos, John Adz.
Verwers, Jan
Voorhees, Wm.

Vinyard, Oliver
Voorhees, Sanford
Vos, Joseph
Versteeg, Gysbert
Verhoef, Leendert
Vermeulen, John
Vermeulen, James Adz.
Veenschoten, Evert

Ward, Benjamin F.
White, Thomas
Whaley, Wilson
Whaley, Warren
Woods, John H.
Whipple, L.P.
Wren, Edmand
Watkins, Joseph
Walraven, Maarten
Woods, Enos M.
Wijkhoff, John W.
Wallace, Thomas
Weaver, Solomon
Wizer, Daniel
Williamson, Thomas
Wheeler, Herman
Waa, van der H. J.
Wolver, Cornelis

Yearns, Mordecai

Zeeuw, de Cornelis

Killed or Fatally Wounded

Blokland, van Teunis
Carter, L.
Carson, George
Cox, Joshua
Dungan, Joseph W.
Earp, William
Henry, John
Hobbs, Albert
Koolbeek, Jacob J.
Kolk van der Wiggert
Kolenbrander, Herman
Miller, Jacob
Nieremeyer, Jan. Sr.
Ritner, Isaac W.
Roorda, Henry
Smiley S. M.
Schippers, Nicholas
Towne, George W.
Vogelaar, Jacob
Wizer, Daniel

WORLD WAR I

Allen, Leonard
Aschenbrenner, Carl F.
Aschenbrenner, Zee
Awtry, Harry N.

Baarda, John
Baer, William
Balstad, Harold
Beintema, Edward
Beintema, Peter
Beyer, Harvey Wm
Beyers, Carl
Bloem, Arie
Bloem, Peter
Boertje, Paul
Bogaard, Herman
Bogaard, Joe
Bogaards, Jacob
Bogaards, Marie
Bontekos, Jerry
Boot, John W.
Boot, Marion
Borgman, Worp
Bos, William
Boterman, John
Boyd, Joe
Brack, John
Brand, Rube C.
Breuklander, John
Brower, Andrew
Bruce, Louise Gaass
Brunia, Bertha
Burgraaf, Henry
Buwalda, Andrew
Buwalda, Paul
Byram, Kenneth L.

Calhoun, Claude W.
Carpenter, Elmer A.
Carson, Henry
Christensen, Alfred
Clark, Ruby
Clark, Walter W.
Cole, Francis
Colyn, John
Crawford, Lawrence V.
Croll, Bernard

De Bont, Jerry
De Bruyn, Jacob
De Bruyn, Vernie
De Bruyn, Will
De Cook, Dave
De Cook, Harry
De Geest, Arie
De Geest, Stephen
De Goey, Andrew
DeGroot, Jacob
De Jong, Harry
De Jong, Matthew
De Joode, Arthur B.
De Kock, Gerrit
De Koning, Jacob
De Leeuw, John
Demicolo, Frank
De Moss, Loren Boydsen
Den Adel, Edward
Den Adel, Frank
Den Adel, Leonard
Den Burger, William A.
Den Hartog, Henry
Den Hartog, Wm. C.
Den Hoedt, Arie

Dennis, Eugene M.
De Penning, James
De Penning, Wm. A.
De Prenger, John
De Raad, Jasper
Derbyshire, George
De Reus, Harry
De Reus, Arie N.
De Vries, Carl
De Vries, Philip
De Winter, John
De Wit, Paul
Diekema, Dick
Dillon, Ward E.
Donai, Arthur J.
Donai, Edward A.
Durham, John
Dykhuis, Peter
Dykstra, Albert P.
Dykstra, Gerald

Edmand, Henry

Faasen, Fred
Fox, Ray
Frederick, Jasper

Gezel, Edward
Gezel, Henry
Goehring, Adrian
Goodell, Clarence W.
Goodwin, Mortimer
Gosselink, George
Gosselink, Gerard M.
Gosselink, John
Gosselink, Marion W.
Grandia, Elmer
Grandia, Wilbur P.
Grundman, Paul
Grundman, Ralph

Hackert, John
Halbert, Walter
Hart, R. M.
Heerema, Yella
Henry, L. M.
Hessing, Dick
Hoeksema, Ed
Hoeksema, Martin
Hoke, Archie
Hoksbergen, Mathew
Hoksbergen, Tunis
Holdsworth, Wm. P.
Holz, David
Holz, Henry
Hoogenakker, Teunis
Hugen, P. W.
Hunziker, Henry H.

Jackson, Odell
Johnson, Wilbur E.
Jonker, Jacob

Kaldenberg, Arthur
Kaldenberg, George
Kaldenberg, Robert
Keables, B. F.
Kempkes, Jay
Kempkes, Mathew
Kempkes, Tunis
Klein, Gerrit H.
Klein, Gradus G.
Klootwyk, Henry J.

Klyn, Henry A.
Kole, Cornelius
Kooyman, Teunis
Koopmans, Harry
Koopmans, Jas.
Kramer, H. H.
Kruseman, Everett
Kruseman, Wm
Kuyk, Ben
Kuyper, Henry
Kuyper, Louis

Langstreet, Peter
Lankelma, Freeman
Lankelma, George
Lautenbach, Paul
Lautenbach, Robert
Le Cocq, Louis B.
Linder, Leo
Lubberden, Adrian A.
Lubberden, Wm J.
Lubbers, Irwin J.

McBride, Elizabeth
McCombs, Alfred
McWilliams, Mark
Mensch, Barney
Meulpolder, Marinus
Milledge, Joseph
Mokma, Gerald
Moll, Jacob J.
Monster, W. J.
Morrow, Richard S.
Muilenberg, Cornie
Muilenberg, Henry
Muilenberg, Leendert
Mulder, Bernie

Nash, John
Niemandsverdriet, Seth
Nichalau, George

Onsthank, Gerrit
Onstine, John
Oostrum, Herbert

Paardekooper, Martin
Paltzer, John
Pippel, Peter
Popma, John
Popma, Leonard
Porter, Joseph
Prins, Tunis

Reis, George W.
Rempe, Richard
Renaud, Arthur J.
Rhynsburger, Fred
Rillahan, John
Rillahan, Mark
Ritchie, Harry R.
Rook, Hendrik
Rozeboom, Richard
Rus, Chris
Rysdam, Gerald

Sack, Harold
Schakel, John
Schakel, Reuben
Sadler, Herndon
Schippers, Arnold
Schippers, Joe
Scholte, Robert

Schurer, Henry
Sevenbergen, Arend
Sevenbergen, Leonard
Sheesley, Claude I.
Silvanus, Richard A.
Silvanus, Will
Simonse, Frank
Sipkema, Harriet
Slot, John J.
Steenhoek, Naldo
Stump, Harry M.
Stursma, Jacob
Stursma, Ryn
Stuureman, Raymond
Stuureman, Jerry
Sweigard, Carl F.
Swank, Herman
Sybenga, J. J.

Ten Broek, John
Thomas, David O.
Thomassen, Fred
Thomassen, L. A.
Tysseling, Henry R.

Valkenberg, George H.
Valkenberg, John
Valster, Ben
Van Buren, George
Van Buren, Henry
Vande Kieft, Joe
Vande Kieft, Richard
Vanden Berg, Gerrit H.
Vander Ark, Henry T.
Vander Hart, Walter
Vander Heiden, Joe
Vander Heiden, Martin
Vander Heiden, Peter
Vander Linden, Edward H.
Vander Linden, E. Luke
Vander Linden, Frank L.
Vander Linden, John L.
Vander Linden, John N.
Vander Meulen, Herman
Vander Ploeg, Dick
Vander Ploeg, Diller
Vander Ploeg, Martin
Vander Ploeg, Nicholas
Vander Ploeg, W. H.
Vander Ploeg, Wm G.
Vander Stoep, Arie
Vander Voort, W. H.
Vander Voort, Will
Vander Waal, James
Vander Waal, Roy
Vander Wal, Ray A.
Vander Werff, Dick
Vander Werff, Joe
Van Doornick, John W.
Van Dusseldorp, Dick
Van Duyn, Glen
Van Emmerick, Carl
Van Essen, Arthur
Van Gilst, Mathew
Van Gorp, Jacob
Van Gorp, Peter H.
Van Gorkum, George
Van Gorkum, Leo
Van Hemert, Gerrit
Van Hemert, Harry
Van Hemert, J. B.
Van Hemert, Marce C.
Van Hemert, Neil

Van Hemert, Wm S.
Van Houweling, Gerard T.
Van Houweling, Gysbert
Van Houweling, P. G.
Van Klootwyk, J.
Van Lint, Herman
Van Loon, Edward
Van Niewaal, Oren
Van Nimwegen, Ben
Van Peursom, John
Van Rees, Cornie
Van Rees, David
Van Rheenen, Samuel
Van Toorn, Edward
Van Setten, Gerrit A.
Van Sittert, Wm
Van Skika, Roy A.
Van Vark, Dingeman
Van Veen, John
Van Vliet, James M.
Van Waardhuizen, Gerrit Karl
Van Wyk, Jacob
Van Zante, Andrew
Van Zante, Dick C.
Van Zante, Paul
Van Zante, Teunis
Van Zee, Anthony M.
Van Zee, Bert
Van Zee, Gerrit A.
Ver Beek, Teunis
Ver Heul, Dick
Ver Meer, Albert
Ver Ploeg, Wm C.
Verros, John T.
Verros Wm. M.
Ver Steeg, Carl
Ver Steeg, George
Ver Steeg, Harold
Ver Steeg, Henry
Ver Steeg, Paul
Ver Steeg, Samuel
Verwers, Leendert
Visser, Garret A.
Vogelaar, Gary
Vos, Edward
Vos, Peter H.
Voyce, Rodney R.
Vriezelaar, Henry
Vroom, Cornie

Weichart, Richard
Welle, David
Welle, Lester C.
Wittkowski, Henry
Wormhoudt, Alfred
Wormhoudt, Marion
Wormhoudt, Overkamp

Young, W. A.

Zuidema, Wm.

Killed In Action
Van Veen, John
Van Hemert, Gerrit
De Kock, Gerrit

Died from influenza while in service
Beintema, Edward
Lankelma, Freeman
Tysseling, Henry R.
Van Lint, Herman
Van Setten, Gerrit
Ver Beek, Teunis

Aalbers, Marinus J.
Aalbers, Marion N.
Allen, John N.
Anderson, Howard R.
Anderson, James A.
Anderson, Svend E.
Andrews, Donald W.
Andrews, Robert L.
Arens, Walter
Arkema, John
Armstrong, Glen

Baker, Marvin
Ballenger, Garold E.
Bandstra, Bert A.
Bandstra, John A.
Bandstra, J. Gilbert
Baron, Robert C.
Barr, Daws W.
Bartlett, Charels W.
Bartlett, Marvin
Beason, Gerald A.
Beerends, Andrew I.
Beerends, Esther
Bergman, Daniel V.
Bevan, David M.
Bevan, Godfrey H.
Bevan, P. Hector
Birdsall, Maurice F.
Black, Robert J.
Black, Wm E.
Blaskovich, Edward J.
Blecha, Reginald F.
Blommers, Gysbert
Bloodsworth, Virgil P.
Boat, Marion E.
Bobbit, Vernon
Boertje, Cornie H.
Boertje, Donald E.
Boertje, Henry
Bogaard, Arnold
Bokhoven, Anthony C.
Bonwell, Melvin
Boot, Ernest E.
Boot, Viola Helen
Booy, Leonard
Borgman, Howard W.
Borgman, Stanley
Bosch, Herbert A.
Bosveld, Fred
Bosveld, Louis
Bosveld, Robert J.
Braafhart, J. David
Braafhart, Harry
Braafhart, Nick Jr.
Brack, Art
Brand, Oscar G.
Breen, Gerald
Breuklander, Albert C.
Breuklander, Earl
Breuklander, Edward
Bricker, Chester
Brom, Jacob M.
Brouwer, Elliott N.
Brouwer, Marion
Brouwer, William A.
Budding, Robert
Burdick, Glen D.
Burk, Raymond
Busby, Harold D.
Butler, Donald T.
Butt, Walter E.
Butt, Richard E.

Caddock, Richard E.
Caldwell, Clarence B.
Carlson, Thomas
Carson, George W.
Carter, Lola Mabel
Chafee, Glen R.
Clark, John H.
Claypool, Charles B.
Clements, Earl W.
Connolly, Robert J.
Cook, Dorothy
Cook, Jean W.
Cornelius, Ira Earl
Courtney, Liston L.
Cowell, Glen W.
Crawford, Donald H.
Crawford, Leslie Bryce
Criss, Floyd
Crum, Kenneth
Crum, Lillian L.
Crum, Raymond L.
Crum, Thomas O.
Crum, Warren J.
Cummings, Don O.
Cummings, Arlie H.

Deal, Lyle Wayne
De Boef, Wm C.
De Boer, Richard
De Bruin, Cornie A.
De Bruin, Harold
De Bruin, Lawrence
De Bruin, Rosella
De Geus, Harold V.
De Groot, Ray J.
De Haan, Adrian P.
De Haan, Jacob D.
De Jong, Albert A.
De Jong, Charles E.
De Jong, Dick
De Jong, Harold
De Jong, Martin A.
De Jong, Paul
De Jong, Peter J.
Den Besten, Alfred
Den Besten, Franklin
Den Besten, Harold
Den Besten, Lawrence
Den Hartog, Arnold
Den Hartog, Gerald T.
Den Hartog, Raymond
De Nooy, Fred
De Penning, Clarence
De Penning, Marion L.
De Penning, Wallace J.
De Prenger, Donald K.
De Prenger, Mark
De Reus, Harold
De Ronde, John
De Ronde, Robert
De Ruiter, Nicholas M.
Deur, Arthur
Deur, Melvin E.
Deur, Junior H.
De Vries, Carl
De Vries, Henry
De Vries, James
De Vries, Philip
De Weerd, Dick
De Wild, Charles
De Winter, Elmer J.
De Wit, Earl L.
De Wit, Raymond
De Zwarte, Harold
Diekema, Jake
Diekema, John
Dieleman, Gerald R.
Dieleman, Willis
Dillon, Earl
Dillon, Jack
Dillon, Macks
Dillon, Ward
Dingeman, Hershel W.
Dingeman, Marvin W.
Dockendorff, M.M.
Doorenbos, Raymond W.
Douwstra, Donald
Dunnink, Arthur J.
Dunwoody, Glen M.
Du Pree, Benjamin
Du Pree, Cornelius
Du Pree, Edward
Du Pree, John
Du Pree, Tunis
Dylhoff, Gelmer

Eilander, William
Elscott, Carroll
Emmert, Keith W.
Engbers, John H.
Evers, Alvin E.
Evers, Clyde L.
Evers, James V.

Farrand, William E.
Farver, Paul V.
Fisk, Jack
Flietstra, Charles P.
Flietstra, Clarence
Flikkema, Bernard L.
Forbes, James E.
Franken, Henry E.
Froelich, Robert C.
Fry, Ralph Jr.
Fuller, Kirk I.
Fuller, Wm. Bryan
Furcht, Francis J.
Furda, Lewis W.

Gaass, Carl E.
Gaass, Peter Geo.
Gezel Dorothy
Gezel, Elmo E.
Gezel, Gary W.
Gezel, Ivan P.
Gifford, Clair W.
Goad, Edward V.
Goad, Harold V.
Goad, Richard W.
Goad, Stuart
Goedhart, Robert
Goemaat, Abraham
Goemaat, Alvin J.
Goemaat, Bastian J.
Goodwin, Mortimer
Gosselink, Albert H.
Gosselink, Howard P.
Gosselink, Lynn L.
Gosselink, William G.
Gowdy, Joe W.
Graber, Leland
Graham, James E.
Grandia, Abe
Grandia, Earl L.
Green, Lawrence
Greving, Clarence F.
Grooters, Laurence
Grundman, Paul J.
Grundman, Howard
Grundman, Thomas B.

Hackert, Ralph P.
Halverson, Howard C.
Harmeling, John W.
Harrison, Robert
Hart, Paul H.
Harter, David
Hartgraves, Elmer Jr.
Hartgraves, Lawrence
Haverkamp, Harold J.
Harvey, Dwight Robert
Heerema, Fred
Heerema, Martin J.
Heerema, Ralph
Heerema, Robert
Hedrick, Ned A.
Heitenga, D.W.
Hendricks, Earl F.
Hendricks, Logan B.
Heschke, Kenneth W.
Hesselink, Donald L.
Heusinkveld, George R.
Heyveld, Everett
Heyveld, Gary
Heyveld, Harold J.
Heyveld, Howard
Heyveld, Richard G.
Hill, Wayne
Hillenbeck, Verne R.
Hilma, John E.
Hockett, Glenn
Hoeksema, Andrew
Hoeksema, Joe
Hoeksema, Robert
Hoekstra, Anthony
Hoksbergen, Andrew L.
Hoksbergen, Ervin D.
Hollebrands, Caroll E.
Hollebrands, Elvon V.
Hols, William
Hoogenakker, John H.
Hoogenakker, Arvin L.
Horman, Joe H.
Horman, Martin E.
Houseman, Joseph R.
Hovinga, John S.
Hugen, Bert E.
Hugen, Raymond E.
Hugen, William O.
Huisman, Ralph Jr.
Huyser, Wm. A.
Intveld, Klaass

Jacobs, Dick
Jacobs, John T.
Jansen, Dick
Jelsma, Lester J.
Johnson, Charles C.
Johnson, Harold L.
Jolink, John
Jones, Earl A.
Jones, James Jr.
Jones, Richard E.

Kaldenberg, Harold H.
Kaldenberg, Willard L.
Kallemyn, Edward J.
Kallemyn, Marvin W.
Kallemyn, Merle M.
Kamerick, Arnold
Kamerick, Donald
Kamerick, Floyd
Kamerick, Gilbert
Kamerick, Gilmore
Kamerick, James
Kamerick, Martenis G.
Karr, Howard
Kempkes, James D.
Kempkes, Matthew
Kempkes, Philip B.
Kennedy, Eugene T.
Kersbergen, D.W.
Kersbergen, Murray E.
Keuning, Albert H.
Kilpatrick, R. Wm
Kiser, Lloyd A.
Klein, Daniel
Klein, Everett M.
Klein, Donald F.
Klein, Gerrit R.
Klein, Marvin L.
Klein, Paul E.
Klein, Willard L.
Klein, Howard H.
Klimstra, Marlyn G.
Klootwyk, Ernest A.
Klootwyk, Raymond
Klyn, Andrew W.
Knowles, Arlo
Koder, Fred Wayne
Koder, Hubert H.
Koder, Walter D.
Koenigs, Raymond J.
Kooi, Edward C.
Koopman, Glen A.
Koopman, James E.
Koopman, Deith J.
Koopmans, William A.
Kruseman, Ralph
Kuiken, Gerrit
Kuyk, Max S.
Kuyper, Gordon
Kuyper, H. Hospers
Kuyper, H. Stuart
Kuyper, Neal A.

Langerak, Albert W.
Langerak, Clarence
Langerak, Dudok B.
Langerak, Esley
Langerak, R.W.
Langerak, Norman T.
Langstraat, Bruce
Langstraat, Leonard P.
Langstraat, Pete
Lankelma, John W.
Lautenbach, Laurence
Lefers, John
Leydens, Reuben
Liter, Melvin E.
Long, Raymond
Louwsma, William G.
Loverink, Henry
Lubberden, Wayne C.
Lubbers, Robert
Lumsden, Richard

Macgregor, John
Manges, Charles J.
Mathes, Ervin
Mathes, Floyd
Mathes, William
Mattix, Virgil V.
McCain, Walter L.
McCallister, William R.
McConeghey, Paul W.
McDaniel, Ward
Meidema, Clarence
Meidema, Peter
Meinders, Albert J.
Menning, Donald
Menning, Lloyd
Menning, Robert G.
Menninga, Samuel D.
Menninga, Setrith
Messamaker, Art W.
Metcalf, Donald E.
Meulpolder, Dan Ray
Meulpolder, Peter G.
Michmershuizen, John
Miller, D.D.
Miller, Ernest
Miller, Samual J.
Mills, Lawrence F.
Mitchell, Hopkins
Mitten, Charles J.
Mitten, Harry W.
Mitten, Henry
Moffett, Harry H.
Monich, Joseph F.
Moll, Wm James
Monsma, Wm R.
Monster, Henry
Monster, Marion J.
Moody, James R.
Muilenberg, Henry C.
Moore, Lynn
Mulder, Ben W.
Murray, Donald
Muyskens, Cornelius W.

Naaktgeboren, David D.
Naaktgeboren, Eamond C.
Naaktgeboren, Frederick
Naaktgeboren, John
Naccarato, James F.
Needham, Leslie
Nelson, Martin V.
Newendorp, Raymond I.
Nibbelink, William
Nikkel, John

Nolte, Ursel
Norton, Russell

Olson, Ralph E.
Oonk, Lester
Oostrum, Henry P.
Ozinga, Jacob

Palmquist, Juline L.
Pals, George
Paltzer, Clifford
Paltzer, Minnekus
Parkhurst, Jesse W.
Patton, Edward A.
Peebler, Robert L.
Perron, Rev. C.F.
Peters, Robert W.
Pleima, Nelson
Pohlmann, Earl L.
Poole, Donald H.
Pope, John K.
Popma, Paul
Poppen, Jack
Postma, Hubert H.
Pothoven, Harold
Power, Robert C.
Pringle, Glenn E.

Randol, Dale D.
Rankin, Howard L.
Rankin, Kenneth
Rebertus, Robert L.
Reinertson, Donald L.
Rempe, Dr. A.C.
Renaud, Carroll G.
Renaud, Glenn A.
Renaud, Jean
Renaud, Wayne
Riemersma, Charlie
Riemersma, Epp
Richardson, Floyd A.
Rietveld, Cornie D.
Rietveld, Fred C.
Rietveld, Nenver
Robbins, Paul E.
Robus, Raymond E.
Roorda, Delwin D.
Roorda, Marion H.
Roorda, Marion L.
Roorda, R. Walter
Roorda, Vernon W.
Roose, Leonard J.
Roose, Raymond
Roozeboom, Albert
Ross, Wilbur A.
Roush, Henry L.
Rouw, Dick J.
Rouw, Raymond
Rozenberg, Jacob J.
Ruckman, Duane H.
Rugaard, Gordon
Rugaard, Karen
Rugaard, Merle H.
Rugaard, Regin
Ruffridge, Norman S.
Rus, Germent J.
Rus, James A.
Russell, Keith D.
Russell, Ralph Jr.
Ruthven, James A.
Ryan, Carl W.
Ryan, Max F.
Ryan, Richard C.
Ryke, Gerrit
Ryke, Joe
Ryke, John
Rysdam, Renaud W.

Sadler, Leslie W.
Schakel, Arie
Schakel, Dexter D.
Schakel, Mark E.
Schakel, Max G.
Schakel, Wayne M.
Schakel, Wilfred L.
Scheffers, Elbert F.
Schilder, Rudolph
Schilt, Gerrit
Schimmel, Wm. H.
Schippers, Arnold A.
Schippers, Ernest E.
Schippers, Francis L.
Schippers, John
Schreiner, Warren
Schroder, M.C.
Schuck, Gordon
Schultz, Delmar W.
Schuring, Jacob L.
Schut, Harold
Schut, Wilbert J.
Sents, James
Sents, Paul
Sents, Tunis
Shade, James A.
Shetterley, Henry V.
Sietstra, Martin
Sille, Dale
Sille, Donald
Simons, Leonard J.
Sixsmith, Jack
Sjolin, Ernest
Sjolin, Oscar
Slings, Harold I.
Slocum, Thomas J.
Slot, Wilma
Slycord, Cornie
Slykhuis, Gerald E.
Slykhuis, Gerrit
Slykhuis, Herman
Smalley, James Gray
Smith, Marvin C.
Smith, Orville B.
Sneller, Gerrit Jr.
Sneller, Jacob Jr.
Sneller, Jacob W.
Sneller, John R.
Sneller, Nickolas W.
Snyder, Ray
Speed, Mark
Spice, Wilson G.
Squibb, Darwin G.
Stanton, R.L.
Steenhoek, Alfred H.
Steenhoek, Guilford
Steenhoek, Leroy E.
Steenhoek, Marion
Stientjes, Eugene L.
Stouwie, Ben
Stouwie, Gerrit N.
Stravers, Gerald
Stravers, Joe
Swank, Lloyd J.
Swank, Wm. M.
Swank, William Perry
Sybenga, John Carl
Sybenga, Phillip J.
Synhorst, Abraham J.
Synhorst, Gerald E.

Tait, Keith Edward
Tait, Teunis O.
Tanis, Paul H.
Ten Hagen, Joy D.
Terlouw, Ben M.
Terlouw, Gerald A.
Terlouw, Lester A.
Terpstra, Robert F.
Thomas, David Mark
Thomas, Donald H.
Thomas, Marion J.
Thornburg, John W.
Toom, Donald I.
Toom, Earl
Toom, John J.
Tromp, Cornie G.
Trueblood, Evertt J.
Trueblood, Everett L.
Trueblood, Mervin W.
Tucker, John B.
Tysseling, Arthur H.
Tysseling, Harry G.
Tysseling, Lawrence
Tysseling, Maurice
Tysseling, Ray
Tysseling, Richard A.

Uitermarkt, Marion
Underhill, Harrington J.

Van Alst, Edward W.
Van Alst, Walter
Van Andel, Gerald H.
Van Arkel, Gerald
Van Arkel, Joe
Van Arkel, John H.
Van Arkel, Lee
Van Berkum, Cornelius
Van Berkum, John
Van Breeman, Verne L.
Van Brogen, Kenneth H.
Van Brogen, Raymond
Vande Geest, Gerrit
Vande Kamp, Clarence
Vande Keift, Margaret
Vande Kieft, Wm.
Vande Kraats, Roy W.
Vande Krol, John
Van Dellen, Clarence H.
Vande Lune, Paul H.
Vande Noord, Harold
Vanden Baard, John M.
Vanden Berg, Allison R.
Vanden Berg, Gerald C.
Vanden Berg, Cornie W.
Vanden Berg, John H.
Vanden Berg, William G.
Vander Aark, Theo
Vander Baan, Richard
Vander Beek, Abe
Vander Beek, Ralph A.
Vander Beek, Wm. N.
Vander Haar, Werner
Vander Hart, Arnold
Vander Hart, Cornie A.
Vander Hart, Gordon W.
Vander Hart, Harold G.
Vander Heiden, Raymond
Vander Leest, Clifford
Vander Leest, Gerald L.
Vander Linden, Carl R.
Vander Linden, Clarence J.
Vander Linden, Howard K.
Vander Linden, Marion D.
Vander Linden, Ralph
Vander Linden, Raymond K.
Vander Linden, Virgil C.
Vander Meer, Ben
Vander Molen, William
Vander Ploeg, Darl E.
Vander Ploeg, Edward P.
Vander Ploeg, Edwin
Vander Ploeg, John R.
Vander Pol, Ralph
Vander Sluis, Paul E.
Vander Veer, Jacob C.
Vander Waal, Herbert L.
Vander Waal, John A.
Vander Waal, Ralph L.
Vander Wal, Elmer A.
Vander Wal, Gerrit J.
Vander Wall, Edward J.
Vander Wiel, Gerald
Vander Wilt, Lester E.
Vander Zyl, Earl H.
Vander Zyl, Loren G.
Vander Zyl, Marion
Vander Zyl, Ralph C.
Vande Voort, Everett
Vande Voort, Henry J.
Vande Voort, John H.
Vande Wall, Gilbert J.
Van Duren, Henry
Van Dusseldorp, Ben
Van Dusseldorp, Bert
Van Dusseldorp, Gerald A.
Van Dusseldorp, Gilbert
Van Dusseldorp, Jacob S.
Van Dusseldorp, Wilbur
Van Ee, Vernon
Van Ekeren, Alvin
Van Ekeren, Clifford
Van Ekeren, Gerrit
Van Ekeren, Ramon E.
Van Essen, Clarence N.
Van Gilst, Case
Van Gorp, Cornie M.
Van Gorp, Donald J.
Van Gorp, Harold
Van Gorp, John P.
Van Gorp, Marvin
Van Gorp, Marvin F.
Van Gorp, Nicholas E.
Van Gorp, Norman
Van Gorp, Peter H.
Van Gorp, Raymond
Van Gorp, William C.
Van Haaften, Arnold
Van Haaften, Henry D.
Van Houten, F.W.
Van Houweling, Albert M.
Van Houweling, Donald C.
Van Houweling, Norman
Van Houweling, Paul A.
Van Kalkeren, Dick
Van Maanen, Wm. D.
Van Mersbergen, Herman T.
Van Niewaal, Clarence
Van Niewaal, Roy N.
Van Nimwegen, Lawrence
Van Nimwegen, Robert
Van Ooyen, John
Van Ooyen, Peter J.
Van Rees, Carl W.
Van Rees, Cornie
Van Rees, Earl H.
Van Rheenen, Ralph H.
Van Roekel, John G.
Van Roekel, Robert J.
Van Ryswyk, Dick M.
Van Ryswyk, Robert L.
Van Setten, Antonie
Van Sittert, Warren G.
Van Steenis, Loren E.
Van Tuyl, Wm. L.
Vaughn, Roy Phillip
Van Vark, Glen
Van Vark, Leroy J.
Van Vark, Robert F.
Van Vark, Robert C.
Van Vark, Robert L.
Van Veen, Anthony
Van Veen, Melvin J.
Van Vliet, Stanley B.
Van Waardhuizen, Albert
Van Weelden, Adrianus
Van Weelden, Arie
Van Weelden, Arthur
Van Weelden, Gysbert
Van Weelden, Henry W.
Van Willigan, Maurice
Van Wyngarden, Donald
Van Wyngarden, Henry T.
Van Wyk, Delmar G.
Van Wyk, Leonard W.
Van Wyk, Lester
Van Wyk, Myron F.
Van Zante, Delos A.
Van Zante, Dick D.
Van Zante, Gerald M.
Van Zante, Lloyd
Van Zante, Marjorie Osterhou
Van Zee, Arthur B.
Van Zee, Clarence
Van Zee, Clarence M.
Van Zee, Edward G.
Van Zee, Elmer L.
Van Zee, Gene
Van Zee, Glenn
Van Zee, John R.
Van Zee, Kenneth
Van Zee, Lawrence E.
Van Zee, Melvin R.
Van Zee, William K.
Veenstra, Ben
Veldhuizen, Ira
Veldhuizen, Virgil
Ver Beek, Anna Mae
Ver Dught, Verle
Ver Heul, John
Ver Meer, Byron E.
Ver Meer, Earl N.
Ver Meer, Edward W.
Ver Meer, Elmer H.
Ver Meer, John P.
Ver Meer, Wilbur R.
Ver Ploeg, Alonzo
Ver Ploeg, Bernice
Ver Ploeg, Eugene S.
Ver Ploeg, Stanley C.
Verrips, Franklin A.
Ver Steeg, Edward A.
Ver Steeg, Nathaniel A.
Ver Steegh, Dwight
Ver Steegh, Glenn M.
Ver Steegh, Howard D.
Ver Steeght, Earl
Verwers, Cornie C.
Vines, Cecil H.
Vis, Gerrit L.
Visser, Robert M.
Visscher, Walter
Vogelaar, Arthur T.
Vogelaar, Carl B.
Vogelaar, Earl M.
Vogelaar, Jerald
Vogelaar, Morris
Vonde Haar, Warner
Vos, Andrew S.
Vos, Clarence J.
Vos, Cornie
Vos, Helen
Vos, Martin
Vos, Melvin
Vos, Nelson
Vos, Richard
Vos, Vernie N.
Voskuil, Homer J.
Vriezelaar, Arthur D.
Vriezelaar, Donald W.
Vriezelaar, James A.
Vriezelaar, Lee W.
Vriezelaar, William T.
Vroom, Clifford L.

Wallace, Robert D.
Wallace, Wm.
Warner, Kenneth G.
Washington, Wilbur T.
Wehde, Carl E.
Weidemaier, Vernon
Weirather, Vivian A.
Wellman, Dale C.
Wesselink, Edward J.
Westra, Frank
Whalley, Frederic J.
White, Clifford M.
Wichart, Charles
Wilkins, Jean E.
Willemsen, Henry
Williams, Chester B.
Williams, Elam E.
Wisse, Ralph W.
Witzenberg, Marion
Witzenberg, Marion J.
Wolbrink, Gileon R.
Woods, Joe
Wormhoudt, Arthur L.
Wormhoudt, Eugene E.
Wormhoudt, Gerrit H.
Wormhoudt, Herbert L.
Wyma, Cornelius

Zylstra, Chester D.

WORLD WAR II

Died in Service Overseas

Breuklander, Albert C.
Cummings, Arlie
De Bruin, Lawrence
De Jong, Paul
Goad, Harold V.
Jacobs, Dick
Jansen, Dick
Lefers, John
Liter, Melvin E.
McCain, Walter L.
Meinders, Albert
Meulpolder, Dan Ray
Naaktgeboren, David D.
Poppen, Jack
Roorda, Delwin Dick
Rozenberg, Jacob J.
Van Brogen, Raymond
Van Gilst, Case
Van Ooyen, John
Van Setten, Antonie
Van Zee, Lawrence E.
Veldhuizen, Virgil
Ver Steegh, Howard D.

Died in Service in U.S.

Hugen, Bert E.
Rempe, Dr. A.C.
Schilder, Rudolph
Ver Steegt, Earl
Wormhoudt, Gerrit H.

KOREAN WAR

Aalbers, Donald
Anderson, C. Wendell
Anderson, Malcom R.
Anderson, Marvin L.

Baker, Donald J.
Ballenger, J. Lloyd
Balstad, Richard H.
Bass, Henry R.
Baughman, Leroy
Beerends, Myron H.
Beintema, Charles L.
Bennink, Clarence C.
Bennink, Donald
Beyer, Carrol G.
Bezemer, Carroll G.
Blom, Dale B.
Blom, Robert A.
Bloodsworth, Clarence
Boender, Harry
Boertje, Stanley B.
Boertje, Virgil W.
Bogaards, Howard D.
Bogaards, Lawrence
Bonnema, Donald L.
Boot, Arvin G.
Boot, Wilbur J.
Borgman, Glenn
Borst, William H.
Bosch, Arthur J.
Bosveld, Willard D.
Brand, Lloyd H.
Brandenhorst, Marvin
Brillhart, Lyle F.
Brom, Jacob M.
Brouwer, Gary A.
Bruinekool, Grover
Brummel, Fred
Bruxvoort, Stanley
Buerkens, Bruce Q.
Buitenwerf, Howard W.
Buwalda, Edwin F.
Buwalda, Howard L.
Byers, Archie

Cade, Henry J.
Cade, Wayne Lee
Cogley, Larry E.
Cook, Richard L.
Crosby, Robert Dan

Dahlin, Robert L.
Dahm, Arnold J.
De Cook, Armand
De Cook, Arvin J.
De Cook, Donald L.
De Goey, Willis
De Haai, Marion
De Heus, Marvin P.
De Jong, Alvin W.
De Jong, Arnold J.
De Jong, Edward G.
De Jong, Ernest L.
De Jong, Francis
De Jong, Franklin L.
De Jong, Fred
De Jong, Gerald
De Jong, John A.
De Jong, John E.
De Jong, John J.
De Jong, Raymond
De Jong, William Jr.
De Kock, Engel
De Koning, Carroll J.
De Koning, Richard D.
Delveau, Richard
Den Hartog, Cornie W.
Den Hartog, Eugene
De Prenger, Warren
De Reus, Darrell
De Rooi, John W.
De Vries, Bernie
De Vries, Harold H.
De Vries, John M.
De Vries, Maynard
De Vries, Raymond
De Vries, Robert J.
De Vries, Syburn W.
De Vries, Vernon D.
De Wild, Eugene
De Young, Dale A.
De Zwarte, Loren
Dieleman, Gerald
Dieleman, William W.
Dingeman, Daniel Duane
Dingeman, Donald L.
Dingeman, James H.
Dingeman, Paul E.
Dunkin, Orville
Dunsmoor, Melvin R.
Dykhuis, Galen J.
Dykstra, Lawrence G.

Elscott, Lester R.
Engbers, Arie Jr.
Evers, Robert S.
Eysink, Ernest J.

Fassler, Albert W.
Fopma, Donald R.
Fox, Max G.
Franje, Marion J.
Franje, Martin T.
Frederick, John P.
Freridge, William
Fuller, Kirk Jr.

Geels, Chester
Geels, Nelson
Glendenning, Robert
Glynn, Lawrence R.
Goemaat, Clarence G.
Goemaat, Edward J.
Goodman, James E.
Goodyk, Jacob J.
Goos, Claire A.
Gordin, Arlin D.
Gosselink, John S.
Greving, Wayne H.
Groenendyk, Edwin L.
Groenendyk, Howard
Guffey, James

Hale, Norris
Harkins, Wm. H.
Hart, Bill J.
Hartgers, Melvin T.
Hasselman, Ed
Heller, Donald S.
Helm, Ronald L.
Hendricks, Delmar D.
Hendricks, Lee R.
Hessing, Elmer L.
Hessing, Peter A.
Hiemstra, David L.
Hiemstra, Stephen J.
Hinga, William K.
Hixon, James N.
Hoeksema, Fred
Hoekstra, Gerald H.
Hoksbergen, Alvin L.
Hoksbergen, Edward
Hoksbergen, Harold E.
Hoksbergen, Ralph D.
Hopkins, Roger S.
Horman, Edwin E.
Houseal, Kenneth L.
Huisman, Theodore A.
Huyser, Frank Jr.
Huyser, Irvin W.
Huyser, John W.
Huyser, Myron K.
Huyser, Norman C.
Huyser, Orlan D.

Ikuta, George
Ikuta, Junici

Jaarsma, Howard R.
Jacobs, Herman P.
Jansen, Cornie L.
Jansen, Dale L.
Jansen, Earl L.
Jansen, Kenneth L.
Jansen, Loren W.
Jarman, Dale
Jones, Richard J.
Jonker, Thaymer
Judge, Charles R. Jr.

Kaldenberg, Ivan P.
Kanis, Stewart F.
Keeney, Hilliard M.
Kempkes, Philip
Keuning, Robert
Klein, Donald Jack
Klyn, John P.
Klyn, Lawrence
Kool, Allen J.
Koopmans, Harry L.
Kooyman, Kenneth L.
Kooyman, Wallace A.
Knutson, Howard K.
Kramer, Kenneth W.
Kregel, Herman J.
Kuiper, Jay H.

Langerak, Dudok D.
Langstraat, Henry
Langstraat, Lawrence J.
Langstraat, Wilbur
Lanser, Marvin L.
Lautenbach, Casper J.
Lautenbach, Fred William
Lautenbach, Harry R. (Dick)
Laverman, Wilford R.
Leydens, Harold L.
Liggett, Lloyd E.
Lubberden, Robert J.

Madden, John W.
Mattson, Glen E.
Menninga, Bernie
Menninga, Cecil D.
Mentink, Philip H.
Mentink, Richard J.
Meulpolder, Stuart L.
Meyer, Dwaine F.
Meyer, Dorothy K. Fujii
Murtha, James L.
Naaktgeboren, Fred
Neil, Ronald E.
Nesbit, Gordon
Netten, Delmar G.
Newendorp, Wilbur
Nibbelink, Keith
Nieuwsma, Arvin
Nieuwsma, Harlan J.
Nieuwsma, Harris G.
Nieuwsma, Henry R.
Nieuwsma, Norman W.
Nikkel, Leo D.
Nikkel, Wilbur
Nikkel, William J.
Noel, James I.
Nunnikhoven, Abraham J.
Nunnikhoven, Anthony
Nunnikhoven, Martin W.
Nunnikhoven, Marvin E.

Olson, Clarence Jr.
Olivier, Willard P.
Omick, Robert E.
Oonk, Lester E.

Paltzer, Clifford
Peery, Kenneth F.
Petersma, Delmar R.
Petersma, Lewis G.
Peterson, Lewis C.
Pippel, Harry D.
Pippel, Robert L.
Plate, Edward G.
Pol, Leonard P.
Pothoven, Duane C.
Pothoven, Robert

Ray, Marion
Renaud, Edmund C.
Renaud, Gerrit
Renaud, Leo M.
Renaud, Mark P.
Renaud, Wilfred M.
Reysack, Henry
Rietveld, Robert G.
Riggen, James L.
Rinehart, Verle L.
Robert, Edwin R.
Rolffs, John
Rook, Lawrence
Roorda, Carl W.
Roorda, Norman P.
Roozeboom, Henry A.
Roozeboom, Nelson
Rouw, Albert E.
Rozenboom, Donald
Rozendaal, William C.
Ruiter, Arthur
Rumbaugh, Herbert Jr.
Rumbaugh, Marvin G.
Rumbaugh, Melvin D.
Rus, Jacob
Russell, Ralph Jr.
Ryken, Edward D.
Ryken, Robert L.

Sadler, Dean T.
Schakel, Kenneth D.
Schippers, Deverne N.
Schippers, Melvin
Schmidt, Fred W.
Schoon, John R.
Schuring, Arthur
Schuring, Henry N.
Schutte, Johannes
Sels, Leo G.
Selthum, Clayton D.
Sents, James
Shanks, Lloyd E.
Sheets, Robert D.
Simmons, Paul J.
Simoens, Don E.
Sjaardema, Duane
Slagle, Everett E.
Slagter, Marion
Slaymaker, Marvin H.
Sowles, Robert
Spoelstra, Harold J.
Steenhoek, Gerrit B.
Steenhoek, Gilbert N.
Stone, Joseph L.
Stoppels, Paul J.
Stursma, Donald R.
Stursma, Norman R.
Stursma, Theodore W.
Stursma, William L.
Sylvester, William D.
Synhorst, Gerald E.

Taylor, Jerry E.
Ter Louw, Lloyd J.
Ter Louw, Raymond G.
Thomassen, Gary
Thomassen, Jack
Thompson, Paul W.
Thon, Arnold L.
Tibboel, John W.
Tibboel, Herman T.
Toom, Marion Jr.
Tysseling, Lawrence W.
Tysseling, Marvin H.

Uitermarkt, Dorrell J.
Uitermarkt, Edward L.

Valster, James A.
Valster, Cornie J.
Vande Kamp, Ronald L.
Vande Kieft, Gareth Paul
Vande Kieft, Henry A.
Van Dellen, Clarence A.
Vanden Oever, Loran W.
Vanden Oever, Richard H.
Vander Beek, Bill
Vander Beek, Joe C.
Vande Ree, Cornelius
Vander Hart, Frank
Vander Hart, Gilbert L.
Vander Heiden, Marion
Vander Hoek, William
Vander Kraan, Wilbur
Vander Leest, Gerald
Vander Leest, Logan
Vander Leest, Vernon R.
Vander Linden, Donald D.
Vander Linden, Kenneth E.
Vander Linden, Warren L.
Vander Linden, Willis W.
Vander Meiden, Gerrit H.
Vander Meiden, William A.
Vander Molen, Marvin
Vander Ploeg, Charles L.
Vander Ploeg, Darl
Vander Ploeg, Mark O.
Vander Pol, Wayne
Vander Schaaf, Carl W.

KOREAN WAR

Vander Schaaf, Marvin
Vander Schel, Robert A.
Vander Streek, Lloyd G.
Vander Veer, Kenneth Lee
Vander Veer, Harry L.
Vander Werff, Bert
Vander Werff, Marvin Lee
Vander Wert, Loren W.
Vande Voort, Gary E.
Van Dusseldorp, Arlan R.
Van Dusseldorp, Elmer E.
Van Dusseldorp, Ralph A.
Van Dusseldorp, Ray H.
Van Dyk, Raymond G.
Van Ee, Edward
Van Ee, Leland
Van Gent, Kenneth I.
Van Gent, Leo
Van Gorp, Daniel
Van Gorp, Jacob J.
Van Gorp, Verlan G.
Van Gorp, Wayne E.
Van Haaften, Alvin J.
Van Haaften, Arlan
Van Haaften, Duane
Van Haaften, Marion D.
Van Haaften, Willis A.
Van Hal, Gerrit
Van Hal, Robert W.
Van Hall, Henry J.
Van Houweling, James
Van Kooten, Calvin P.
Van Kooten, Delmar L.
Van Kooten, Harris W.
Van Kooten, Richard
Van Maanen, Harold C.
Van Maanen, Kenneth B.
Vannette, Avert W.
Van Niewaal, Ronald D.
Van Oss, Forrest W.
Van Rees, Mark J.
Van Rheenen, Marion L.
Van Roekel, Glen A.
Van Sant, Andrew Jr.
Van Sant, Dick J.
Van Sant, Gerald P.
Van Soelen, Cornelius
Van Soelen, Gerald
Van Soelen, Paul
Van Soelen, Peter
Van Steenwyk, Alfred R.
Van Vark, Leo
Van Vliet, James
Van Waardhuizen, John L.
Van Woert, Gerrit R.
Van Wyk, Bernard
Van Wyk, Betty
Van Wyk, Dale N.
Van Wyk, Daniel
Van Wyk, Darrell D.
Van Wyk, Dennis W.
Van Wyk, Don J.
Van Wyk, Earl E.
Van Wyk, Gilbert
Van Wyk, Ralph J.
Van Wyk, Wallace N.
Van Wyk, Wilmer
Van Wyhe, Jacob A.
Van Wyngarden, Gerald
Van Zante, Bernard E.
Van Zante, Robert J.
Van Zante, Robert L.
Van Zee, Donald D.
Van Zee, John N.
Van Zee, Leroy Allen
Van Zee, Marion G.
Van Zee, Marvin M.
Van Zee, Meredith
Van Zee, Raymond
Van Zee, Robert J.
Van Zomeren, John
Veenstra, John R.
Veenstra, Wilbur J.
Veldhuizen, Leonard
Ver Heul, Dick H.
Ver Hoef, Calvin Cleo
Ver Meer, Harry G.
Ver Meer, Marvin C.
Ver Meer, Marvin L.
Ver Ploeg, Chadwick
Ver Ploeg, Ralph
Verros, Dick
Verros, Donald D.
Verros, Elton
Verros, Gerald J.
Ver Steeg, Carl
Ver Steeg, Howard
Ver Steeg, Ralph E.
Ver Woert, Gerrit Roxie
Vink, Arie J.
Visser, Donald E.
Vogelaar, Earl M.
Vos, Bernard W.
Vos, Cornie
Vos, Dale
Vos, Harold
Vos, John
Vos, Marvin L.
Vos, Raymond G.
Vos, Sheldon H.
Vos, Wilbur D.
Voyce, Rodney G.
Vriezelaar, Don
Vriezelaar, Wm. T.
Vroom, Edward
Vroom, John E.

Walker, Daryl E.
Wassenaar, George A.
Westra, Charles
Westra, Wessell
Weyers, Harry
Wichart, Robert L.
Wielard, Kenneth J.
Wikner, Ivan A.
Wilkin, John

Zegers, William Jr.
Zickel, Norman G.
Zylstra, Paul M.
Zylstra, Quintin P.

Died In Service Overseas
Bass, Henry R.
Vos, Bernard W.
Bloodsworth, Clarence

Died In Service In U.S.
Sheets, Robert D.
Van Kooten, Calvin P.

VIETNAM WAR

Aldridge, Boyd Ray
Aldridge, Charles L.
Aldridge, Larry M.
Allen, James D.
Alt, Arthur J.
Anderson, Wm. J.
Andreas, Reuben Peter

Bandstra, George W.
Barber, Larry D.
Barr, Timothy J.
Beals, James E.
Beintema, Charles
Beintema, Keith
Bensink, David G.
Bensink, Ronald
Beyer, Jerry D.
Beyer, Paul H.
Blom, Harvey J.
Blom, Loren J.
Blom, Stanley R.
Blommers, Arthur G.
Boardman, Timothy J.
Bogaard, Stanley E.
Bokhoven, Henry A.
Booth, James E. Jr.
Booth, Leland
Borg, Lyle W.
Borgman, Robert
Braafhart, Harry J.
Braafhart, James L.
Brass, Dennis W.
Breen, Jerry L.
Breuklander, William
Briggs, Timothy W.
Brockway, Jack
Brouwer, Duane N.
Bruce, Rodney T.
Bruxvoort, Daryl L.
Budding, Steven R.
Budding, Stuart D.
Burney, Robert L.
Buwalda, James N.

Caldwell, Timothy W.
Calef, Marshall M.
Camp, Roderic A.
Carlson, David E.
Cronin, Robert J.
Carter, Lester
Clark, Bart L.
Clink, Duane
Cowell, Larry G.
Crawford, Bryce H.
Crawmer, John D.
Crew, Larry F.
Criss, Richard Lee
Cummings, Phillip G.

Daub, Lee R.
Dean, James R.
De Bruin, Clarence M.
De Bruin, Keith A.
De Bruin, Rodney H.
De Geus, Willis N.
De Haan, Jacob
De Haan, Sandy
De Heus, Keith L.
De Jong, Carl
De Jong, Douglas V.
De Jong, Larry D.
De Jong, Ralph
De Kock, Donald J.
De Koning, Dennis L.
De Koning, Jerald W.
De Kruyff, Peter R. Jr.
Den Hartog, Dennis L.
De Nooy, Kenneth J.
De Penning, Bruce
De Penning, Edward J.
De Penning, Robert G.
De Reus, Gary D.
De Ronde, Robert L.
De Vries, Durk
De Vries, Rodney D.
De Wild, Kenneth L.
De Winter, Allan C.
De Wit, Robert F.
De Zwarte, Roger H.
Dieleman, Dennis N.
Dieleman, Edward Duane
Dieleman, Norman Lee
Dingeman, Marvin G.
Dingeman, Paul E.
Dittmar, Ronald D.
Dop, Kenneth R.
Dowd, Daniel M.
Dowell, Gerald T.
Draper, Bruce E.
Duinink, Earl R.
Duistermars, Dean A.
Dykens, Harold W.
Dykstra, Kenneth L.
Dykstra, Ronald D.
Dykstra, Rodney D.

English, Clarence E.
Enyeart, Frank
Erickson, Darrell E.

Falcon, Farmin G.
Franje, Jerry
Friers, Franklin E.
Frost, Sharon L.
Fuller, Franklin

Garber, Lonnie L.
Geery, Stephen M.
Geetings, Donald E.
Geetings, Larry D.
Geetings, Ronald W.
Gezel, John C.
Goodyk, Darrell L.
Goos, Kirby
Gosselink, Jerry D.
Gosselink, Rodney W.
Graham, Walter D.
Grandia, Lester W.
Groenenboom, Robert L.
Grooters, Gardner L.

Hagens, John A.
Hanford, Donald W. Jr.
Happel, Robert
Harrington, Wm. C.
Haskell, Stephen L.
Heerema, F. Mark
Heisdorffer, Joseph A.
Helm, Allen D.
Helm, Ronald E.
Hendrix, Terry
Hiemstra, Glenn W.
Hiemstra, Stanley R.
Hill, Kenneth
Hines, Gary E.
Hoksbergen, Kenneth
Hol, Kenneth D.
Hollins, Melissa Willemsen
Horrigan, Roger C.
Hugen, Howard G.
Huisman, Dean A.
Hulleman, Ronald
Husted, Albert P.
Hutchinson, Gerald Lee

Ikuta, George
Intveld, Arnold D.

Jansen, Edwin E.
Jellema, Richard
Johnson, Bruce
Johnson, Neal S.
Johnson, Timmie L.
Johnson, Tom
Jones, Earl D.
Jones, Vincent P.
Joosten, Curtis

Kaldenberg, Joe J.
Kamerick, Louis J.
Kamerick, Ronald G.
Kendall, Gary
Kerger, Kenneth
Keuning, Charles D.
Keuning, Peter J.
Kirby, Monte D.
Klein, Arvin L.
Klein, Raymond L.
Klyn, Dennis J.
Klyn, Edwin L.
Klyn, Gary E.
Kooi, Fred E.
Koopman, Gary L.
Koopman, Gerritt E.
Kramer, Martin W.
Kuhn, Michael E.
Kuiper, Anthony E.
Kuitwaard, John E.

Lindstrom, Rodney R.
Loynachan, Jerry D.
Lucas, Joseph E.

Marshall, Elsie Nissi
Marshall, Harry E.
Martin, Raymond E.
Mathes, Eugene W.
Mathes, Larry E.
Mathes, Wayne A.
McComb, Delbert
McGee, Paul
Meidema, Chancey Norman
Meinders, Gene D.
Memmelaar, John
Menninga, Arlan D.
Menninga, Bryce G.
Menninga, Lonnie R.
Menninga, Randall W.
Meppelink, Alvin R.
Meppelink, Marvin E.
Meyer, Duane K.
Michmerschuizen, Frederic
Miller, Dwaine E.
Mulder, Clifford D.
Muyskens, Douw

Naaktgeboren, Alan L.
Nation, Billie J.
Nation, James L.
Neels, Roger D.
Newendorp, Keith E.
Newendorp, Vernon L.
Niewsma, Dennis
Nollen, Kenneth E.
Nollen, John L.
Nossaman, Larry D.

Olivier, Alvin R.
Olivier, Kenneth L.
Olson, Randolph E.
Olson, Roger G.
Olsthoorn, John R.
Oonk, Lester E.
Oppenhuizen, John P.
Ozinga, Kenneth E.

Paltzer, Tom
Pealer, David E.
Pleima, Larry M.
Poortinga, Melvin R.
Poortinga, Stanley E.
Petersma, Robert L.
Pringle, Ricky D.
Puyear, Charles W.

Racheter, Donald P.
Rankin, Burton D.
Reinertson, Reid M.
Rempe, Lee E.
Rempe, Robert I.

Renaud, Larry E.
Rippentrop, Edward J.
Riherd, Wm. O.
Robus, Kenneth E.
Roorda, Donald W.
Roorda, Howard L.
Roorda, James P.
Roorda, Keith
Roorda, Marion H.
Roorda, Stanley E.
Roose, Duane G.
Roozeboom, Keith L.
Rottier, Michael K.
Rowe, Gerald I.
Rozeboom, Marvin E.
Rozendaal, Norman G.
Rumbaugh, Herbert Jr.
Rus, Donald
Rus, Marvin

Scheffers, Ernest E.
Schimmel, Randal G.
Schippers, Melvin L.
Schreiner, Philip W.
Schroder, James L.
Schuring, Michael D.
Schuring, Stanley J.
Sels, David
Sels, Frederick L.
Sheppard, Wm L. Jr.
Simpson, Sylvia K. De Jong
Singleton, Russell D.
Slings, Dale L.
Slycord, John L.
Slycord, Robert
Slykhuis, Roger
Smith, David L.
Solomon, Daniel L.
Sonnenberg, Mark A.
Spencer, Robert G.
Spoelstra, Charles H.
Squibb, David B.
Stam, Carl F.
Stam, Larry M.
Steadham, Roy Lynn
Steen, Robert A.
Steenberg, Gary S.
Steenhoek, Dennis H.
Steenhoek, Donald J.
Steenhoek, Dwight J.
Steenhoek, Gary L.
Steenhoek, Kenneth R.
Steenhoek, Ronald L.
Sterk, Dale E.
Stevenson, Hershall W.
Stientjes, Steve
Stouwie, David A.
Stralow, John L.
Stravers, Jon W.
Stravers, Randall C.
Stuart, Arlyn R.
Stults, David
Stump, Jerry P.
Stursma, Paul M.
Sudding, Sturt D.
Sullivan, Michael E.

Talma, Lee S.
Teachout, Richard J.
Ter Louw, Arvin L.
Ter Louw, Andrew J.
Terpstra, Afton
Thomas, David F.
Tierney, James M.
Toom, Larry E.
Toom, Marion Jr.
Trauger, Michael N.
Tysseling, Anthony R.
Ulrich, Robert J.
Uitermarkt, Adrian H.
Uitermarkt, Arnold R.

Valster, Abram B.
Valster, Karl C.
Van Andel, Dennis L.
Van Berkum, Mark J.
Van Dalen, Jerry D.
Vande Krol, Keith D.
Van Dellen, Clarence H.
Vanden Baard, David L.
Vanden Berg, Edwin L.
Vanden Berg, James
Vande Noord, Lowell R.
Vande Pol, Stanley A.
Vander Beek, Robert H.
Vander Hart, Allan Ray
Vander Hart, Larry D.
Vander Hart, Duane L.
Vander Heiden, Frederick M.
Vander Leest, Loran D.
Vanderley, Elroy
Vander Linden, Edward L.
Vander Linden, Jaren E.
Vander Linden, Larry
Vander Linden, Leo K.
Vander Linden, Ronald J.
Vander Molen, Carl
Vander Molen, Duane L.
Vander Molen, Marvin L.
Vander Molen, Robert L.
Vander Ploeg, Bruce L.
Vander Ploeg, Darl E.
Vander Pol, James N.
Vander Veer, Bob
Vander Veer, Carl W.
Vander Veer, Engle Jr.
Vander Waal, Charles D.
Vander Waal, Robert W.
Vander Wal, Kenneth L.
Vander Weide, Ned O.
Vander Werff, Douglas D.
Vander Wilt, Loren W.
Vandevoort, Kenneth J.
Vandevoort, Robert J.
Van Donselaar, Donald
Van Dusseldorp, Arlan R.
Van Dusseldorp, Carl J.
Van Dusseldorp, John M.
Van Dusseldorp, Marvin H.
Van Dyke, Allen
Van Dyke, Glen E.
Van Dyke, Wayne E.
Van Ee, Verlan
Van Ekeren, Donald W.
Van Ekeren, Marvin L.
Van Essen, Robert
Van Gorkum, Douglas C.
Van Gorp, Dennis J.
Van Gorp, Jerry
Van Haaften, Marvin L.
Van Hemert, Lloyd E.
Van Hemert, Rudy L.
Van Houweling, Mark
Van Howelingen, Robert J.
Van Hulzen, David G.
Van Maanen, Donald L.
Van Maaren, James E.
Van Rees, Leonard W.
Van Roekel, Glen J.
Van Roekel, Harley J.
Van Roekel, Kenneth L.
Van Ryswyk, Fred M.
Van Sittert, Thomas P.
Van Steenis, Carleton H.
Van Steenis, Daryl D.
Van Steenis, Elmer R.
Van Vark, Donald E.
Van Vark, Gregory C.
Van Vark, Roger L.
Van Veen, Chuck
Van Veen, David
Van Veen, Kenneth
Van Veen, Stanley
Van Waardhuizen, Arvin
Van Waardhuizen, Charles W.
Van Waardhuizen, Rick
Van Waardhuizen, Robert R.
Van Walbeek, Cornelius D.
Van Weelden, Randy
Van Weelden, Ronald B.
Van Wyk, Delmer W.
Van Wyk, Dennis E.
Van Wyk, Francis L.
Van Wyk, Jerry L.
Van Wyk, John H.
Van Wyk, Kurt, A.
Van Zante, Charles
Van Zante, Charles L.
Van Zante, Robert J.
Van Zee, Alvin R.
Van Zee, Anthony M.
Van Zee, Carl E.
Van Zee, Glen V.
Van Zee, Thomas G.
Veenstra, Ronald F.
Veldhuizen, Larry G.
Ver Hoef, Bill
Ver Meer, James E.
Ver Meer, Kent H.
Ver Meer, Robert L.
Ver Ploeg, Donald A.
Ver Ploeg, Henry E.
Verros, Norman R.
Ver Schurre, Robert P.
Ver Schurre, Jerry Allen
Vink, Marvin
Vink, Terrence G.
Vogelaar, Philip R.
Voorhis, Charles W.
Vos, Alvin W.
Vos, Charles W.
Vos, David H.
Vos, Dennis E.
Vos, Dennis J.
Vos, Keith G.
Vos, Keith L.
Vos, Lary Alan
Vos, Melvin L.
Vriezelaar, Donald W.
Vroegh, Ronald
Vroom, Edwin M.
Vroom, Howard W.
Vroom, Richard
Vroom, William

Wacker, Dalmar A.
Wallace, Herbert P.
Westra, Steven F.
Whalley, Thomas F.
Whitney, Wayne R.
Whitten, Frank F.
Wichart, Clarence R.
Wiese, Dick
Willemsen, David L.
Willemsen, Donald W.
Wilson, Paul J.
Winegar, Melvin W.
Wisse, John
Witzenberg, Harvey G.
Witzenberg, Stanley R.
Witzenberg, Warren L.
Wouterse, Gary M.

Zickel, Norman G.
Zwank, Philip J.
Zylstra, Theodore N.

Died in Service Overseas
Joosten, Curtis
Van Wyk, John H.
Wilson, Paul J.

SOLDIERS FROM EARLY WARS BURIED IN OAKWOOD CEMETERY

T104

War of 1812

Two people from the War of 1812 are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. They are: William Presson (1790-1876), Corporal 3rd Reg. Mass.; and Michael Keables (1793-1879).

Spanish-American Veterans

The following veterans from the Spanish-American War are buried in Oakwood Cemetery: Fred Farley Carpenter M.D., Daniel De Vries, John T. Kempkes, Charles Louis LeCocq, John Newton Melton, and Dick Muilenberg.

PELLA IN THE CIVIL WAR

T105

When Iowa Governor Kirkwood issued a call for volunteers in Apr. 1861, the citizens of Pella and vicinity furnished their full quota of troops and did so until the end of the war. Funds were collected to encourage volunteers to enlist; Mr. Scholte offered a lot of land in North Pella to every soldier. These were later known as "soldier lots." Sixty-three Dutch volunteers enlisted in the infantry and cavalry regiments. There were more than two hundred and fifty volunteers from Pella and vicinity. Forty were wounded and twenty were killed or fatally wounded.

All of the able-bodied male students (126 of them) at Central University volunteered for service. Twenty-six of them never returned.

Pella women were active in collecting bandages, clothes, and food. The letter quoted below was sent to Dr. B.F. Keables. It shows that the work of the loyal women was greatly appreciated.

" 'Dear Sir:

" 'Your letters of November 12th were referred to me. It affords me sincere pleasure to inform you of the safe arrival of the box of hospital supplies sent by W. Olney. It is now in the hands of the mother of the hospital, as a gift from the loyal citizens of your town. We assure you that the contents will be used for the purpose of alleviating the suffering of our sick boys.

" 'Those in the administration of affairs are doing everything possible for the army; nevertheless, much remains undone. But thanks be to God, our needs are being supplied from many sources: and from none with more liberal hand than from the state of Iowa, and with greater generosity than from the beautiful little city of Pella.

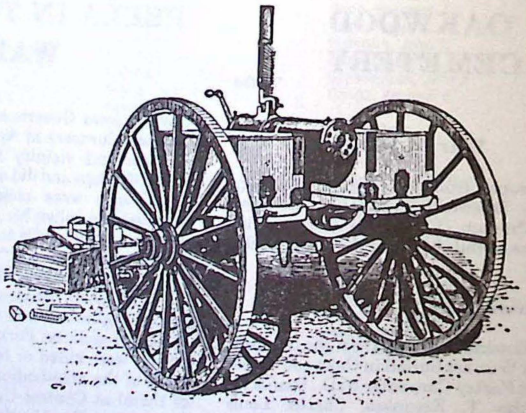
" 'You ask for a list of the things we are most in need of, and promise to send canned fruits, etc. There is nothing you could send

G.A.R. War Memorial and Civil War cannons in Central Park.

In 1905 Civil War Veterans marched north on Main Street. This picture is taken in the 700 block.

that would be more welcome or that is more needed by our sick ones, and the only source of supply is such free will offerings as you are sending. Many grateful and suffering hearts here are filled with gratitude to your loyal women and hope that God will reward them for taking the place of the mothers and sisters from whom they are separated. We will ever remember with gratitude your generous efforts to help us and also the spirit manifested in your letter. We can only say from a full heart: God bless you and yours. May Heaven pour out on you all, her richest blessings, and may you all enjoy a happy and blessed Christmas time.
" 'T.O. Edwards, Surgeon-in-Chief.' "

by Alice Lammers and Martha Lautenbach



SPANISH AMERICAN WAR VETERANS

T106

1898. Awaiting the train from Oskaloosa, having aboard Co. F. 3rd. Iowa going to Des Moines for mobilizing for Phillipine Service in the Spanish American War. One soldier from Pella, Dr. J.W. Shauxland, of the 3rd. Iowa boarded this train as it came along.

Spanish American War veterans from Pella, Left to Right: Dan DeVries, Phil Vander Meiden, John Luyben, Chas. LeCocq, and John A. Pes, Jr.

WORLD WAR I: ON THE HOME FRONT IN PELLA

T107

World War I was started in Europe by Germany when she declared war on France on Aug. 3, 1914, and it seemed that in a short time most of Europe was aflame in war.

It was not until the United States was provoked by many incidents, including the sinking of the passenger ship *Lusitania* on the high seas May 7, 1915, with the loss of 114 American men, women, and children, that President Wilson sent strong protests to the German government. After that there were very few losses in American ships or passengers until Jan. & Feb., 1917, when the Germans sank six American ships.

It was then, after much debate, that war was declared by the United States against Germany on Apr. 6, 1917, by the U.S. Congress. A few weeks later Congress voted to draft men for military service.

Before war was declared, Pella was already a great little town of considerable importance.

The Rock Island line had three eastbound and three westbound passenger trains and one freight train each way. There was also train service at Howell Station near the Des Moines River with two eastbound and two westbound passenger trains and it was presumed to have had at least one or more freight trains each way on the Wabash Line, all of which served Pella.

The Garden City Feeder Company was a good-sized factory with a wage of $1.75 to $3.50 per day.

Wally Fowler, a pioneer in the telephone business, served Pella and the rural area. *The Pella Chronicle* was the leading weekly newspaper in the area and cost $1.50 per year.

White Way Auto Company sold Buick, Oldsmobile, and the Kissel Cars. Ford touring cars were selling for $380.

The Pella Markets were: cattle $6 to $11 per hundredweight; hogs $12 to $15; corn $.75 to $1.10 per bushel; wheat $1.75 to $2; oats $.75; eggs $.45 per doz; butter $.33 per lb; hens $.18 per lb; rooster $.09 per lb; ducks with feathers $.13 to $.15 per lb.

With Pella, having very good passenger train service into Des Moines, it's residents could attend events such as Iowa's great auto show being shown in Des Moines, Feb. 18 through 23, 1918. it was billed as the 9th annual, the biggest and best in the middle west, with 135 makes and models. The 41 makes that were shown included the following: Mitchell, Reo, Dodge, Oakland, Cadillac, Overland, Willys Knight, Allen, Velie, Liberty, Moon, Briscoe, Ford, Hudson, Buick, Case, Nash, Hupmobile, Studebaker, Franklin, Lexington, Harraum, Haynes, Chevrolet, Stephens, National, Oldsmobile, Paterson, Grant, Maxwell, Milburn Electric, Chalmers, Kissel Kar, Cole, Chandler, Apperson, Stearns, Crow, Elkhart, Packard, and Saxon.

Pella had only a few shortages during the war period, one of which was coal for a short time. The nation was asked to voluntarily conserve food. Herbert Hoover of Iowa was appointed to be the United States food administrator and in his remarks to the nation he said: "It is the food problem over there (meaning Europe) that makes the problem over here." We, in Pella, were doing our best to help feed our allies. Sugar and wheat were two of the items that families were asked to conserve on a voluntary ration basis. Sugar, wheat, and coffee were in short supply throughout most of the world due to the shortage of ships.

When Pella was asked in June of 1917, to have a liberty bond drive with a goal of $112,520, she exceeded that goal and raised $163,550. In that bond drive Pella stood highest in dollars per capita of any city in the entire nation at that date.

Pella was also very active in Red Cross and YMCA as well as other charitable and church groups.

Due to the fear of espionage, Iowa Governor Harding, in May of 1918, issued a proclamation against the use of foreign languages in public places. English was to be the only language used in schools, churches, trains, and on the telephone. This order was carried out in the churches having Dutch services, after the ministers understood the order, and it was done in the spirit of patriotism. This resulted in a compromise to hold the English service in the morning and evening with a Dutch service in the afternoon for those who could not understand English.

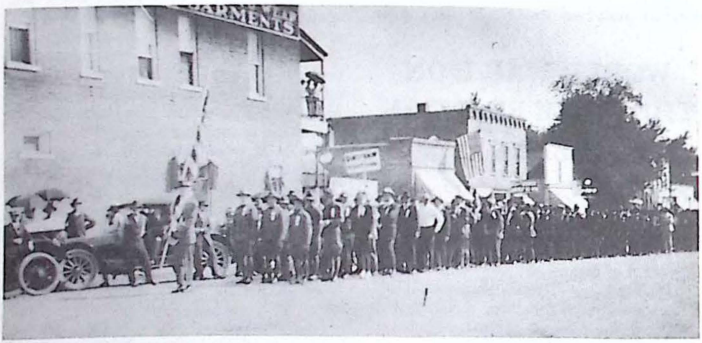
The first call for draft registration was in May and June, 1917. Two hundred twenty-nine men registered in Pella and 120 in Lake Prairie Twp. Marion Co. was asked to raise 203 men for the first draft. It was during the month of Sept. that the men in the first draft were mustered into service from Pella. There were some men who had already volunteered for service by this time.

It was during the first part of Sept., 1917, that Pella proclaimed to have had "The Biggest Day in Pella History." One hundred

World War I Nov. 11, 1919, A day of celebration to welcome veterans home.

seventy-four men from Marion, Mahaska, and Jasper counties assembled in Pella for a day of festivities and Pella gave her men a grand send off for the new life in the military. For many, their first duty was at Camp Dodge. The festivities began at 10:00 a.m. with a parade, followed by a balloon ascension at eleven o'clock. Balloonist Madame Lucile Belmont made a triple parachute drop and a pretty ascension. A free dinner was served to the service men by the Federated Club. W.H. Fowler and Mrs. C.F. Aschenbrenner, Chairman of the Council of Defense, assembled a large parade in the afternoon with seven bands from Pella, Oskaloosa, Knoxville, Newton, Otley, and also a Fife and Drum corps. The GAR rode in cars, many city officials, dignitaries, towns people and hundreds of school boys and girls marched along in the parade with the servicemen. The parade was followed by speakers in the park. There was also an evening parade with floats and cars.

Home on Furlough! Left to Right: Arthur (Ace) Renaud, Clarence (Buck) Buerkens, Ray (Rack) Vanderwal, Lew Kuyper, and Marion (Bea) Wormhoudt.



Nov. 11, 1919, a day to welcome veterans home.

Enthusiastic crowds greet enlistees in World War I.

This was deemed to be the "greatest day of festivities" Pella had ever seen. In an address to the servicemen they were told: "We are going to have another celebration that will beat even this one when these same men come home. It may be a year or maybe three years. We want them all to come back to Pella for an other day of festivities. We can't set the date, but you are invited, one and all."

By Feb., 1918, 61 men from the Pella area were in the military service; in late February 20 more Pella men were drafted. In April, 1918, 19 Marion Co. men were drafted. Tunis and Andrew Van Zante were in this call. Most of these men at this time were sent to Camp Dodge. In May 45 Marion Co. men were called, which included 34 farmers, many of whom had been deferred up to this time. Six Pella men were in this call. During the following months Pella men continued to report for military service. Ten men were sent to Camp Pike, Ark., in July. In August there was a call for 1,050 nurses from the State of Iowa between the ages of 19 to 35. These were to be volunteers and several Pella women responded. In August, 97 Marion Co. men were called. Twenty-three Pella men were in this group which included Gerard M. Gosselink.

Central College was appointed for a new

Studen Army Training Corps at Central College in World war I.

174 men go to service in World War I.

government military training program. It was called the "Student Army Training Corps" (S.A.T.C.). The program was to train 27,000 men, 18 to 21 years of age, each month nationwide.

The S.A.T.C. program at Central was organized on Oct. 18, 1918, with 28 men and two officers. They were quartered in "Old Cotton Hall." This program was short lived for the Armistice was signed Nov. 11, 1918, and the men were demobilized on Dec. 15, 1918.

By Sept., 1918, more then 1,300,000 U.S. military men were in France, which included several Pella men. The 168th Infantry Regiment of the Rainbow Division (42nd Division) had been in France since Nov. 23, 1917. Two Pella men, Gerrit Vanden Berg and John Van Veen were members of the 168th.

In Sept. of 1918, the family of John Van Veen received word that John had died in battle of severe wounds on July 29, 1918, at Chateau Thierry, France. John was the first Pella man to die in battle.

Gerrit Van Hemert was the second man to die in France. On Sept. 16, 1918, Gerrit died in battle at St Mihiel, France. He had entered service in Feb., 1918. He was buried in France but later his body was returned to Pella and reburied at Oakwood Cemetery on Mar. 23, 1919.

On Oct 8, 1918, Pella saw its first service man brought back from a military camp for burial. Gerrit Van Setten had died at Camp Pike, Ark. of Spanish influenza which was taking it's toll in many military camps as well as in Pella.

By Oct. 30, 1918, questionnaires were sent to men of age 37 to 45.

There was great joy and celebration in Pella when the Armistice was signed, bringing an end to the war. Nov. 11, 1918, was hailed as a "greatest day in history" which ended a struggle of over four-year duration. A struggle which brought devastation to Belgium, France, England, Russia, Serbia, Rumania, and Italy. The enemy powers of Bulgaria, Turkey, Austria, and Germany were crushed and accepted an unconditional surrender. It was deemed the greatest military victory in the history of the world.

The war was over. In Pella, as all over the nation, it was one wild riot of happiness. A dummy representing the Kaiser was chained to a car and dragged through the streets of Pella. Homes and businesses were decorated with flags and all business ceased for the day. There was a large parade at 2:00 p.m. and bonfire at West Market Park in the evening which attracted thousands of people. There was also a fireworks display at 9:00 p.m. conducted by W.H. Fowler.

By war's end there was an estimated loss of over twenty million men world-wide. The U.S. loss was more then 75,000; Iowa lost 1,535 men and Pella had lost three men in battle and five due to the flu and other causes. Two hundred thirty-two Pella men and women served in the military and most returned to Pella after the war ended.

At the time it was considered a noble act to help stop the terrible killing and it was intended to make "the world safe for democracy" and to be "the war to end all wars."

Three new weapons were used in war — army tank, airplane, and gas. Gas was such a terrible weapon that it was never used again on a large scale.

Soon after the war ended fifty Pella

veterans, on May 29, 1919, took the first step to form an American Legion Post which was called Gold Star Post No. 89, and was chartered with 132 members. Pella's service men had come home to serve their home community.

With the devastation caused by the war, Europe needed help. Iowa's own Herbert Hoover, later to become the president of the U.S., was given the job to oversee the largest food relief effort ever attempted in the world up to that date. The U.S. helped feed the hungry people of all European allies as well as her former enemies, and again Pella did her part.

On Dec. 5, 1918, Pella had 165 cases of Spanish influenza (flu) under quarantine and up to that date 304 cases of flu had been reported, but due to doctors and nurses working almost night and day, Pella had only three deaths up to this time. On Jan. 1, 1919, Pella lifted the quarantine on the flu which had lasted for twelve weeks.

In late Jan. of 1919, Pella saw some of the first overseas veterans return from France, which included Andrew Van Zante, along with nine other Pella men.

By Feb. 1919, attention turned to things of the future in Pella. A "Great White Way" highway was proposed to run from Chicago to Lincoln, Neb., which was to pass through Pella. The Pella Fair also had great plans.

On Memorial Day in May, 1919, Pella saw it's largest crowd ever for a Memorial Day service in Central park. It was arranged by the GAR, Pella's Civil War veterans.

One year after the war ended, on Nov. 11, 1919, when most of Pella's veterans had returned home, Pella had a great day of celebration to honor their returning veterans. All the stores were closed. The Pella band led a grand parade around Central Park and about 125 veterans who were led by Dick C. Van Zante, the Legion's first commander, were in the parade and drilled in the park for half an hour to the delight of the crowds of people. Flags were displayed all over town.

The Pella Chamber of Commerce gave a banquet for all the veterans at the Central College dining hall. Wally Fowler welcomed the veterans home. Rube Brand's Jazz band supplied the music. Henry Ver Steeg and Carl Beyers sang a few songs which were loudly cheered. After this, the group adjourned to the high school auditorium for further celebration where F.M. Frush presided. The main address was given by M.J. Hoffman, President of Central College. The veterans and the public responded very well and it was deemed a fine welcome home for Pella's veterans. All events were sponsored by the Pella Chamber of Commerce.

By July 30, 1922, Legion Post 89 was renamed: "Van Veen – Van Hemert Post" in honor of John Van Veen and Gerrit Van Hemert, Pella's first men to die in battle.

Since coming home from service the World War I veterans had been seeking the means to build a community memorial building. When the F.R. Gambell store on the west side of the park came up for sale, the veterans renewed their efforts to raise funds. The building was purchased for $9000, about an equal amount was used for remodeling. Many of the people of Pella gave the veterans the shares they had in the Pella Fair Association and, through other fund raising events, enough money was raised to complete the Memorial Building and dedicate it to their fallen comrades. The dedication took place on Feb. 19, 1924, with Commander Tunis Kempkes in charge. Shortly after the dedication, the building was presented to Marion Co. and was officially called "The Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Building." It has always been known, however, as the Legion Building, and has served the community of Pella ever since as a living memorial to those grand old veterans of World War I.

The World War I veterans of the American legion were to become very active in the Pella community. Legion members took a large part in starting Tulip Time and had a leading role in the building of Pella's first swimming pool in 1937, as well as numerous other projects in Pella.

In war and peace the people of Pella of this time in history certainly did their part very well. The service men and women served with honor and pride.

Our thanks go to the *The Pella Chronicle*, Central College archives, the Pella Public Library, and the American Legion Post 89 history book, from which much of this information was gathered.

For the writer of this part of Pella history it has been a special privilege, for he was born Nov. 11, 1918.

by Gary Gezel

THE HISTORY OF THE 90TH DIVISION AND TWO PELLA BOYS WHO SERVED THEIR COUNTRY IN WORLD WAR I

T108

The organizer of the division and its leader in battle was Major General Henry T. Allen. The life of the 90th Division began Sept. 5, 1917, when the first recruits from various parts of Texas reported for military duty. On succeeding days others arrived. The second increment started on Sept. 19, and the third began pouring in on trains Oct. 3. The two states, Texas and Oklahoma, furnished the men that originally composed the division. Later every state in the union came to be represented in its ranks.

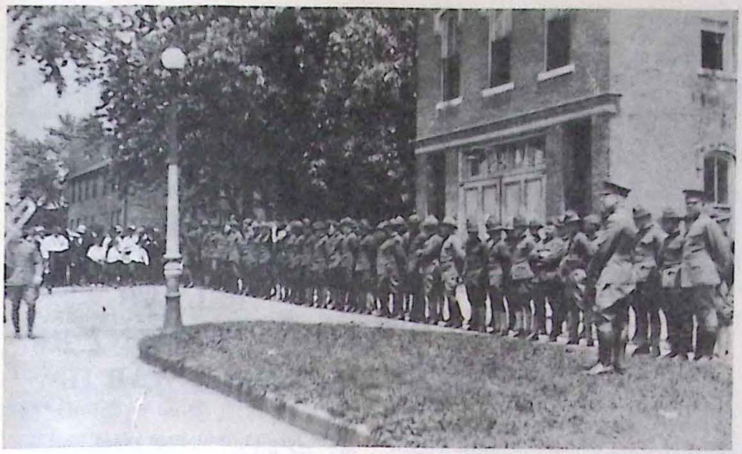
Tunis and Andrew Van Zante, 31 and 28, left home together to fight in World War I.

The first weeks were strenuous ones. The problem of making a well-drilled army out of this formless mass of backward "rookies" was staggering, but the officers were devoted to their task and the majority of the men were apt and willing. With completion of the combat problems and maneuvers the division was prepared for overseas duty and everyone looked forward to service in France.

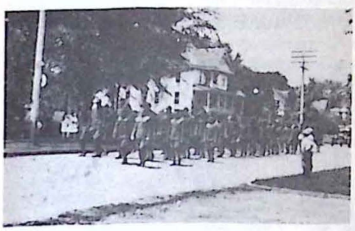
Then came the first big disappointment. The division was called upon to give up its best men to fill up regular and national guard divisions and to form special organizations of S.O.S., Army and Corps Troops. Practically every unit in the division was stripped to its staff of non-commissioned officers, cooks, and a few privates. The depleted ranks were partially filled in April. The task of reorganization and training began anew. During May the division was filled to approximately full strength by the arrival of men from other camps. The largest number were from Camp Dodge, Ia. Among them from Pella, Ia., were Andrew Van Zante and his brother Teunis Van Zante. The brothers grew up on the family farm south of Pella. At age 31 Andrew began his military career. Teunis was 28 when he entered the service. Andrew and Teunis left home together and went to Camp Dodge. Shortly thereafter they were ordered to Camp Travis, Tex., to join the famous Texas-Oklahoma Division No. 90. Then followed a feverish period of training. Officers and men worked night and day to complete the military education of the recruits.

After this training they were prepared for departure to the port of embarkation. On June 5, 1918, the first units of the division left for the embarkation center at Camp Mills, Long Island. Within a period of one week nearly all units had left Camp Travis and passed through Camp Mills prior to boarding the transports to cross the Atlantic. The crossing was achieved without the loss of a single life despite a frustrating submarine attack. Some units landed directly in France. The majority passed through England, docking at Liverpool or Southampton. The 358th Infantry of which Andrew and Teunis were a part landed in Liverpool. The 358th received royal treatment and paraded in the city prior to crossing the English Channel. The night crossing in very small crowded boats proved to be a horrible experience. The water was rough and many of the men became deathly sick before landing at Le Havre. The boys entered camps in France for intensive training and in August they entered the front line trenches.

The sector in which the 90th was engaged in battle was known as the St. Mihiel Salient which in 1915 had been the scene of the worst kind of fighting between German and French with losses running in the hundreds of thousands. Now, however, it was known as a quiet sector, but it would not be that way very long. Late in August and early September the nights were alive with the activity of moving in heavy artillery and other equipment in preparation for a big offensive which was



Memorial Day 1919, in front of the Fire Station.



Veterans marching South on Main St., Memorial Day 1919, proceeding into the 400 block south on Main.

American faced this at St. Mihiel. The reader can get some idea of the tremendous amount of barbed wire strung on the St. Mihiel front from this picture. This is how it looked on the morning of Sept. 12, 1918, when the American boys went over.

soon to come. The whole operation was hampered by volumes of rain which fell steadily for weeks. The slippery roads were jammed with artillery, trucks, and marching troops which moved only by night and were skillfully camouflaged by day. The 358th Infantry to which Andrew and Teunis belonged was involved in this activity along with various other divisions and battalions. On Sept. 12 Andrew and Teunis went over the top with many other soldiers. This attack was the first experience of the 90th Division in offensive tactics. This was the initial attempt of the American Expeditionary Force at large-scale operations. General John J. Pershing, Commander-In-Chief of the A.E.F. himself took command. At five o'clock the irregular belching of the guns was replaced by the rythmic roll of the 75's firing as though in cadence. The barrage had begun — the signal that the supreme moment had come.

Simultaneously the assault troops of the four regiments climbed from the trenches and took up their place in a continuous line that stretched across the divisional front and formed a part of the 23 kilometer wave of men in Khaki that engulfed the entire Salient. There was no holding back that long line as it uniformly moved across "No Man's Land." This front on "No Man's Land" was a twisting, treacherous maze of barbed wire and pitfalls of ancient trenches. One may ask, "How is it possible for human beings to cross such obstacles in the face of hostile fire?" Thousands gave up their lives to advance on this front. These dough boys had surmounted seemingly unconquerable difficulties.

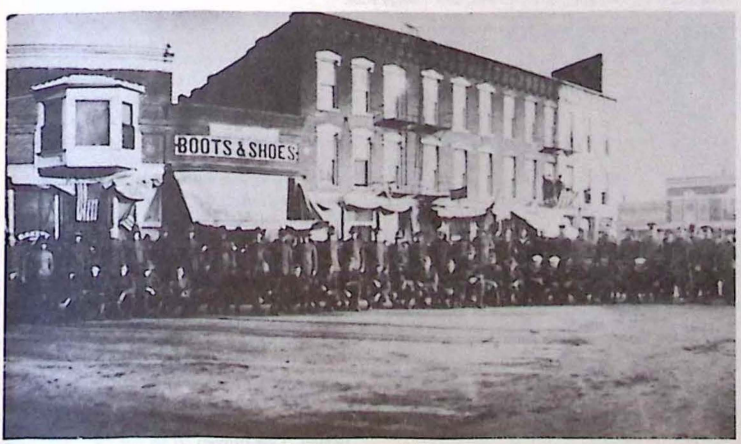
A four-hour preparation was ordered. One reason was to cut through the barbed wire with high explosives. This was not too successful because the firing was without previous register and there was no observation and correction. Two of the four hours were played on rear areas principally with gas in order to catch German personnel in their trenches, dugouts, and camps. With the wire entanglement still an obstacle, wire cutters were used in an attempt to penetrate this terrible maze. In the heat of battle the wire cutter proved to be too slow, so each soldier solved the problem for himself. Here the physical prowess of the men in the ranks saved the day as they tried to clear the barbed wire in one leap. In the melee the clothes of hundreds were torn to shreds and some arrived on the objective so naked it was necessary to send them to the rear for new uniforms to keep them from freezing. Most of this advance was made under murderous machine gun fire. The battle was fought in the Argonne Forest and along the Meuse River.

At various times gas was used by both the Germans and Americans. The Germans sent over countless gas shells and the air became a thick fog. The soldiers held their positions for hours, suffering great losses and gas burns on their skin and in their lungs.

On Oct. 5, 1918, Andrew and Teunis were both so badly gassed that their front line military service came to an end. For the first time the two brothers were separated when they were taken to different hospitals on Oct. 6. Neither knew where the other was or if the other was alive. Andrew suffered from severe burns to the skin from mustard gas. He was hospitalized for a long time. Teunis suffered from phosgene gas which, if inhaled, causes severe damage to the lungs. He spent one month in a hospital in Montse, France. While the brothers were in the hospital no letters were written to the folks back home. Their parents became very anxious about the welfare of their two sons. A relative, Miss Marie Van Zee, wrote each of the boys a letter which did reach them in their respective hospitals. She in turn received letters from both of them and quickly told the family that Andrew and Teunis were alive. She then wrote each of the boys another letter informing them of each others whereabouts.

On Nov. 11, at eleven o'clock, the Armistice was signed and all hostilities ceased. However, for the men on the front line there was no relaxation of vigilance. Strictest discipline was exercised in preparation for any eventuality. The Armistice, however, was honored. All firing ceased; the war was over.

General John J. Pershing, Commander-In-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces praised the courageous soldiers who gave the 90th Division its fine reputation.



Veterans celebrating the first anniversary of Armistice Day on Nov. 11, 1919.

Andrew left Wengerahr, Germany, with the 90th Division May 22, 1919, and moved directly to St. Nazaire, the port of embarkation. Soon ships sailed for the United States. Andrew received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. Teunis was sent to Touris, France, and put in Guard Co. 122. This company left Touris Dec. 2, 1918, taking German prisoners with them to Shaumont. They arrived by train Dec. 5, then went to Hanlin Camp where the prisoners were detained. Teunis completed guard duty and returned home, receiving his honorable discharge from the U.S. Army at Camp Dodge, Ia., on Nov. 11, 1919.

Men like Andrew and Teunis were proud to be Americans and dedicated themselves to defending this great land. They were willing to sacrifice so that the principles of liberty, freedom, justice, and patriotism might be preserved.

by Bill Van Zante

BERLIN OR BUST, 1917

T109

In the spring of 1917, there was a "Going Away" party for those who had registered for military service as their special badges indicate in the picture. Four of those pictured were already in uniform, having enlisted before the picture was taken. The four were Dr. George Lankelma, a Pella dentist who is sitting behind the wheel of the Overland car; Martin Paardekooper; Dr. H.O. Wormhoudt, also a Pella dentist; and Dr. J.J. Sybenga.

Most of the others were called in Mar. 1917, a lottery being used to determine the order of call. A free dinner for the boys from three counties preceeded this picture, which was taken at the southeast corner of the Pella square. Others in the picture that can be identified are: front, standing l – r, Bill Rebertus, Henry Gezel, Arie Schilder, and Joe Vande Kieft. Seated front, l – r: Worp Borgman, Lou Thomassen, Art Verrips; and on the bumper, sitting,zz: Con De Prenger. Front right are: an unidentified man, Dick Hessing, and Pete Pipple. The four in uniform were l to r: Martin Paardekooper, Dr. Wormhoudt, Dr. George Lankelma, Dr. J.J. Sybenga. Also there are Mr. Booth of Prairie City, another Prairie City man, Joe Porter, another Porter, and an unidentified soldier-to-be.

Notice the right hand drive of the Overland.

There was a festive air about the "going Away"; a high feeling of patriotism abounded as the slogan "Berlin or Bust" implies.

by *The Bucksaw Column*

MEMORIAL DAY, 1919

T110

Memorial Day, also called Decoration Day, was a special event in 1919 as the war had just ended and many of the men and women who had served had returned and were honored. Some of them were still in their military uniforms, having just been discharged from the Army or the Navy.

This picture was taken on Central College's campus near the structure that housed the Old Central bell, salvaged from the building when it burned.

The group assembled to take part in a memorial service at the college. They then assembled at the old Webster School to lead the school children, each carrying a small American flag, up Main Street and around the square, then into the City Park.

The bandstand in Garden Square was the center for special music and patriotic speeches of the day.

PELLA'S INVOLVEMENT IN WORLD WAR II

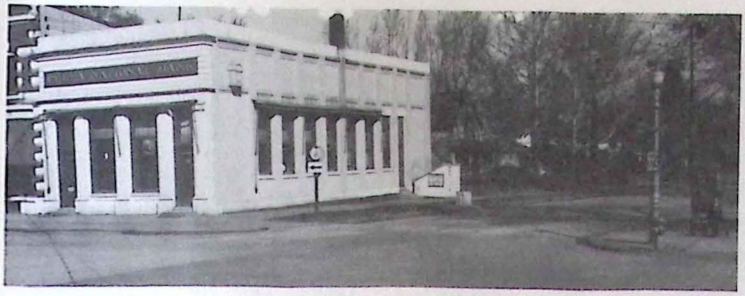
T111

On June 13, 1940, Italy joined Nazi Germany by declaring war on France. This event triggered efforts to prepare the United States' military and productive capacity to deal with possible future threat to this nation.

The Selective Service Act was passed by congress, and on Oct. 16, 1940, all men between the ages of 21 and 35 were required to register. Draft boards were set up in each county, quotas were set, and numbers drawn in a lottery. Each man registered received a number; when his number was drawn he was required to report for a physical examination. If he passed, he would be inducted into the military and given basic training. After basic training he would be sent to some operational unit for specialized training to become part of that unit's cadre. Assignment was determined by aptitude, previous experience, or manpower needs.

Many registrants volunteered prior to being drafted in order to get the service of their choice. Volunteers from a county would be credited against the draft quota for that period. This proved to be the case with the first quota for Marion Co. which was for two

The Pella City Band Memorial Day, 1919. Front, l – r: Bert DeBruin, John Van Dyke, Jerry Stursma, Nick Vander Ploeg, Henry Versteeg, and Bill VanderVoort. Back, l – r: Bert Vander Ploeg, John Hackert, Henry Kuyper, John Kuyper, Arie Kamerick, Leonard Van Ee, Diller Vander Ploeg, Warner Vander Voort, Louis DeBruin, Billy DeBruin, Rube Brand, and George Ries.



Pella National Bank at the corner of Main and Washington Sts. The small white shed on Main was for tin can collection for the World War II scrap drives.

men; there were two volunteers from Knoxville who left on Dec. 5, for Fort Snelling, Minn.

The draft board for Marion Co. was comprised of the following: Marcus Stickle, Knoxville; John Price, Melcher; and C.H. Gilson, Knoxville. C.C. Heer, Knoxville, was appointed attorney for the board, and Dr. J.J. Sybenga, Pella, examining physician. The National Director of Registration was Clarence A. Dykstra who had previously lived in Pella while his father was pastor of Second Reformed Church.

It appears that many people had contacted the State Selective Service office in regard to what the facilities for religious services in the military would be, which prompted Charles H. Grahl, State Director, to publish a lengthy article addressing this issue. He assured those concerned that Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish chaplains would be available to all units to minister to the needs of servicemen. Regular services would be scheduled, and personal consultations could be arranged.

On Nov. 7, 1940, Charles Claypool, coach at Pella High School, was called to active duty. He was a 1st Lt. in the Infantry Reserve. Immediately after this first draft call a second was issued for 156 men to be inducted at intervals between Nov. 21, 1940, and June 30,1941.

In Dec. of 1940, the U.S. Navy inaugurated a program to train pilots, air crews, and ship's officers for the Naval Reserve and for active duty with the Fleet. The Marine Corps was also interested in young men who qualified as potential Marine Corps officers. The Army Air Corps was supplying its manpower needs from Selective Service inductees and through volunteers. The names of all registered nurses in the county were to be listed in the interest of national defense.

In January, 1941, Central College, under direction of the Civil Aironautics Board, inaugurated a program whereby young men would be taught to fly light aircraft. A ground school was set up to teach theory of flight, navigation, meterology, inspection and care of aircraft, etc. In February the first class to ten seniors from Central began studies in the old chapel hall. The first four to pass their physical exams were John Jolink, Maurice Tysseling, Carl Hempstead, and Jake Brom.

Hangars were constructed on the Van Maanen farm southeast of town and by April flight training was in full swing. Earl Schweppe was the first trainee to take his solo flight, and after completing his private and commercial license program became, among others, an instructor. The first airplanes used were 65 hp. Piper Cubs and could be observed in the air constantly.

Later Waco biplanes of about 225 hp. were added to the fleet. Other instructors were Robert Nemmers, Earl Pohlman, and Norman Van Gorp. After Pearl harbor the Pella Civil Air Patrol was organized and local pilots as well as students in the Central program were invited to join. The Civil Air Patrol nationally was engaged in courier service for the military and defense programs and flew shore patrol and submarine hunting missions. In October, a plane crash took the lives of Earl Schweppe and John Vala, a student pilot.

The program was now being administered by the Navy and many graduates went on to more advanced flight training at other bases. Some of them enlisted in the Army Air Corps and Marine pilot programs. By July, 1944, the Navy discontinued the program at Pella as other bases were now able to handle all instruction. The instruction personnel was transferred to other bases, but the Civil Air Patrol remained active at Pella Airways and flight instruction was being offered privately.

By late 1940 the war in Europe was full blown even though the United States was still technically neutral. Holland and Belgium had been overrun and occupied by the Nazis. Clippings from newspapers told of the hardships being endured by the people of Holland. Food was becoming scarce, especially meat which was not available in many places. Coal and gas were in short supply, cars and trucks had been confiscated, and money had little value. All references to Queen Wilhelmina were purged from schoolbooks, and student strikes had closed the Universities at Leyden and Delft.

A second draft call was issued for 43 men from Marion Co. Three men from Pella were to report in March 1941: They were Peter J. Van Ooyen, Golmore Kamerick, and Elmer L. Van Zee, with John Ryke and Albert J. Meinders as alternates. Three more draftees answered the call in Apr., 1941: Gary Gezel, Pete Ryke, and Philip H. Bevan.

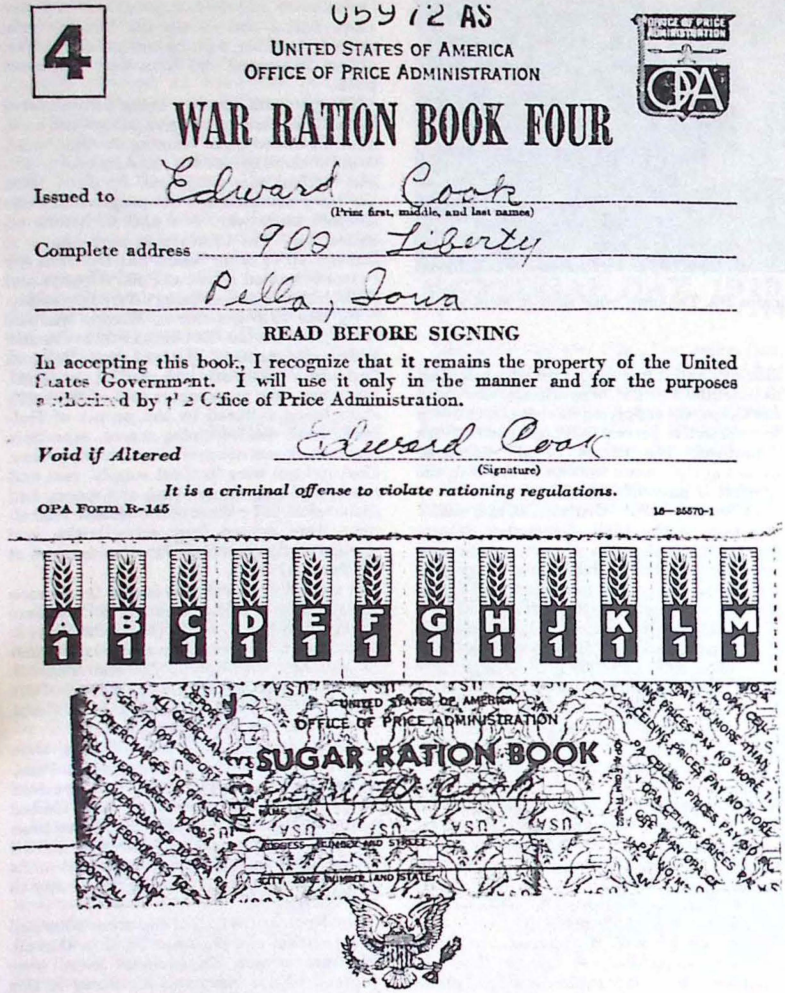
All aliens in the United States were registered and 140 were reported in Pella. Several people applied for and received naturalization as citizens of the United States. One reason for this may have been that jobs which were being offered in Civil Service and the government, as well as in some defense plants, were available only to U.S. citizens.

On Dec. 7, 1941, the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and Hickman Field in Hawaii. We were at war. Tremendous losses were suffered by our Navy and Air Force in this attack, and soon our forces were driven out of the Philippines. Germany and Italy occupied all of the European continent, and Japan was threatening us in the Aleutian Islands. Parts of North Africa were also in Axis hands, and it was here that the fighting began in earnest. Infantry, armoured and artillery units as well as the Air Force began to move from the U.S. to Africa and England.

German submarines and warships operating in the Atlantic were a serious threat to our ships and many were sunk. U.S. and British planes flew bombing sorties over Germany in an effort to destroy their factories and naval installations. Eventually the Axis forces were pushed out of Africa but we suffered many casualties and lost planes and equipment. The Allies eventually gained a foothold in Europe after an invasion strike in Italy. Meanwhile our navy, air and ground forces engaged the Japanese in the Aleutian Islands, Central Pacific, and in New Guinea, eventually retaking the Philippines. It was obviously going to be a long and costly war.

On the home front it was obvious that many things would have to be done. Factories sprang up all over the country to build tanks, trucks, and planes, and to provide armament

Auction for World War II, relief for Holland.



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05972 AS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

WAR RATION BOOK FOUR

Issued to Edward Cook
(Print first, middle, and last names)

Complete address 902 Liberty
Pella, Iowa

READ BEFORE SIGNING

In accepting this book, I recognize that it remains the property of the United States Government. I will use it only in the manner and for the purposes authorized by the Office of Price Administration.

Void if Altered Edward Cook
(Signature)

It is a criminal offense to violate rationing regulations.

OPA Form R-145 16—25570-1

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION
SUGAR RATION BOOK

NEVER BUY RATIONED GOODS
WITHOUT RATION STAMPS
NEVER PAY MORE THAN THE LEGAL PRICE

United States Office of Price Administration

IMPORTANT: When you have used your ration, salvage the TIN CANS and WASTE FATS. They are needed to make munitions for our fighting men. Cooperate with your local Salvage Committee.

☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1943 16—82570-1

A World War II ration book.

and ammunition. Shipyards were expanded and new ones built and operated around the clock to rebuild our navy and provide transport ships for supplying our troops over such a tremendous area. Gasoline and tires were soon rationed. A person could get only four gallons of gas a week unless more was needed for essential defense activities. Rationing was eventually extended to sugar, meat, cooking fats, shoes, etc. Automobiles and major appliances could no longer be purchased.

The problem of financing the defense effort was addressed by a Defense Bond Program. A public Meeting was held at the Central College Chapel to inform the public about the program. It was proposed to sell bonds for $18.75 which would have a face value of $25.00 at maturity in 10 years, representing an annual interest yield of 2.9 percent. Larger denominations of $50, $100,$500, and $1,000 would be issued on the same basis. The bonds went on sale at Post Offices on May 1, 1941. P.H. Kuyper was general chairman of bond sales. After the Pearl Harbor attack precipitated World War II, periodic drives were organized. Pella, with one exception in June, 1944, always exceeded its quota in sales of War Loans and Bond Sales. There were eight in the series of sales from Dec., 1942, to the Victory Loan Sale in Dec., 1945.

In Apr. of 1943, a large ad appeared in *The Pella Chronicle* promoting the third sale of War Bonds. This ad stated that when Pella sold an additional $100,000 worth of bonds we would be entitled to our own bomber. It was decided to name it Pella Flying Dutchman. The bonds were sold and a picture of the plane, a *B-17 Flying Fortress*, was printed on Sept. 9. It was complete and being fitted out for service. A story on Mar. 15, 1945, reported that the plane, apparently renamed the Pella Tulip, had completed 35 missions and was engaged mainly in daylight raids in the European Theatre. Not a single crew member had been injured although the plane had been shot up many times. After one mission, 200 flak and bullet holes had been counted. The crew received a Presidential Citation for their accuracy in bombing their targets.

In Aug. of 1943, a B-26 bomber named the Hell Cat, having flown 50 missions in North Africa, was brought back to the United States to be displayed to the public to stimulate War Bond sales. It had been shot up time after time and survived. A crew member of the plane was Sgt. Glen M. Wilson from Oskaloosa. He came to Pella to contact Mr. and Mrs. Wiggert Langerak and told them that their son, Lt. Clarence Langerak, had flown four of his 40 missions in this plane and had also been on the flight that escorted it out of the war zone. To Sgt. Wilson's knowledge, not a single man who flew on any of the Hell Cat's missions was ever seriously injured although the bomber had been damaged numerous times.

Many other things were undertaken to aid the defense and war effort. Several drives were mounted to collect scrap materials which could be recycled into war materials. These were, among others, scrap rubber including old tires, all kinds of metal scrap, rags, manilla rope, tin cans, burlap bags, and waste cooking fats. Anything that could be reused was collected. Even the old cannon that was mounted in the City Park was sacrificed for the war effort. Old and broken

phonograph records could be recycled to produce new recordings for servicemen's recreational facilities. Another drive was for books for the same purpose.

The American legion asked for names of men in service in order to send them gifts at Christmas.

The Red Cross was attempting to increase its membership greatly and many local projects were undertaken. For example, in late 1944 a rush call went out to the local group for 720 servicemen's kits and 27 pairs of pajamas. The job was completed in three weeks with the help of the Federated Club and several church women's groups.

The United Service Organization came into being and set up recreation centers and programs wherever there were concentrations of military personnel. The USO clubs became very popular with servicemen on weekend passes into town.

Not long after the Pearl Harbor attack the military service was opened to women. It had been determined that women could fill many jobs such as clerical work, drivers in transportation units, and in supply warehouses, thus freeing men for other duties. Nurses were also needed on the staffs of base hospitals.

Some of the first women volunteers from Pella were Viola Boot, WAVES; Anna Mae Vander Beek, WAAC; Lillian Crum, Womens Marines; Margaret Vande Kieft, a nurse.

Not only did women from the Pella vicinity serve our country, but servicewomen from other nations married U.S. servicemen and came to the United States after the war ended. A notable example is Sgt. Dorothy Finley, R.A.F., of London who married Sgt. Gary Gezel and came to Pella to live. Dorothy and Gary have been very active in the American Legion Post 89, and have held Legion offices at state and national levels.

On June 4, 1944, the Allied Forces crossed the English Channel and established beacheads on the coast of France near Le Havre and Cherbourg. Heavy bombardment by massed navies and air forces were thrown against the Nazi fortifications before the landing took place. There were heavy casualties but the invasion was successful and the all-out drive to liberate France and then finally to occupy Berlin and force the Axis surrender was under way. In Oct., 1944, landings were also made in Belgium and Holland. They had been under Nazi occupation for five years.

Correspondent Walter Cronkite was with Yankee paratroopers and reported that the people of Holland had suffered more than any other nation under Nazi rule. Everything needed to sustain life was in extremely short supply. People had gone back to waring wooden shoes; worn out ones were saved to augment the fuel supply. People had burned furniture and parts of houses. The black market had little to offer.

Early in 1945, the Allied Armies were rolling across Eastern and Western Germany toward Berlin. During the final push the Allies were able to capture German prisoner-of-war camps and liberate our men who had been captured and interned for the duration of the war. Some of them such as Lt. Robert Menning, Pfc. Cornie Rietveld and Sgt. David Naaktgeboren had been captured in Africa early in 1943. David had died a prisoner in 1944. Also prisoners of war were Lt. Charles De Wild and Pvt. Mark Thomas, captured in Germany and Holland respectively. These survivors were soon on their way home.

During this final offensive the Nazi death camps were finally captured and the survivors of the holocaust were released.

As the collapse of the nazi war machine became evident the churches of Pella scheduled services to be held as soon as an official announcement was made. This came on May 7, 1945. The Axis powers surrendered and the war in Europe was finally over.

In the war against Japan our forces fought many furious battles against Japanese bases on Central Pacific islands, and from Australia we pushed up through New Guinea and the Dutch East Indies until finally the battle for the Philippines was joined in Leyte Gulf between our navy and that of Japan. Landings were successfully made on Leyte and Mindoro, then Luzon and the Philippines were liberated. The battles of Okinawa and Iwo Jima brought us ever nearer to the Islands of Japan.

Meanwhile back in the United States, under total secrecy, a new weapon was being developed, and the Allied High Commands decided it was time to use it. The expected difficulty of invading Japan and the casualties which could be expected in such an operation weighed heavily in this decision.

On Aug. 5, 1945, a flight of B-29's took off from Tinian and headed for Japan. One of these planes, the Enola Gay, piloted by Col. Tibbets of the 509th Composite Group, carried the first atomic bomb ever used and it was dropped over Hiroshima. Sgt. John Vande Voort of Pella was a photographer with this Group and recorded the take off and return of the mission, and has copies of the pictures he took. The result of this bombing was total destruction of Hiroshima. A few days later Nagasaki met the same fate.

This action convinced the Japanese that their cause was lost and on Aug. 14, 1945, President Truman announced the acceptance of surrender terms by the Japanese. A preliminary meeting was arranged whereby the Japanese envoy was to fly to the island of Ie Shima in two Betty-type bombers, painted white with green crosses on the sides. They were to be escorted to the island by U.S. fighter planes, and after landing at Ie Shima the officials would transfer to a pair of C-54 transports for the remainder of the trip to Manila. There they were to meet with Gen. Douglas Mac Arthur to arrange the details for the formal surrender. Cpl. Arthur Tysseling was with a fighter group based on Ie and was an eyewitness to this transfer. The island was small, about 2 x 6 miles, had three landing strips, and bristled with anti-aircraft guns. Hundreds of planes had been flown to the island as well as several thousand troops, who were on hand for the occasion to put on a show of strength.

On Sept. 2 the formal surrender was signed aboard the *USS Missouri*. Sgt. Gerald Den Hartog was an eyewitness to the movement of the large number of high officials of the Armies and Navies of the United States and Japan back to shore after the signing. His signal corps unit was aboard the *USS Teton* and was tied up very close to where the officials came ashore. He wrote that he could identify many of them. Other eyewitness accounts were from Ensign Max Kuyk, who viewed the destruction done at Nagasaki from the deck of his ship, and from Cpl. Bob Shaffer of Oskaloosa who saw Hiroshima at close range. Both agreed that they had witnessed scenes of total devastation.

Many of our ships and planes were lost, of course; among them were Pella's B-17 bomber which was lost after many successful missions, and the merchant ship on which Raymond Van Brogen lost his life. In Dec. of 1944, a ship built in Pascagoula, Miss., was named in Raymond's honor and commissioned Jan. 10, 1945.

There were also ships the Japanese could not destroy. A notable example was the *USS Pennsylvania*. The keel for this battleship was laid in 1913 and she was in dry dock in Pearl Harbor when the Japanese attack took place. Joe Van Arkel was a crew member on the Pennsy, as she was popularly known, and was on watch at the time. He saw planes flying toward Ford Island, not an uncommon occurrence on Sunday morning, and saw the first bombs fall. They then noticed the Rising Sun emblem on the planes and realized it was for real. There was much confusion aboard as the ammunition boxes were locked and keys could not be found. The crew finally smashed the locks with sledge hammers and began to return fire. The Pennsy took a couple of bombs but was not severely damaged and soon after the attack sailed for San Francisco. There repairs were made and more and larger anti-aircraft guns were installed. Then Pennsy then went to war in the Aleutian islands, at Attu and Kiska. She ranged the Pacific from the Bering Sea to Australia. A letter from Alvin Van Ekeren, who joined the crew at some point, gave additional information about the ship. She took part in 13 amphibious operations such as Makin Island, the Marshalls, Eniwetok, the Marianas, and engaged in the naval battle for Leyte Gulf, then took a hit from a kamikazi plane off Okinawa. She traveled over 100,000 miles, fired 11 million pounds of ammunition from her main batteries, and was patrolling off Japan at the war's end.

The end of hostilities found the citizens of Pella returning to life as usual. But they hadn't forgotten. The plight of the people of Holland was a subject of much concern.

Returning servicemen could give many accounts of the plight of the Hollanders. One was Sgt. Marvin Van Gorp who was there. A letter was received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. P.W. Van Gorp, from two men from Rotterdam who had been taken from their families and put to forced labor. Their conditions deteriorated from hard work for which they received a little thin soup and some bread each day. They finally escaped, were befriended and hidden by a German family, and rescued by U.S. troops. They were befriended by Sgt. Van Gorp, who could converse with them in their own language, and he secured food, drink, cigarettes, etc., for them and shared a package of goodies received from his mother. At the time the letter was written they had not yet succeeded in joining their families.

Dan Meulpolder, who lost his son Dan, Jr. in the Pacific, his brothers Steve, Marinus, and Lane, along with their families, were sending relief to their relatives in Holland. They had written to a nephew and asked for a list of names of needy people in the area from which they had emigrated. A list had been received and it contained 146 names!

The Meulpolders published an appeal for help in assisting these families and anyone who wished to do so would be provided with

names and addresses. It was also noted that funds for postage were available from the War Fund, and mailing instructions were also provided. This fund was eventually depleted and a big Holland Relief Auction was held, which netted $7,000. It was then decided that the money could best be put to use by continuing to provide relief postage.

Radio Station WHO in Des Moines was also acting as a clearing house for names of needy families and would supply the names and addresses upon request.

Many returning servicemen were enrolling at Central College under the G.I. Bill of Rights. Loans were available to assist financially, and the college was attempting to find housing for them. One of these was Charles De Wild who returned to classes after three years in the Air Crops, one year of which he was in a prisoner of war camp in Germany. Chuck also picked up his football and was named most valuable player on the team.

A picture in the Feb. 14, 1946, issue of *The Pella Chronicle* showed 28 veterans on campus at that time. In Sept. of 1946, 205 ex-servicemen enrolled for classes.

The G.I. Bill also provided loans for the purchase of homes, farms and businesses. The Pella National Bank granted the first two of these loans to Martin A. De Jong for a home and to Peter J. De Jong for an 80-acre farm.

While no supporting statistics were found, we suspect that Pella would rank high in the support of our servicemen and servicewomen, in the support of the government in bond sales, scrap drives, rationing, etc., in support of service organizations such as the Red Cross, and U.S.O. and notably in relief of victims of Axis brutality, particularly in The Netherlands. Our heritage was not forgotten, and the citizens of Pella must be highly commended for their support.

The U.S. government also undertook to aid the victims of the war, both friend and foe, by means of the Marshall Plan. Many cities and towns, which had been completely wrecked by Axis and Allied bombardment, were given assistance in rebuilding and the care of homeless and hungry citizens.

A memorial was placed in Oakwood Cemetery in 1947 by the American legion Post 89 in memory of men from Pella who lost their lives in the service of their country in any war, and not returned for burial. The names of these men are inscribed on individual stones placed in an area surrounding the U.S. flag.

We wish to express gratitude to *The Pella Chronicle* and the Central College Archives for making available their files from which the information for this report was gleaned.

by Art Tysseling

A PILOT REMEMBERS WORLD WAR II

T112

For a brief resume of my participation toward military history in World War II, it would begin with enlistment in the Army Air Force in Oct. 1942, being called up and leaving Pella, Ia., on Feb. 8, 1943, for Air Force Classification Center at San Antonio, Tex. Following two weeks of tests and being assigned to "Pilot" training, I spent two

Gene Stientjes, 1944, U.S. Air Force.

months in Pre-Flight school, then on through Primary Flight, single engine at Stanford, Tex; Basic Flight, single engine, at Garden City, Kan.; and then to Advanced, twin-engine at Ellingson Field, Houston, Tex. On Dec. 5, 1943, after receiving my wings and 2nd Lt. commission at Houston, on to Salt Lake City, Utah, and Boise, Idaho, for transition into B-24's, 4-engine bomber as co-pilot.

Transition training and crew assignment occupied Jan. thru Mar. 1944. On Apr. 12, 1944, leaving Boise, we picked up a new B-24 airplane at Topeka, Kan., and, as a single crew and plane, flew to West Palm Beach, Fla. and on to Trinidad, Belem and Fortelaza, Brazil. From there a 12-hour flight over the South Atlantic to Dakar, West Africa, on north to Marrakech, Morocco, and finally around Spain to England where we delivered the plane to combat modification base on Apr. 26, 1944.

Following two weeks of schooling in Ireland and additional training and formation flying in England where I received my 1st. Pilot rating and 1st. Lt. promotion, we were assigned to the 330th Squadron, 93rd Bomb Group at Hardwick Air Base for combat on May 22, 1944. This base was located in East Anglia, 20 miles south of Norwich, Eng., and the "home" for 48 B-24 bombers.

Combat flying started for us on May 30, 1944, (our first mission) briefing and loading from 4:30 a.m. until take-off at 8:00 a.m. and returning at 2:00 p.m. after bombing the city of Hamburg, Germany. On May 31, June 2 and 3, bombing missions were targets in France in preparation for D-Day.

On June 6, 1944, D-Day, two missions were flown. The first one started at 2:00 a.m., in a night formation assembly that proved disastrous, with planes lost and colliding, but eventually forming mixed 12-plane formations for bombing Omaha Beach in Normandy at 6:00 a.m. just a few minutes before the troops landed. The second mission was in the afternoon – bombing a German rail junction about three miles from the beach. Going in over the beach at our low altitude and viewing all the action – Navy battleships – landing craft and beach movement was a sight never forgotten.

After June 6, 1944, 28 more missions for a total of 34 were flown over Germany, France, and Poland before being relieved on Aug. 8, 1944. In a few words only, many targets including Berlin; Munich; Stuttgart; Bremen; Politz, Poland; and St. Lo, France for the breakthru were hit with most all experiencing anti-aircraft fire (flak), some fighters attacking, and considerable damage to our plane.

Following my combat tour, I returned to the U.S. and was assigned as a pilot of B-24's in a new Radar Navigation Training School at Victorville, Cal. until discharge on Aug. 3, 1945.

As a postscript, in Oct. 1986, I made my first return visit to this overseas area and visited Normandy where the damage is still visible. I also visited in England where I found my air-base. After 42 years it has disappeared and is now a large sugar-beet field. In driving around, memories reappeared very vividly.

by Gene Stientjes

EXPERIENCES IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC

T113

Sgt. John R. Vander Ploeg (1945 photo).

John R. Vander Ploeg, "Bud", enlisted in the Army and was inducted Jan. 28, 1943, at Camp Dodge, Ia., and from there went to Camp Roberts in California for basic training. After thirteen weeks, he was sent overseas and joined the 37th Infantry Division of the Ohio National Guard on the Island of Bougainville in the South Pacific. He suffered his first wound on Hill 700 when a

Japanese mortar shell burst near him. Fragments struck the front of his steel helmet, gashing his forehead.

Early in 1945 Bud's division was on assignment to invade the Philppines. Here Bud rescued his good friend, Mike Vrancic, of Ramsay, Mich., who had been wounded. Bud was able to drag Mike to the rear under heavy fire. Mike suffered serious head wounds which left him unable to work from that time on.

In the battle for Manila, Bud was wounded a second time. The rifle squad of which he was acting leader was attacking and he was struck in the upper thigh by a bullet. The citation which came with the Bronze Star Medal reads: "For meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against the enemy at Luzon, Philippines Islands, on February 22, 1945. While reconnoitering an area in Manila, the squad of which Sergeant Vander Ploeg was assistant squad leader was fired upon by the enemy at a distance of less than thirty yards. Sergeant Vander Ploeg was seriously wounded in the leg but refused medical aid and continued to fire until he had forced the enemy to withdraw, leaving one of their dead behind. Sergeant Vander Ploeg's actions greatly aided in minimizing our casualties."

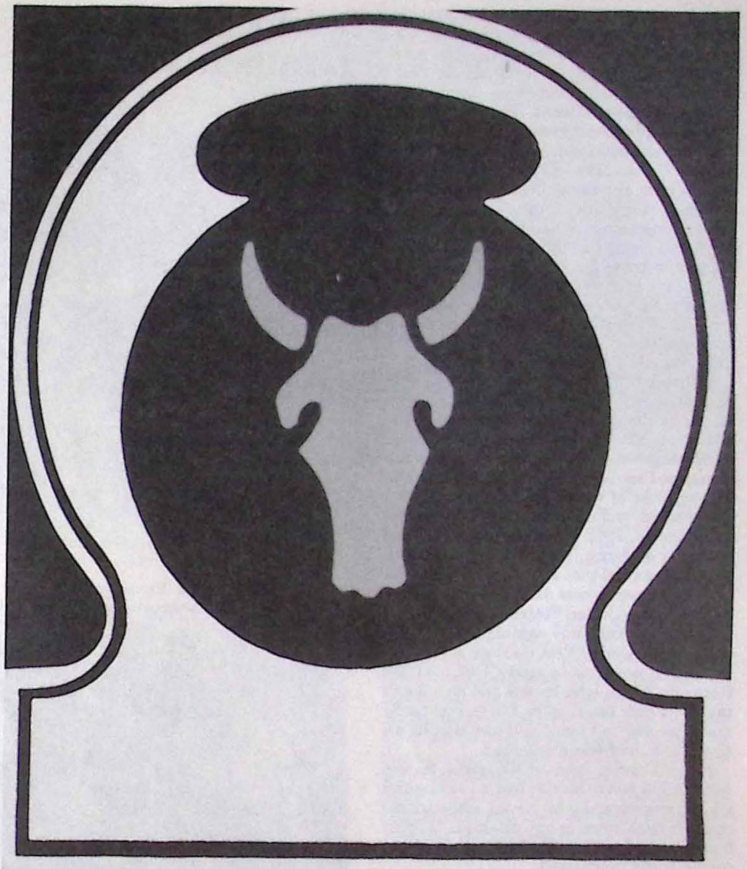
Bud's friend, Mike, wrote to Bud's folks which took away the initial shock of the War Department's official notice of his injuries. Bud and Mike remained close friends after the war. When Bud's second son was born, he was named "Mike", and Mike and his wife, Irja, named their second son "John R."

Bud was hospitalized about nine months at Bushnell General Hospital in Brigham City, Utah. In Oct., 1945, he was given a leave to return home for the first time in two and a half years. He was on crutches but had two weddings to attend — his sister Dorothy's to Ed Kallemyn and most importantly, his own on Nov. 4, 1945, to Harriet Sheibley at Collins, Ia.

Bud was honorably discharged from the Army on Feb. 21, 1946. he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, the Combat Infantry Badge, both the Asiatic Pacific Theater and the Philippine Liberation Ribbons with two battle stars and the Purple Heart with an Oak Leaf Cluster for the two wounds.

Bud died July 21, 1983, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg



Insignia, 34th Division

PELLA'S MEN IN THE 34TH DIVISION, WORLD WAR II

T114

Having been inducted into the U.S. Army during World War II, three Pella men, David D. Naaktgeboren, Cornie Rietveld, and Gary Gezel were sent to Camp Clairborne, La., to join Iowa's 34th Division, assigned to the 168th Infantry. They were soon to learn that they were in one of the most colorful, proudest, and highly decorated regiments in the Army. The 168th traced its origin back to other divisions of infantry dating back to the Indian Wars — with illustrious service during the Civil War and World War I. During World War I the 168th served with the Rainbow Division, 42nd Infantry, with a remarkable record in France. John Van Veen and Gerrit Vanden Berg were two of the Pella men serving in the 168th during World War I.

During World War II, three Pella men were included in over a million who were involved in maneuvers observed by Gen. Eisenhower and Gen. Patton. After a weekend pass, the soldiers heard the news that Pearl Harbor had been bombed and that war was imminent.

The Pella men sailed in Feb., 1942, to Northern Ireland in a large convoy sailing through submarine-infested waters of the North Atlantic. After ten days they arrived safely in Ireland, the first to arrive to serve in Europe. They were treated warmly by the Irish people, and the King and Queen of England visited their regiment.

The First Ranger Company was organized, and the 34th supplied over 80 percent of the men who were the first to see service in Europe with the British Commandos. During later great battles they were to earn fame as "Captain Darby's Rangers", Darby being a former 34th Division officer.

In Scotland, in the Loch Lomond area, they trained for the invasion of North Africa. In early October they sailed to join another convoy in the central Atlantic. It was a large convoy of over 800 ships sailing violent waters and entering the Mediterranian Sea through the Straits of Gibraltar. The waters were infested with submarines of the Germany Navy, and the German Air Force soon payed them a visit. Having lived in "black out" conditions in Scotland, it was the first time in almost a year the group had seen the brilliance of city lights.

The trio from pella landed at Algiers, Algeria, in North Africa for the invasion Nov. 8, 1942, and the struggle was on, fighting the Germans and Italians. Eisenhower's Headquarters were in Algiers. This city was being raided from the air every night by the Germans.

By Christmas Eve the division moved to Tunisia and many battles resulted. The losses were great at Kasserine Pass, and they experienced defeat — for the first and last time on Feb. 17,1943. There were other battles, one on Hill 609 which newspaper correspondent Ernie Pyle wrote about as a story of the Infantry.

By May 15, the Italians and Germans surrendered; Rommel's Afrika Corp had been destroyed. The price of victory to the 168th Regiment had been great as had that of the Germans. A colorful victory parade remains in mind which took place in Tunis with

French Colonials, some on white Arabian stallions; French officers; British and the Scots in their kilts and tam-o-shanters with bagpipes accompanying their march; Australians with their turned-up brim hats; Indians in their turbans; South Africans' Foreign Legion in colorful array all marching in victory as planes went overhead and tanks lumbered on. The Queen's Coldstream Guards were also there. It was a picturesque closing of the African Campaign.

The Division then sailed for Salerno, Italy, having to fight an "up hill" battle as the Germans retreated to high ground, and it was up to the Yanks to fight their way up. After many rugged battles, it was an ironic coincidence that the U.S. 34th Division captured the German 34th Division on May 1, 1945. The next day the war was over in Italy.

A friend of the Pella threesome, Walter Frankhouser of Tipton, Ia., was in most of the bloody battles and left after the Valley of the Po in Nov., 1944, to return to the U.S. David D. Naaktgeboren was captured during the Kasserine Pass battle on Feb. 17, 1943. While on a prisoner of war train in Italy, the train was bombed, and he was badly wounded and died June 13, 1943. He is buried at Nettuno Cemetery at Anzio, Italy. He is included in Pella's Memorial plot at Oakwood Cemetery for servicemen whose bodies were not returned to the United States.

Cornie Rictveld was captured during the battle of Kasserine Pass and was a prisoner of war. he was able to speak Dutch to the Germans. Much later he was put on a death march for over two months, but he eventually made his way to France and was sent by air to the U.S. and was discharged.

Friend Charles Brees of Knoxville, Ia. was wounded by heavy Mortar fire in the face and leg but was miraculously saved, although his rescuers were killed in two attempts to bring him to an aid station. He lost a leg and was subsequently discharged.

Gary Gezel was in Tunisia, was hospitalized for a time, later joined another division in the U.S. and began training for the invasion of Japan. However, orders sent him back to France and to Aachen, Germany, to continue the fight for the Rhine River with General Patton. They fought through the Ruhr Valley releasing prisoners from Prisoner of War Camps when the war in Europe was coming to a close.

It can be said that the men of the 34th Division and the 168th Infantry upheld the proud tradition — the price of victory, however, was high.

Their record ranks high among the great fighting units that carried the stars and stripes into battle. They had eleven Medal of Honor winners, as well as numerous other medals and were accredited with most combat days of any other division in the U.S. Army.

The three Pella men and their friends can be justifiably proud of the division as well as all of the many Pella men who served in other units and other places around the globe.

The love of freedom and liberty is understandable and very precious to men who have fought for their country.

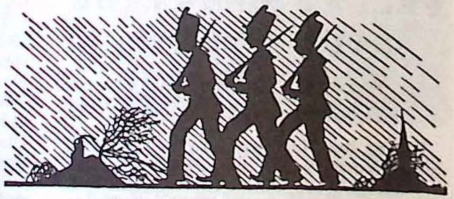
by Gary Gezel

THE AMERICAN LEGION IN PICTURES

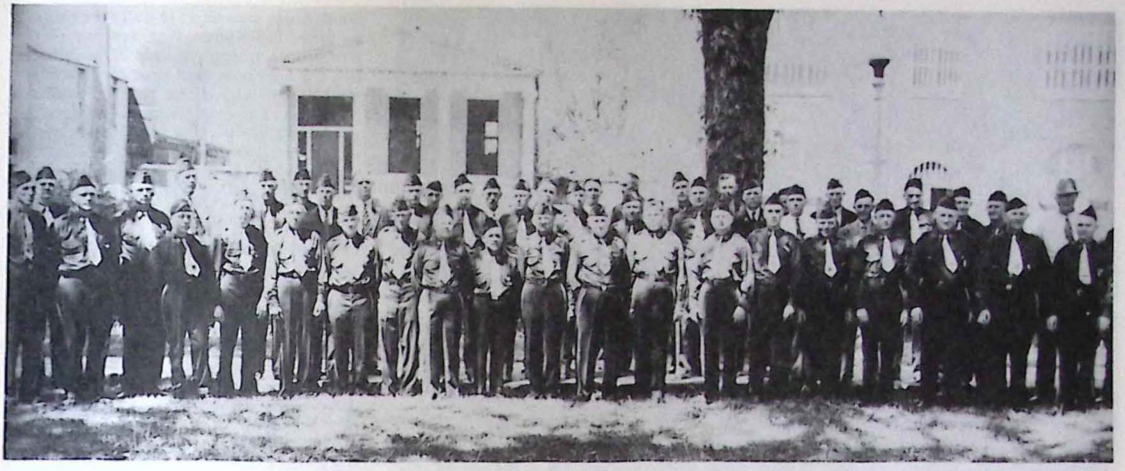
T115

Front, l-r: William S. Van Hemert, unknown, Nick Vander Ploeg, Worp Borgman, H.O. Wormhoudt, Ed Van Toorn, unknown, unknown, Russ Van Zante, Mart Hoeksema, and at the left rear Gerard Gosselink.

Left to Right: Gary Vogelaar, Joe Vander Werff, James Van Vliet, Cornie Vroom, Tunis Kempkes. In the rear: Herm Zwank, John De Prenger, Pete Bloem and Ralph Hayes.



Het regent het zegent
De pannen worden nat
Daar kwamen drie soldaatjes aan
Die vielen op hun ....



Front Row, l-r: George Van Gorkum, unknown, Martin Paardekooper, Will Van Sittert, unknown, Gysbert Van Houwelingen ?, Morris Van Hemert, George Lankelma, Frank Demicola, Cornie Vroom, William Baer, Tunis Kempkes, Dr. H. Wormhoudt, Ben Kuyk, Jake Van Gorp, unknown, John Vander Linden, Herman Swank, Gerrit Vanden Berg, and ? Van Zante; Second row or all remaining, l-r: Gary Vogelaar, unknown, Ben Van Nimwegen, ? James Vanderwaal, ? De Wit, Gerrit Klein, Mart Hoeksema, unknown, William J. Vande Voort, Diller Vander Ploeg, unknown, Henry Klyn, Rueben Schakel, Oren S. Van Niewaal, Alfred Christenson, Worp Borgman, William S. Van Hemert, Russ Van Zante, John Boat, John Hackert, (Face hidden) ? Lubberden, John Schakel, unknown, Ed Vos, Pete Bloem, Conrad De Prenger, and unknown.

Dan Ray Meulpolder was shot down in the Pacific by a Japanese zero plane. He was a torpedo bomber pilot in the Marine Corps. His parents sorrowfully accepted the Distinguished Flying Cross awarded their son posthumously.

DAN RAY MEULPOLDER'S POSTHUMOUS AWARD

T116

REAR ADMIRAL GERALD E. (JOE) SYNHORST

T117

The highest ranking military officer ever to come from Pella was Rear Admiral Gerald E. (Joe) Snyhorst. His ancestors were among the first immigrants to come to Pella with Dominie Scholte in 1847.

Born in Pella, Ia., on Feb. 23, 1928, he was the son of John D. and Gertrude Roorda Synhorst. He was educated in the West Amsterdam country school near Pella and graduated from Pella High School in 1945.

Joe attended the University of Iowa and Drake University prior to entering the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md., on appointment in 1945. He graduated from the Academy in 1949 and advanced in rank to that of Rear Admiral on Apr. 1, 1973. His illustrious naval career began on the *USS Benner*, then the *USS Plover*. He was on the *USS Harder* and then the well-known *USS Nautilus*. To prepare for the *Nautilus*, Joe attended the University of Idaho in Moscow, Id., and obtained a Masters Degree in nuclear physics. Later he was Executive Officer on the *USS Swordfish* before joining the *USS Brainbridge*.

In Feb., 1964, he reported for training at the Atomic Energy Commission, Division of Naval Reactors in Washington, D.C. and in June of that year, assumed command of the *USS Tullibee* and was awarded the Navy Commendation Medal. In 1966 he returned to the Submarine School at New London, Conn., where he was director of the Basic Officers School until Aug., 1968, when he assumed command of Submarine Division 102. He was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of the Second Navy Commendation medal.

In Aug., 1969, he reported as Executive Assistant and Naval Aide to the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Navy Department in Washington, D.C. He was awarded the Legion of Merit. In 1971 he reported for instruction at the National War College in Washington, D.C. and in July, 1972, received the degree of Master of Science in International Affairs from George Washington University. He was next director of the Submarine Systems and Support Division and from Jan., 1973, to Sept., 1973, he was director of the Attack Submarine Division and Nuclear Submarine Support Program Coordinator in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department.

From Sept., 1973, to Sept., 1975, he was the Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Submarine Warfare.

Rear Admiral Gerald E. (Joe) Synhorst (1928-1986).

In Sept. 1975 RADM Synhorst retired from the active roles of the Navy. Since that time he has organized and served as first director of the Navy's Office of Organizational Appraisal. In addition to his previous medals and awards, he has the Navy Expeditionary Medal; China Service Medal; World War II Victory Medal; Navy Occupation Service Medal with Asia Clasp; and the National Defense Service Medal with one Bronze Star.

He and his first wife, Elaine, were the parents of four children: Paul D., Barbara E., Patricia L., and John R. Joe and his second wife, Lorraine Meulpolder Oonk, returned to Pella in 1984 and lived at 502 Columbus St. where Joe passed away Oct. 5, 1986, at the age of 58.

Gerald E. Synhorst was buried with full military honors at Oakwood Cemetery in Pella, the funeral having been conducted at the church of which he was a member, Second Reformed.

THE KOREAN WAR: A REMEMBRANCE

T118

This was the first war in history in which troops of a world organization acted as "police" to fight an aggressor nation. The war began on June 25, 1950, when troops of Communist-ruled North Korea attacked South Korea in an effort to unify the country by force. The Korean War was one of the bloodiest in history. In the 37 months of fighting, both sides used most of the modern machines of war, except atomic weapons. More than a million civilian men, women, and children of Korea were killed and several million made homeless. Harry Truman was president at the time, having appointed General Douglas MacArthur as Supreme Commander for U.N. forces in the Far East. This provides a backdrop of the remembrances I have of the time I spent in the military from 1951-53. I was drafted into service along with several other fellows from Marion Co. at Knoxville. This was just the beginning. As it has been down thru the ages, young men who have been called into the military have experienced the apprehension and forebodings of what the future held. Then to Des Moines for a pre-induction physical. Everything about you is revealed, nothing held back. Just the beginning of being subservient to those in authority. This was the first time I had been subjected to needles, many of them. Oh, what a sore arm! I remember a big fellow fainting in line at the sight of blood. The first of many experiences to come. I then took my first train ride along with many other fellows to Ft. Sheridan in Chicago for the balance of our post induction necessities. As I was standing in line, I heard someone call if anyone wanted to take a typing test. I responded in the affirmative. Typed about 42 WPM. The score went on my record. Little did I realize what an important decision I had made until later when I arrived in Korea. After having a head shaving and clothing issued along with all the other requirements to get us ready to become soldiers, it was time for assignments elsewhere. Didn't realize the letdown I was in for. My name was posted on the list for basic training in Hawaii. Oh no, so far from home! No leaves to see my sweetheart or parents or anyone else. Just the first of many anxieties I was to have. We were to leave Ft. Sheridan in three or four days. So I made a long distance call home. My sweetheart, Marcie Valster, parents, aunt & uncle came to see me. Then final heart-rending goodbyes and off to Hawaii for basic training. My first airplane ride. Wasn't sure we were going to make it to the coast, flying at night in a C-47. Came down on an icy runway in Salt Lake City and then on to San Francisco. From there onto a coverted World War II warship. Crowded – unbelievable – felt like sardines! About five bunks deep with duffel bags piled up at end of row — about 700 of us in one hold. Air was foul. I was to experience another first — sea sickness. Felt bad on an already empty stomach. Laid on the floor in the latrine. didn't care if the ship sank. Some poor fellows laid in their bunks about the whole week of our crossing. Greetings to Honolulu, Hawaii! Hula skirts and flower leis. Off to Scoffield Barracks on the island of Oahu. The beginning of making a G.I. out of a boy. I remember rifle ranges, bivouacs, double-timing, soaked clothing to the skin, inspections, and being chewed out by the cadre. Also fall in and out of formation, I don't know how many times with a toothbrush, pillow, raincoat, and other sundry items. Just a reminder that we were nothing but a foot-dragging solider. Oh yes, classes about the proper use of all the weapons that we might be using. Fall asleep – not for long.

Washday in Korea, 1952.

Close up shot of the bunkers at the 27th Regiment, Korea 1952. Bunkers were sandbagged as protection against artillery.

A knuckle on the back of the head. Crawling over the parade grounds on hands and knees looking for stones. All part of the training. I'll never forget all the double-timing with field packs and rifles out to the ranges for the day. What a way to put you in shape! Sixteen weeks of this. Leave time. Hallelujah! Another big event, marriage. Seven days leave and four days traveling time from Hawaii. Left Honolulu in 70 degree weather and arrived in Des Moines in zero weather. Weather so bad we had to take a taxi from Omaha to Des Moines. Arrived at four o'clock in the morning, blood test, wedding rehearsal, and wedding all that same day. Honeymoon in Des Moines. No time for lengthy honeymoon – see relatives and friends. Then back to Hawaii for eight more weeks of leadership school, more of the same, only it seemed worse. Came out of school as a Corporal, which meant a little more pay, about $120. month. Next assignment – Korea. Not too happy a thought. The same thought that every GI has – what does the future hold? Rely on God – your only real hope. Two weeks on board ship. A long time under crowded conditions. During the day up on deck for fresh air and sunshine. At night down below like sardines in foul – smelling air and seasick GIs. I couldn't imagine some people paying for ocean cruises. Never, for me. Arrived at Port of Inchon. Onto landing crafts and then to shore. Here I am! Stranger in a strange land. Stench of fish drying out to be eaten by the Koreans. On board a train to Chunchon for assignment to the 25th Division. Checked bulletin board. Assigned to 25th Signal Battalion. Couldn't believe it – had no prior training in cryptography or radio. My training had all been for the infantry. Went to the orderly room to check out how many overseas points I already had, since Hawaii was not yet a state. Divine intervention! No doubt in my mind! The phone rang. Company clerk answered phone. I hear him mention my name. Vander Leest can't be assigned to Signal Outfit, no prior training. I told the clerk, I'm Vander Leest. The clerk pulled out my record. He noticed a typing score on my record and gave me an MOS number of a clerk – typist, so I could remain in the signal outfit. Ten months of living in Korea. I made the rank of Staff Sargent while in Korea. Since I was married this meant the large salary of about $225. per month. I remember well the rice paddies, civilians hauling wood, rice and other necessities of life on A-frames on their backs. Also night guard duty, sweeping the ground floor of our squad tents, ration of five gallon fuel for heat for our tents. So cold I would change underwear inside my sleeping bag. Washing clothes on a rock in the creek. Not even the luxury of a washboard. Mail call – letters from home – how wonderful! I remember Easter sunrise service on the side of a mountain. Three crosses on a hill just across the way. So impressive. Evangelist Billy Graham came to Korea – what a wonderful event! Sat outside on logs in the cold with parkas on. Uplifting service. I remember riding shotgun in a jeep delivering messages to our regiments on the line. Also warnings – land mines – stay on road. Artillery – earth would shake. First use of helicopters transporting wounded to base hospitals in the rear. Then rest and recuperation for one week in Japan in a C-119 Flying Boxcar. Full load. Instructions on use of Mae West life jacket & parachute – anxious moments. Didn't think plane would ever get off the runway – a plane designed, that some said, would never fly. Airborne. Thank goodness. Shopping in Japan. Dishes & teakwood tea set and other gifts for my wife and relatives. Broke – back to Korea. After three or four months – rotation. Enough points – thirty six to rotate home. What more wonderful thought. On board ship another two weeks. All the inconveniences seemed trivial. I was headed home. Golden Gate bridge – what a wonderful sight! Home at last after serving twenty-two months of a two-year hitch for Uncle Sam.

A sad event upon my return home – I was called upon to be a pall bearer for Bernard Vos, killed in Korea just prior to my coming home. The price of war – the supreme price. What price – war? I had the opportunity to walk thru Punchbowl National Cemetery, now called the National Cemetery of the Pacific, thirty-five years ago and again in 1982. There lay over thirteen thousand military war dead in honored rest. The thoughts of the mind can hardly be expressed in moments like these. How can any true patriotic American forget? Reflection is at times good for all of us, to remind us of the great sacrifices made for our freedom.

by Logan Vander Leest

THE STORY OF A YOUNG VIETNAM VETERAN

T119

The United States began their involvement in the Vietnam War with Military Advisors while President Eisenhower was in office. We became more and more involved in the conflict while John F. Kennedy was president. The big draft of United States personnel began in 1964, when things began to warm up in Vietnam.

I, Walter D. Graham, was working on a farm as a hired man from 1964 to 1966. At that time, as a farmhand, you could get a deferment from the draft. Later, they needed everyone that could walk into the physical exam room. In Dec. of 1966, my name was called to serve my country in the United States Army. I had my physical in Des Moines, Ia. My active duty started Dec. 30, 1966, in Fort Bliss, Tex. There we were to take nine weeks of physical training. At this time, we were issued all army clothes and sent all civilian clothes home. Jan. 4, 1967, we started training in Company A, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Brigade. We were taught the Manual of Arms, First Aid, Physical Combat, Proficiency Test, M-14 Rifle Class Combat Firing, Bayonet, Hand-to-Hand Combat, C.B.R., Hand Grenade Throw, Kitchen Patrol, Infiltration Course, and Final Inspection.

In Mar. of 1967, I flew to Fort Lee, Va., for a two-week course on the M-16 Rifle. There we were trained properly on how to disassemble the M-16 Rifle and what to do if it malfunctioned. I also took one short week course on the M-60 Machine Gun. Soon our classes were over and we went to higher training of Grenade Launcher and Caliber 50 Machine Gun. This was a two and one-half week course where we learned how to disassemble and assemble weapons. We were graded very specifically on this. Next came our eight-week course of tests to see how much we learned. On Apr. 25, 1967, I graduated from the Fort Lee, Va., School with High Honors.

In May of 1967, I came home for a 55-day furlough before departing for my tour of duty in Vietnam. Leaving on July 6, 1967, I was flown to Hawaii where I transferred to a ship for our journey to Vietnam. During the 21 days aboard ship we encountered a terrible storm which delayed us about five days. We arrived at Cam Rahn Bay in late July. I was assigned to the 22nd Replacement Station Air Force Base, where we were issued our jungle clothing and had our United States money changed to Vietnam currency.

From Cam Rahn Bay, I was flown to a

Walter D. Graham Vietnam.

Vietnam

Replacement Station at Saigon for a short stay before I was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division, stationed at Pleiku, with an assignment to H.H.C. 262nd Quartermaster Battalion (Petroleum) at Cam Rahn Bay and Chi Lai. I stayed in Pleiku for about four months, then was sent to a more protected area of chi Lai. My job was that of a Supply Sergeant. I repaired M-16 Rifles and M-60 Machine Guns. On Dec. 15, I was sent back to Pleiku, where we were under heavy fire. Casualties were heavy at times. At other times, we would have no casualties for days.

In late Feb. 1968, I decided it was time for R&R (Rest and Recuperation). I went to Hawaii, where I took in many sights and got to see some parts of Hawaii where sugar cane and pineapple were grown.

We were only allowed seven days of R&R, so it didn't leave me much time for anything else. On the seventh day, I flew back to Vietnam where I had to report for duty.

In July of 1968, I took an extended tour in Vietnam in order to get a six-month early out. I came home for a short time and returned to active duty for another three or four months. I returned to my company, but shortly thereafter contracted malaria. I was in the hospital four weeks and finished my tour of duty in a safer area, Cam Rahn Bay.

Many U.S. troops went for days with no showers, but got issued new, clean jungle fatigues, socks and boots every day during the monsoon season. (The monsoon season started in early January and ended in late February.)

We had many U.S. troops in our Company area, about 60 to 70. Everyone was assigned to a duty. Some drove big tankers of fuel; some drove 6x6's with Quad 50's Machine Guns on them; some two and a half ton trucks that carried U.S. troops plus jeeps with machine guns mounted on them. Sergeants usually drove three-quarter ton trucks that carried some ammunition. We lost tankers and 6x6's with enemy fire and bombs. For more support, air fire was the best help. They were called in when fire got so heavy that U.S. troops couldn't hold off the enemy on ground.

The country of Vietnam was a place of thick jungle, rice paddies, mountains with thick dense timber. Some places were very sandy terrain.

The Vietnamese were very poor people, very dark-skinned and most generally have large families. Their language was very difficult to understand as there were four different dialects that I knew of.

The Vietnamese were small in size, but could carry five times their weight on their back. We didn't know who our enemies were; they would be friendly during the day and attack at night. They most generally wore black, pajama-like outifts.

We had some Vietnamese work in the Company on K.P. duty. Others washed clothes for U.S. troops. They were brought in by a two and one-half ton truck, usually about 30 of them aboard.

During our days off, we most generally got time to catch up on letter writing, go to the P.X. Exchange and buy personal items that were needed. We got paid once a month. As a Sergeant, I got $355.

The U.S.O. sponsored several comedians over in Vietnam. We had The Bob Hope Show and his team there at Christmas time. Their group helped bring up the morale of the troops. He was greatly appreciated by many, especially during the Holiday time.

At another time, Jane Fonda came to Hanoi. This was a very disturbing visit to many U.S. troops. After she reported back in the United States, many anti-Vietnam demonstrations broke out in the U.S. When these reports got back to the troops in Vietnam, it caused a wave of depression. Those of us who withstood the criticism, justified or not, knew what we were fighting for: Freedom for the people of Vietnam and America.

Dispite all of the demonstrations and conflicts of interest, the United States won all of its battles. We never gave up. In 1975, all U.S. troops were pulled out of the country by President Nixon.

The United States then turned all their weapons over to the South Vietnamese Armed Forces, so they could continue to fight against the North Vietnamese. It was just a matter of time until the South Vietnamese were defeated by the Communist forces of North Vietnam.

My tour of active duty ended in July of 1969. I boarded a plane early in the morning and flew home. It took 13 hours, with a short stop in Japan and on across the United States to Fort Lewis, Wash. There we were treated to large meals. Then, we started our two days of processing. My E.T.S. (End Tour of Service) terminated at Fort Lewis, Wash. I got all my pay, they issued me new Army Greens and Khakis. I was released, and with six or seven others, ordered a taxi to the Air Base. There, I got on a plane with my luggage and headed for Cedar Rapids, Ia.

My family welcomed me home with great honors, but some people I knew didn't like the Vietnam Veterans. The V.F.W., Legion, and D.A.V.'s were a big help. Many of them wanted to welcome me, but adjusting to civilian life was very difficult. It was hard to be dressed in proper style after being in a country of rice paddies and jungles. I didn't sleep well, the fear of being attacked was still in my sub-conscious mind. After about two or three years of civilian life, I finally got somewhat adjusted.

We still have many United States Armed Force troops that fought in the Vietnam War, Missing in Action and Prisoners of War, which the Communists have never accounted for. We often wonder why. Will we ever see these men?

It took over ten years for the Nation to recognize the Vietnam Veterans. As a Veteran, I believe the Vietnam Memorial established in Washington,D.C. has helped to heal some wounds in those who risked their lives for their country. For me, I truly believe that it was an Honor to serve in the United States Army from 1966 to 1969. The experience was one never to forget, but I wouldn't care to do it again.

Credit needs to be given to the Pella area Veterans who started a fund-raising project and during Memorial Weekend, May 1983, dedicated a Monument to the Korean – Vietnam Veterans, the first of its kind in Iowa.

I wish to thank my fellow Veterans for honoring me; requesting me to tell a Vietnam Veteran's story, as I view, it almost 20 years later. May God bless and continue to watch over us all.

by Walter D. Graham

THE VIETNAM ERA

T120

As far back as 1941, before the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt regarded the Japanese movement into Indo-China as a threat to vital American interests; specifically, it would jeopardize the supply of natural rubber which was essential to the American defense industry. Synthetic rubber had not yet been invented, so it was absolutely necessary that this supply not be cut off. In order to put pressure on the Japanese to deter them from further expansion into Indo-China and specifically into Vietnam, which lay closest to the islands of Japan, the U.S. government decided to freeze Japanese assets in the United States. This action led directly to the Japanese decision to attack Pearl Harbor.

President Roosevelt was convinced that World War II would set off a world-wide revolt against European colonization, and he considered Indo-China one of the weakest links in the chain. In 1943 he proposed that Indo-China not be restored to the French after the war, but instead he placed under an international trusteeship and be prepared for independence. The French had controlled the country for a hundred years and, by constantly milking off the resources, had left the people of Indo-China worse and worse off as the years went by. Russia and China supported the idea but the British did not, seeing this as a threat to their own empire, particularly Burma.

Before anything concrete could come of this President Roosevelt died and with him the initiative to carry out this plan. In fact, the State Department believed there could be no trusteeship except under the French government.

However, five months after President Roosevelt's death Ho Chi Minh, a Vietnamese communist and a leader of the anti-Japanese resistance movement, proclaimed the Declaration of Independence of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and the French responded with a determined attempt to re-establish colonial rule. This conflict went on for eight years. During this period the American government paid little attention to the fighting in Vietnam, but the fall of Mainland China to Chinese Communists in 1949 and the invasion of South Korea by North Korean Communists in 1950 caused renewed interest of the U.S. government in the communist expansion in Asia. As the French were opposing this expansion, the Truman administration responded by providing military and economic aid to them, and the Eisenhower administration enlarged this policy.

Because synthetic rubber had been developed during World War II, the emphasis of our interest in Southeast Asia shifted somewhat away from the economic, and more toward a political threat by the Communist expansion. In 1953 Secretary of State Dulles expressed concern that Red China might send its own army into Indo-China and that such an aggression might not be confined to Indo-China. Also the prospect of a Viet Minh victory in Vietnam without Chinese intervention was almost as alarming. By now the French forces were pleading for American military relief in the fight against the Hochi Minh aggression.

President Eisenhower, being doubtful of unilateral military intervention, decided to ask for British collaboration. The British were not sympathetic to this proposal. There were also differing opinions in the U.S. government on this issue.

General Matthew Ridgway, Army Chief of Staff, questioned the Theory that bombing could reverse the tide of the war, a lesson we learned in Korea, and that we would be making the same mistake. Senator John F. Kennedy, who had visited Indo-China in 1951, felt that we had allied ourselves with the French and that to check the drive of communism made sense. However, he advocated not limiting out effort to that only; he felt we should attempt to build a strong anti-communist sentiment among the native population and, equally important, try to establish an anti-communist government. He also expressed concern that the general public was uninformed and being misled by the information it was receiving. Senator Lyndon B. Johnson echoed these sentiments. President Eisenhower eventually decided against intervention, and the French abandoned the fight after surrendering Dien Bien Phu. Negotiations in Geneva in 1954, in which the United States declined to participate, divided Vietnam and provided independence to Laos and Cambodia.

A limited amount of conventional American air power might have turned the tide but President Eisenhower insisted that the U.S. not act alone and Winston Churchill refused to commit British forces, so the French gave up and pulled out. If the French had promised eventual independence and then had helped the Vietnamese in setting up an adequate government and military facilities, Vietnam could probably have become an independent, non-communist nation.

The Geneva Accords of 1954, set the border between North and South Vietnam at the 17th Parallel, with a neutral demilitarized zone (DMZ) between. North Vietnam was largely communistic and supplied the Viet Cong guerilla forces. There were also communists in the South as well as non-communists in the North; in fact, a large part of the Viet Cong was actually South Vietnamese, so differentiating between friend and foe was extremely difficult.

Two months later at a conference in Manila the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) was organized. The terms of this treaty led President Eisenhower to pledge American support to South Vietnam to develop and maintain a government capable of resisting communist aggression. The capitol of South Vietnam was Saigon; Hanoi was the capitol of North Vietnam.

Large-scale infiltration from the North began about 1959, and by 1961 had made substantial gains. The British Advisory Mission and the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency were giving military assistance in the form of advisors and instructors in an effort to bolster the South Vietnamese military, and understood the importance of local political resistance to the aggression from the North. In the early sixties the South Vietnamese had somewhat reversed the momentum of the Viet Cong. John F. Kennedy was now president and he continued to advocate aid in supplying military advisors and encouraged government reforms which were being largely ignored. The situation deteriorated again. He also recognized that training in counter-insurgency at this time was more important than training in conventional warfare. Vice President Lyndon Johnson visited Saigon for a close-up look at the situation and concluded that combat troop involvement was not required, and would be undesirable. Also at this time the responsibility for the Vietnam situation passed from the State Department to the Department of Defense.

At the Geneva Conference in 1962, fifteen countries with military forces in Laos agreed to withdraw them; all complied except North Vietnam. This greatly complicated the situation for South Vietnam — instead of the 40-mile length of the DMZ they now had a 640 mile border to defend and the North took full advantage of this. They used the sparsely populated highlands of eastern Laos as a sanctuary and supply route for their forces operating in the South. This route became popularly known as the Ho Chi Minh Trail.

In 1963, a South Vietnamese army coup succeeded, Ngo Dinh Diem's government was overthrown, and he was killed. Three weeks later, with the assassination of President Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson became president and inherited the problem. The next two years were chaotic as coup followed coup until 1965 when Nguyen Van Thieu and Nguyen Cao Ky took over the government. The situation deteriorated steadily. The new leaders were no more inclined to reform the government than Diem had been, and President Johnson finally committed U.S. troops, reversing his previous position. Bombing of installations in the North began and in Mar., 1965, U.S. troops landed at Danang. By the time President Johnson left office 550,000 troops were involved. At this stage President Johnson had no particular illusions of defeating North Vietnam and forcing an unconditional surrender, but rather he thought in terms of halting the North's advances to the point that they would accept negotiations for an end of hostilities between the two countries.

This was wishful thinking because while we now had enough troops to wage conventional warfare and probably succeed, the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong refused to fight that kind of war. Only on a few occasions did they mount large-scale thrusts and they did not succeed, but continued their vicious guerilla-type raids against which we were not often successful. These raids were frequently aimed at undefended villages and were extremely demoralizing to the civilian population.

Demoralization was not confined to the Vietnamese. The Military command was under restrictions imposed by the Pentagon, the congress, and the President, and military strategy needed approval from Washington before being implemented. The war Department and the Congress were often not in accord. News reports from the field, from the War Department, and from Congress and the President conflicted greatly and the confidence of the American citizen was badly shaken. A great deal of antagonism developed toward the situation; anti-war demonstrations took place in many cities and many became violent. In Oct., 1967, Dr. Milton J. Hoffman, who was President of Central College from 1917 to 1925, spoke before a meeting of the Central College Board of Trustees and predicted, "When in later days the history of this period is written, our war in Vietnam will be recorded as one of the most

tragic episodes in our history." This statement was certainly proven accurate in the years that followed. Most people who lived through those years can remember the many news reports of demonstrations, marches and riots that took place. Many of these were organized on college campuses around the country. This is understandable as these students were at an age when they could become directly involved in the hostilities. They were also frustrated in their impatience to get on with their lives and they were being stymied. Many times their enthusiasm for their cause got out of hand and physical injuries and property damage resulted.

Fortunately there were no incidents of a destructive nature at Central College. *The Pella Chronicle* reported on two demonstrations which took place in Oct. and Nov. of 1969. A Vietnam Moratorium Day for rallying the dissenters to the Vietnam war was scheduled for Oct. 15. Discussions of the issues were undertaken with a program of speakers and films, and was climaxed by a silent march from the campus to Central Park for a memorial service. The program was approved by the faculty coordinating committee and students had the right to be absent from classes. The group heeded the committee's request for a peaceful, sober, and responsible atmosphere. It was estimated from 20 to 30 percent of the students participated.

A second moratorium was held in November. A *Pella Chronicle* reporter was sent to the campus to interview veterans who were then students at Central. A total of 16 were interviewed, nine of whom had served in Vietnam. Most were reported as not being sympathetic to the moratorium which they felt would be of no benefit. They believed President Nixon had already decided to ignore the protests, having indicated this in speeches made before both the October and November meetings took place. They all said they did not intend to wear the black arm bands and would not do so in the future. All felt that we should get out of Vietnam by some means that would not jeopardize the South Vietnamese position.

Probably the most unfortunate of these student demonstrations occurred on the campus of Kent State University in Ohio. A riot ensued and the national Guard was called. The confrontation resulted in the deaths of four Kent State students. This incident was remembered at Central College by a student strike and a Memorial March to Central Park during the Annual Tulip Time Festival. This had been of considerable concern to the Tulip Time Committee as they had received a request for permission to march in the parade. This was not granted but the students were again allowed to conduct a march to Central Park, talk with visitors, and distribute leaflets. Again credit must be given to the student body of Central College for conducting themselves in a responsible manner.

The large concentration of North Vietnamese troops in Cambodia led President Nixon to order the bombing of enemy-occupied areas in Cambodia. This seemed necessary as South Vietnam was rapidly losing the war and something needed to be done. After losing their advantage of Cambodian bases, the North finally mounted large-scale operations in 1972. These forces were defeated and the U.S. intensified the bombing of North Vietnam and mined the harbor at Haiphong. North Vietnam concluded they could not conquer South Vietnam and decided to negotiate a peace agreement on Jan. 23, 1973. The United States government then cut off military aid to South Vietnam. After this was done the Hanoi government continued aggression in defiance of the peace treaty and for two years the South Vietnamese held out on their own. Congress refused to authorize additional aid while the Hanoi government continued to receive supplies and aid from the Soviets. In the spring of 1975, Hanoi started the final offensive and by the end of April, Saigon had fallen and the victory of early 1973, which we had fought so hard to achieve, was turned into defeat.

Soon after the peace agreement was signed in 1973, American troops were returned to the United States and the South Vietnamese were left to continue the fight against the Communists. As the final thrust on Saigon was in progress all Americans left there were evacuated. A Pella native, Capt. Sylvia K. De Jong, an Air Evacuation Flight Nurse, served on the last flight of civilian POW's to leave Saigon. She had also served a year as an operating room nurse at Cam Rahn Bay in 1970-1971.

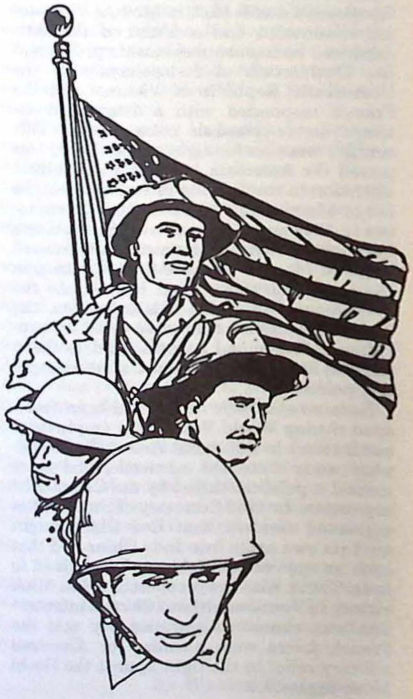
Two Pella men lost their lives in the fighting in Vietnam — Curtis Joosten and Paul Wilson.

A memorial to those who died in Vietnam, a black granite wall with their names inscribed, was constructed in Washington, D.C. Pella was one of the first communities in the nation to recognize the veterans of the Vietnam and Korean conflicts with an appropriate memorial placed in Graceland Cemetery by The American Legion Post 89, The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 89, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5242. This action was particularly fitting since there was very little recognition given them on their departure or return. Men were drafted and trained, then sent to Vietnam for a one-year tour of duty after which they returned to the U.S. and were discharged individually, so there was little fanfare exhibited upon their departure or return. Also the general public had little to remind them that a war was in progress — there were no commodity shortages or rationing, bond drives, etc., as there had been during World War II. The length of the campaign and the apparently conflicting and largely unsympathetic reporting by the news media left the general public confused and somewhat apathetic toward the conflict. The result was that life went on pretty much as usual except for those who had loved ones in combat, who were understandably concerned.

In 1987, there are still unanswered questions concerning the status of some Americans missing in action or prisoners of war, and not accounted for. U.S. officials have tried repeatedly to get this information from the North Vietnamese government but have not been successful.

Credits for information contained in this article: *A Soldier Reports* by Gen. William C. Westmorland, *The Real War* by Richard Nixon, *The Bitter Heritage* by Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., Archives of *The Pella Chronicle.*

by Art Tysseling



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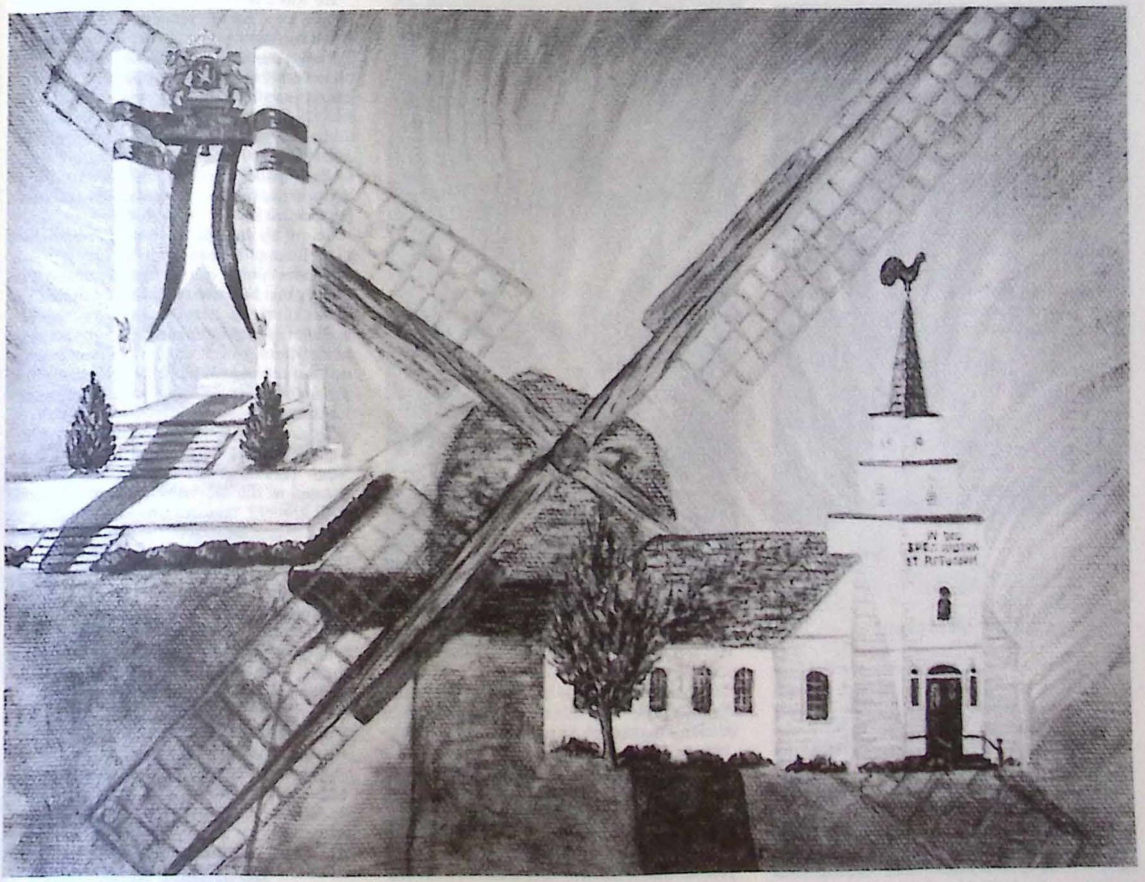
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS



Oil painting submitted by Anne Beyers VandeKieft for *The History of Pella, Iowa* (1987).

PELLA COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

T121

The Pella Chamber of Commerce established the Pella Community Service Award to honor outstanding Pella citizens in 1972.

Candidates may be nominated by anyone in the Pella Community and all nominations are considered by a panel of judges selected from the local service organizations.

The candidates are judged on: service to others, involvement in civic affairs, religious participation, vocational success and attitude toward fellow persons.

The first award winners were not announced ahead of the presentation banquet. During the last years the nominee has been announced prior to the banquet held in the Spring.

The following stories tell of the concerns and achievements of the individuals who have received the award to date.

P. H. KUYPER, 1972

T122

Pete Kuyper, first Community Service Award, 1972.

First Recipient

Pete Kuyper was honored as being the first recipient of the Community Service Award, which was presented to him by Gov. Robert D. Ray. Pete stated at the time that he was a bit embarrassed but very appreciative of the honor.

At the time Pete received the award in 1972, Rolscreen employed over 900 people. Pete commented that he thought being able to give jobs is the most important of all. He said, "Giving jobs is much more difficult than giving to charity." He also commented on many other firms that gave jobs to many people and were very important to the community.

Pete used the event of his receiving the honor to give a reply to those gathered there, in which he said that his biggest disappointment was in not having been able to accomplish the acquisition of a good highway system for Pella saying, "Pella has the poorest road situation of any community of over 1,000 population in the state." During his lifetime, Pete worked hard on trying to convince the Iowa Highway Commission to run their proposed Interstate 592 near Pella. The Governor listened at that time, but Pete's concern was never alleviated.

Pete's reputation as an industrialist is legendary in Pella. His civic duties and his accomplishments are known by anyone who has lived here for any time at all. He and his family shared many of the monetary benefits in a great variety of charities, in buildings around the town and at the college, lovely memorials to a man who was held in high regard.

Pete and his wife, Lucille, are deceased.

C. C. BUERKENS, 1973

T123

Clarence Buerkens second recipient 1973

C.C. Buerkens was born on a farm near Flagler, Ia., in 1897. He lived a full life serving in many capacities to help his fellow men.

He was educated in the Pella Grade School and Pella High School, graduating in 1915. He was an athlete and pitched for the baseball team for two years with no losses. Central College was his choice of colleges and he attended three years before serving one year in the Ordinance Department in Washington, D.C. during World War I. Returning from service, he attended the University of Iowa where he graduated from with a B.A. degree in 1920. He received an M.S. degree in vocational education in 1922.

In the summers, "Buck" worked in the family wagon factory to earn money for his education. He also spent several summers working for Chautauqua as a platform manager.

He married Florence Quist of Essex, Ia., and they had two children, Bonnie and Bruce.

Mr. Buerkens served as the superintendent of Pella Schools for 27 years, during which time the school district was reorganized, involving the dissolution of 30 country schools and the addition of Otley and Leighton to the Pella Community School District. He was superintendent when the new Webster Elementary was built in 1951 and when the first major addition to Lincoln was made in 1960. The erection of a new high school in 1962 was finished just before Buerkens' retirement in 1964.

When Buerkens arrived in Pella to become the superintendent, the faculty totaled 25. There were 677 pupils in three buildings, an operating budget of $42,000, no bus service, and no school lunches. When he left in 1964 there were 76 teachers, 1,580 students in seven buildings, 24 school buses, a hot lunch program, and a budget of $750,000. Buerkens also initiated a counselor program.

He was a member of National Education Assn., Iowa State Education Assn., State Administrators Assn., National Retired Teachers Assn., and the Walt Whitman Club, an honorary teachers organization. He was a charter member of Rotary, which was formed in 1938, and had served as president of the group and was an official commentator of the *Rotary News*. In 1965 he received the Central College Distinguished Alumni Award.

Buerkens served as admissions counselor for Central College in 1966-67.

One of his most popular achievements was his column published in the *Pella Chronicle* for three years called "Buck Saw." The history that he amassed in these columns has provided many articles kept in the two archives in the community and are priceless in the history of Pella. He started another column entitled "Who & Where" concerning former resident of Pella and their current locations.

During his time as administrator, he walked with the school children in the Tulip Time parade, a familiar scene with him dressed as the old-fashioned school master with the old "clacker" to call children to school. Later he served as Town Crier, giving information and greeting groups of tourists at the festival.

He served seven years as chairman of North Marion Co. American Cancer Society Crusade. The area he served was noted for the highest per capita donation in the state during Buck's leadership. They raised a total of $38,928.00.

The Burkenses attended Second Reformed Church faithfully. Mr. Buerkens had been a consistory member for many years.

Mr. and Mrs. Buerkens are now deceased as is their son, Bruce.

MARTHA LAUTENBACH, 1974

T124

Martha Lautenbach 3rd Recipient 1974

Martha Lautenbach is dedicated to serving Pella, especially in the area of extensive research of Pella's history and in her personal campaign to preserve Pella's valuable and irreplaceable resources. It was Martha's foresight and influence which accounted for the preservation of many valuable documents uncovered in Pella homes. She was instrumental in the concept and development of the Pella Historical Site, serving as secretary of the Pella Historical Society.

Martha was educated in a rural school, at Central Academy, and at Central College, where she received her B.A. degree in 1925. In 1962 she was awarded an honorary doctorate from Central College, where she had been vice president of the Alumni Assn., president of that association, and served on the Central College Board of Trustees from 1949 to 1955. In 1946 she accepted the position of archivist at the college.

Martha was an active church and youth leader, serving as chairman of the Pella District Council of Camp Fire Girls. She was youth leader for the Particular Synod of Iowa and chaired the National Youth Organization of the Reformed Church of America. In 1954 she was a delegate to the National Council of Churches.

She was married to Bob Lautenbach in 1926 and after living in New York City for some time, they returned to Pella in 1934. Bob died in 1953.

One of Martha's major contributions to the history of Pella was the editing of *A Stranger in a Strange Land,* written by Leonora Scholte. She has assisted countless other would-be writers in their research for various magazines and newspaper stories. She was helpful with her ability to read, write, and speak Dutch fluently. This skill has also helped her translate and catalog numerous Dutch books and manuscripts important to Pella's history.

On a lighter side, her Tulip Time activities were important, as for many years she instructed performers in Dutch songs and dances. She taught Dutch dancing to the massed groups and also assisted with many of the early Tulip Time operettas.

She has been, in recent years, curator of the Scholte House and now resides in a small home in the Scholte Garden area. She is still active as co-curator with Alice Lammers and is a guide to tourists visiting the home, which is open to the public.

MAURICE BIRDSALL 1975

T125

Maurice Birdsall (Mr. B.) Fourth Award

Mr. B. has been a Thespian since he was a child in Clarion, Ia., directing his playmates in childhood productions. He continued in this challenge when he was a student at Grinnell College and went on to the Pasadena Playhouse in Pasadena, Calif. He taught English at Ocheyedan High School and came to Pella in 1938 to teach and direct plays.

In the early '40s, Maurice left for military service. In May 1943 he was given a leave of absence to direct the Tulip Time pageant. He was to direct many more operettas for Tulip Time productions . . . many with a Dutch flavor such as "The Red Mill," "Blue Tulip," and "Knickerbocker Holiday."

When he came to Central he brought back Alpha Psi Omega and led Central into becoming one of the leaders in the drama department. The religious plays Birdsall directed, touring both coasts and presenting more than 200 performances with eight different casts, was a monumental boost in acquainting others with knowledge of the little college in the Midwest with the outstanding dramatics.

Mr. B also directed "In White America," the first college to produce it in the early 1960s.

It has often been thought and said that Maurice is truly a naturalized Dutchman. He has lived in his early-Dutch Pella house for many years surrounded by the antiques he has collected through the years, sharing his knowledge of antiquities with others, especially the Pella Historical Society. He has made many trips to the Netherlands to search out Dutch antiques. His priceless Delft collection is on loan to the Historical Society, where a room in the historical village has been named for him.

He has been a fixture in Tulip Time parades, where he has been the organ grinder for 37 years . . . sometimes with a monkey, but more recently with one of his many bull dogs named Doonie. Since 1955 he has been chairman of the Tulip Time window decorating committee, which is a time-consuming labor of love he has so long contributed. He has served on the Pella Historical Society board for many years.

In the 1970s he was active in the senior citizen activities with a radio program on Project Impact, filling many capacities. He was also active in directing plays given by a Community Theater group which gave *Tall Story, January Thaw and Barefoot in the Park,* adding those plays to other community theater groups he directed in Oskaloosa and other towns. He directed nearly 200 plays and was honored by Central College with a portion of the theater named for him and an oil painting done by Larry Mills unveiled, honoring 'Mr. B.' Of course one of the Doonies appeared in the painting.

He has given freely of his time in a great variety of ways. He willingly spoke at dozens of club groups and service organizations, judged speech and drama contests, costume parades, and served on numerous committees, such as school bond issues and other civic concerns.

JANE GOSSELINK 1976

T126

It was fitting that Jane Gosselink be given a crystal school bell as a token of appreciation when she was named the fifth person to be chosen for community service. She had

Jane Gosselink 5th Award 1976.

dedicated her life to teaching and had done it with finesse.

She was the product of an ungraded rural school near Leighton, and she and her brother were the first from the school to go on to high school. Sometimes they rode to school in a buggy, but in the winter months they took the Rock Island train from Leighton to Pella and boarded in town.

Her first position was in her home school where she became the teacher after taking some summer classes at Central College and passing a test. She worked in that capacity for three years until the family moved to town after their mother died. It was then that she started her formal education, graduating from Central in 1923. She was immediately asked to teach in Pella High School. She began the long, illustrious career by preparing that summer at Columbia University in New York where she attended many summers to qualify herself for an advanced degree. (She used her ability to speak and write Dutch, as well as read it, to pass her foreign language requirement for her M.A., which she received in 1931.)

She later was asked to take the position of principal and, to prepare herself for that, she went to the University of Minnesota to study administration and guidance.

Jane convinced many parents that education was important for their children in spite of a Depression when it was often thought superfluous, especially for girls. When she retired as principal in 1952,. it was to work in high school guidance work, which she did until 1969 when she retired. She had spanned nearly 50 years in her dedication to the youth of Pella.

In retirement, she was ever active. She served as a board member, was a member of the Pella Recreation Commission, a board member of the South Central Mental Health Assn., was on the Educational Council of Second Reformed Church, the board of the Christian Benevolent Assn., and was chairman for the Heart Memorial Fund for Pella.

Miss Gosselink is deceased.

GARY VERMEER, 1977

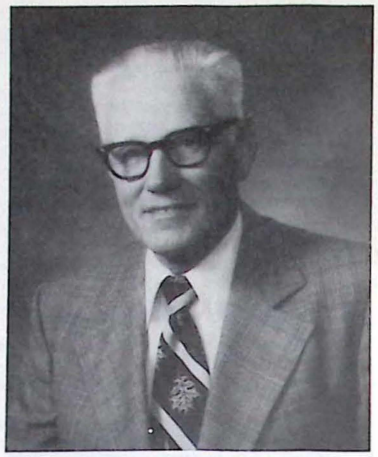
T127

Educated in rural Plainview School and Pella High School, Gary Verneer was an honor student. He was needed to work on the farm, missing much school time, but excelled nonetheless.

He and his wife, Matilda, were married on Valentine's Day in 1941. They have three children: Stan, Bob, and Mary.

A farmer, Gary used his inventive genius to make his work easier and in so doing, established the manufacturing company that is known worldwide. Starting out in the simplicity of a wagon hoist, the company now manufactures a number of machines for farming and industry with a satellite plant in Holland and with businesses around the world.

Gary's life is not dedicated only to Vermeers. He is involved in a long list of service positions in the community and his philanthropic endeavors are legendary. He has been in the consistory of three Christian Reformed Churches: First, Calvary, and Faith. He has served on boards of Christian Grade School and Christian High School, Pine Rest Christian Hospital, and Dordt College. He served on the Chamber of Commerce and Airport Advisory Board. Gary has been on numerous building committees and parsonage construction programs.



Gary Vermeer, Sixth Recipient, 1977.

The Pella Community Hospital planning and construction was spearheaded by Gary Vermeer, and he has served as president of the Board of Directors and as a board member.

The Vermeer Foundation has financed custodial homes to complement the hospital and nursing home. The indoor swimming pool was another major contribution.

A world traveler, conservationist and aviator, Gary has explored many facets of life. Basically he is, at heart, the farmer his father envisioned him to be. He and Matilda reside on the farm east of town which they chose when Gary's father gave them an option at the time of their marriage. The Vermeers are farmers, following ancestral generations who came to Pella in 1856.

A science building on Central's campus honors Gary's ancestors, the well-known Vermeers.

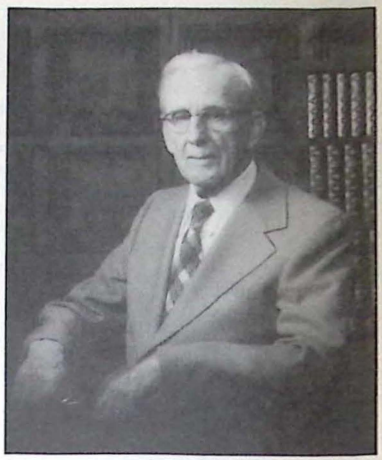
DR. H. C. VANDER MEULEN, 1978

T128

Dr. Vander Meulen gave of himself in a lifetime of devotion to his profession, which endeared him to the community. Approximately 2,000 persons in the Pella area were delivered by this kindly doctor, many of the deliveries happening in homes before the advent of the hospitals. He often had to brave inclement weather, depending on bobsleds, tractors and mail trucks to get to his destination to "beat the stork."

He was a Sioux Center native, being born there Aug. 7, 1897. He was first a country school teacher and then enlisted in the Medical Corps during World War I, serving in Mexico and France.

After the war, his family moved to Pella and he entered Central College, graduating in 1923. He entered medical school at the University of Iowa, interrupting his education to teach mathematics and physics at Central Academy in Pella. He returned to medical school and graduated in 1927. He interned in Los Angeles, Calif. and was resident physician at Riverside, Calif. He was in ambulance service and doctor for the Union Pacific Railroad in Las Vegas, Nev. In 1933 he returned to Pella and located at 707 Main, moving his office later to 604 Franklin.



Dr. H.C. Vander Meulen, seventh recipient, 1978.

In 1940 he rented a house, hired a nurse, maids, cook, and janitor and opened a maternity hospital on North Main. Due to the start of World War II and the unavailability of nurses here, the venture did not last very long. He desired to enlist in the service at that time but was declared essential to the town.

He spent 33 years as the physician at Central College, and he and his wife were named Mr. and Mrs. Alumni by the college in 1977.

He married Elma LeCocq. He was the father of three daughters and one son.

Dr. Vander Meulen was a charter member of Kiwanis and the American Legion and had been an elder of Second Reformed Church, where he attended regularly.

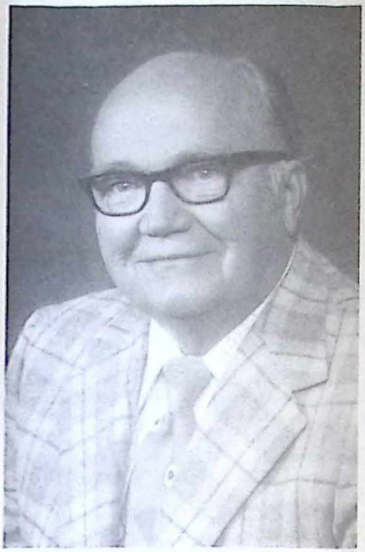
April 27, 1970, was declared by Mayor Caldwell as being "Dr. Vander Meulen Day," and he was honored by the Pella American Legion and Legion Auxiliary.

He was presented with a print of the painting "The Doctor" at the award ceremony for community service, which was a fitting tribute, for that is how he was known and is remembered as "The Doctor." Dr. Vander Meulen is deceased.

ROBERT J. KLEIN 1979

T129

The development, growth and success of the Pella Historical Complex can be attributed to almost fifty years of relentless effort of Bob Klein and other citizens. Bob was involved in the establishment of the Dutch



Bob Klein Community Service Award, 1979

Fronts Restoration group, now known as the Community Development Committee. He and his wife, Doretha, restored and renovated the Historical Museum, which was then on Washington Street, into the Holland House Restaurant in 1959. In 1972, they and Stu and Eunice Kuyper restored and renovated Strawtown Inn in the old buildings that were endangered at that time, which has become a Pella tourist area known throughout the state and beyond.

Bob was born Nov. 4, 1916, the son of Nelle and John G. Klein. He attended local schools, Central College and then joined the family's clothing business, Pella Overall Co., in 1936. Starting as a salesman, he later became president. He established the Town and Country Clothing store with his brother-in-law, Ed Wesselink. The store was later to be known as Bob's Clothing, purchased by another party.

Bob had many featured roles in musical operettas, as he was blessed with vocal talents that were enjoyed by the public in "The Blue Tulip," "Call Me Madame," "Finnian's Rainbow" and many others.

He has served as secretary of Pella's Rotary Club, president of the Chamber of Commerce, president and vice president of the Pella Historical Society and president of the Central West Garment Manufacturers Assn.

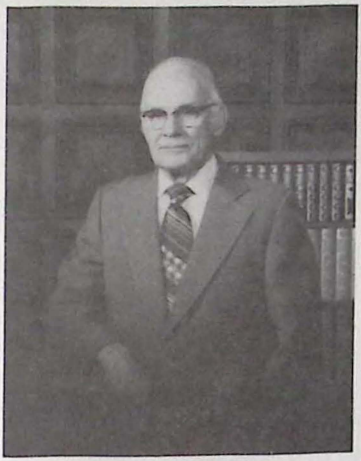
As a member of Second Reformed Church, Bob has served as Sunday School superintendent, on the Education Council, a member of the choir, and was co-chairman of building committee when the new church was built.

Bob married Doretha Vogelaar and they have three children: Sandy, Pam and Bob, Jr. Bob and Doretha live in a home they restored over a period of years. It was once the McClatchy home built in 1853.

Bob's abilities as a craftsman have enhanced the community of Pella in a multitude of projects of restoration. His aptitudes to see something beautiful beneath dilapidation have saved many irreplaceable pieces of furniture and buildings in our historical oriented town.

BABE TYSSELING
1980

T130



Babe Tysseling, ninth recipient, 1980.

Richard (Babe) Tysseling was truly a hometown wonder. He made that niche in Pella's history by being a member of CentraL College's Wonder Team of the early '30s, a team which had a winning streak of 37 games and three consecutive Iowa Conference championships. Babe was named to the all-conference team and all-state team and by J.E. "Buck" Turnbull in his book, *The Iowa Conference Story*, to the all-conference team. As a student at Central, Babe was the first athlete in Central's history to earn 16 major letters: four each in basketball, baseball, football and track. He excelled in track, ran the 100-yard dash in 9.9; was an all-conference end and captain of the football team and an outstanding second baseman on the baseball team. He has been called the greatest athlete in the history of Central College.

Babe was born in 1910, the son of Gerrit and Nellie Tysseling. He received his B.A. from Central College in 1932 and his M.A. from the University of Iowa. He married Pauline Lovett and they had one daughter, Helen. Babe served as teacher, coach and high school principal at Garden Grove from 1932-1937. He then spent one year as a teacher and coach at Shenandoah.

He began his career at Central in 1938 and served there in a variety of capacities for nearly 40 years . . . as coach, professor, director of athletics, and director of admissions. During World War II he served with the U.S. Navy. As Central's coach from 1938-1960 he compiled a winning record.

Another of Babe's contributions to Central was in the Admissions Office where he set up a system still used, and he is credited with helping the growth of Central during that time.

Although very busy with Central College, he served as mayor of Pella from 1956, serving ten years. He reorganized the Police Department and served as a director of the Iowa League of Municipalities. He is a loyal Rotarian, a member of the American Legion, and served on the Pella Hospital Board

In 1971 Babe was inducted into the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Hall of Fame.

He and his wife were awarded the Mr. and Mrs. Alumni award from Central College in 1970.

The Tysseling family are active members of Second Reformed Church in Pella.

RICHARD A. DE JONG
1981

T131

Reverend Richard A. De Jong, tenth recipient, 1981

Rev. Richard A. De Jong is church heritage personified. At the time of his being awarded the Community Service Award, he had completed 63 years of service to people and churches.

He was the oldest of 12 children born to Mr. and Mrs. Arie C. De Jong. His birthday was Jan. 6, 1894. Both parents were natives of Pella and attended Third Reformed Church. Richard was educated in rural schools and at Peoria Christian School.

Emma Sjaardema became his wife on Dec. 26, 1917, and they farmed for a short period in the Lower Grove area. In 1919 Richard enrolled at Grundy College and Academy, attending there six years. In 1925 he enrolled at Western Theological Seminary in Holand, Mich., graduating in 1928.

His active ministry began in the Covenant Reformed Church in Indianapolis, Ind., where he served from 1928-1930. For ten years he served the First Reformed Church in Sully, Ia., and then accepted a call in Artesia, Calif., where they resided for 15 years until 1955. Several new churches were organized during that time and Rev. De Jong served on the Church Extension Committee

of the Classis of California. Finally, he served five years as pastor of the First Reformed Church in Knoxville, Ia. During his years as a minister, he also spent many years as a member of the Board of Western Theological Seminary.

In 1960 Rev. De Jong assumed the position of Minister of Calling for the First Reformed Church in Pella, not limiting his calls to members of that church only, but sharing his compassion with many.

The community was proud to honor Rev. De Jong for his years of concern and commitment to the welfare of the church and to the community.

FRANKLIN VAN GORP, 1983

T132

Franklin "Hap" Van Gorp Community Service Award, 1983

"Hap" has given unselfishly of himself to the community of Pella. Born in a rural home, educated in a country school, "Hap" moved to Pella when he was 18 years old.

He was employed soon after by A.B. Van Howeling Auto Company, then by the Ford Garage, owned then by the LeCocqs. He then went into business for himself in the United Paint and Body Shop located on Main Street and was there until the owner of the place wished to open another store on the site. Hap then moved his business to the Garden City Feeder Building. Soon after that move, the business was completely destroyed by fire. The most difficult task for Hap was to tell P.H. (Pete) Kuyper that his custom-built Packard was destroyed in the fire. Pete only replied, "Oh, don't worry, it's only a car."

Hap went into welding and in a few years the job shop became a manufacturing firm known as Van Gorp Manufacturing. Van Gorp, Bill Peters, Lester Ter Louw, and Ray Vander Leest were the original corporation, with Cliff Vroom becoming a member later. Ter Louw and Vander Leest later left. The reputation of the organization grew, as did the business. Sales increased at a modest, consistent pace. Employment also increased.

The early '70s were very productive and during this period, Hap and his firm made many service commitments and contributions to the community. They continue a tradition of supplying fireworks for the Fourth of July celebrations and have provided a windmill in Central Park, shelter house in West Market and a press box in the Pella High School gym.

Hap served on the City Airport Committee, Fair Haven Board and makes scholarships to Central College. He also gives of himself in a quiet, unassuming manner.

In 1933 he married Frances LeCocq.

He will be long remembered in the Pella community as one person who nominated him stated, "The way Mr. Van Gorp lives speaks for his devotion to God, his country and his fellow man, and he is an example of what we should all strive for in this life."

BETTY HOVEY, 1985

T133

Betty Hovey, 12th recipient, 1985

The little lady walking at a fast clip about our town is usually going someplace to see that something gets done. She is a "newcomer" to Pella, having moved here in 1969, but is as well known as any of the "born and raised here" natives. In the brief period of time that she has been a resident of Pella, she has endeared herself to many.

One of Betty's activities was in developing the Community Center idea into reality. She taught four years at COC, using her skills as a long-time teacher in New York and Ohio. She began teaching in Sept. 1921 and had a 50-year career.

An active member of the Historical Society, she acts as tour guide and works in the Society's gift shop at Tulip Time. Her pleasing personality makes peoples' hospital stays happier as she is a volunteer at the Pella Community Hospital.

Second Reformed Church has been the recipient of Betty's time and efforts as she has served as an officer of several organizations and has been a willing worker in many church activities. She had taught Sunday School for 51 years in other places and in Pella.

Betty was chosen for the Community Service Award because of her generous nature in dealing with her fellowmen and accepted the honor in her usual way, thanking others for their contributions which made her life in Pella "great, simply great," as she said in a poem.

The diminutive Mrs. Hovey, born in 1903, was reared on a farm in central Ohio, and attended Ohio State and Columbia Universities before starting her teaching career. Her love of children prompted her to assist in organizing the Day Care Center, where she was a volunteer in addition to working as a camp counselor with Camp Fire, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Girls Clubs.

Betty has one son, Richard, who resides in Burlington, Ia., with his wife and son. She also has a brother, Nelson Salathe, in Cleveland, Oh.

Her motto has been "People are my hobby." She has served them well all of her life.

HENRY KLEIN, 1987

T134

Henry Klein, thirteenth recipient of the Community Service Award, 1987.

Henry Klein is a man of quiet action. He served efficiently in a myriad of activities, as a member or officer of numerous boards and committees: International Harvester Dealer Councils, Iowa Retail Farm Equipment Board (president in 1976), Pella Community Hospital Board of Directors during construction, and also Building Chairman during that period, 11 years on the Pine Rest Christian Hospital Board, president of the COC Board of Directors, president of Hilltop Manor Board of Directors, president of the South Central Mental Health Board for three years, Pella Chamber of Commerce and honorary member of the Pella Chapter of FFA.

At the First Reformed Church, Henry served as a deacon, elder, Sunday School teacher, choir member, and member of the Steering Committee of the new church building. He served for a number of years as a member of the Reformed Church Pella Classis and was its treasurer, a member of the Classis Church Planning and Development Committee, and a member of the Executive Committee.

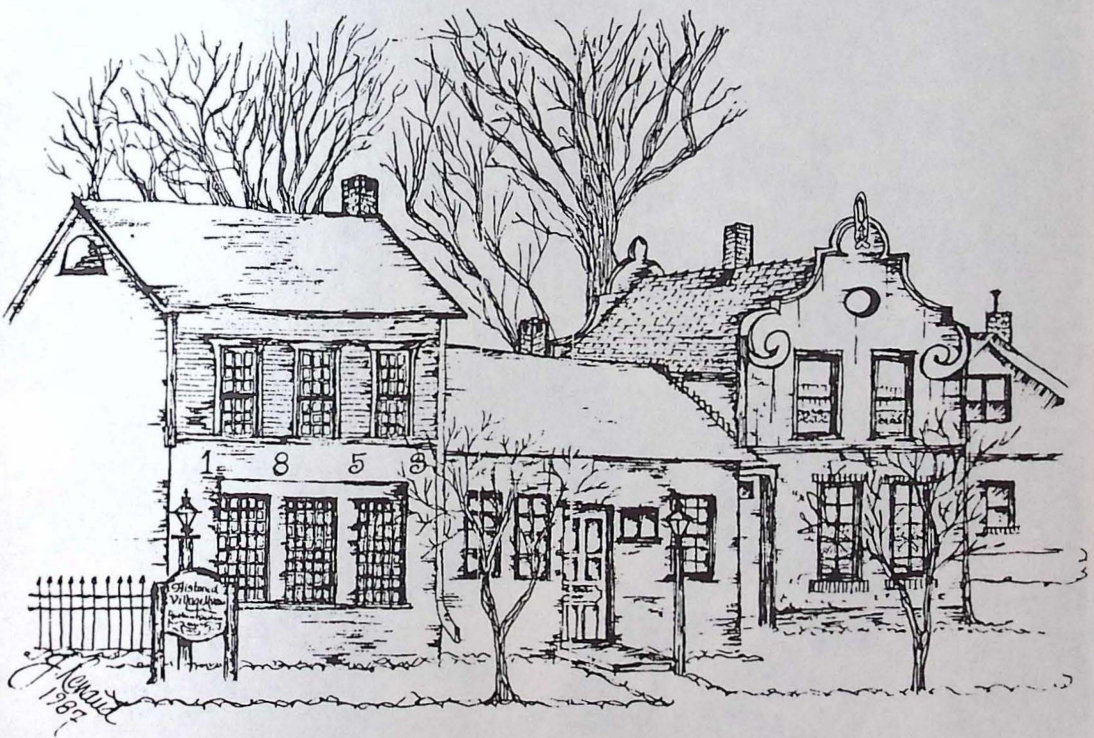
Interested in agriculture, he gave demonstrations for Vocational Agriculture teachers and to their classes. He was given an honorary Rotary membership as thanks for the many vehicles he furnished for the Rotary tour wagons during Tulip Time.

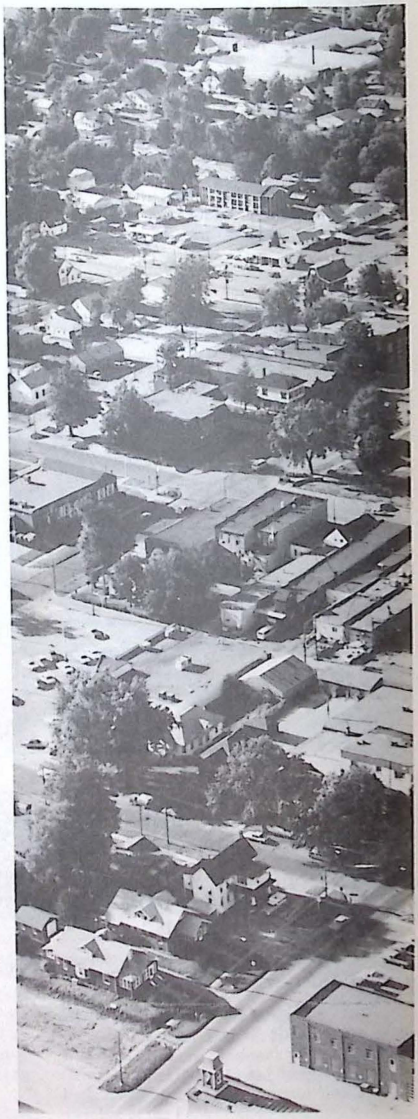
He graduated from Pella High School in 1935 and had the honor of being in the operetta that year that actually started the Tulip Time tradition.

Since 1937 he was associated with the International Harvester Company and in 1944 started his own store in Pella.

Henry and his wife, Esther, married in 1938, have two daughters and three grandchildren.

Henry's choice of being a "low-key activist" in community projects has caught the attention of many residents who have benefited from his careful regard for others, and his honor as being chosen recipient of the Community Service Award was accepted with Henry's usual graciousness.

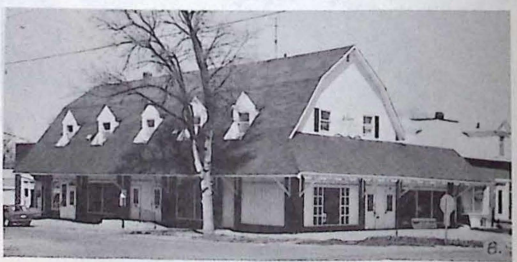




Pella, Iowa, September 1976

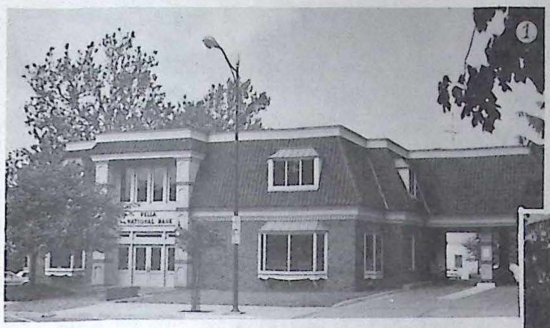
BUSINESSES, INDUSTRIES AND SERVICES

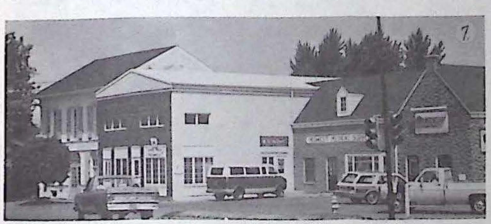
PELLA'S FRANKLIN STREET BUSINESSES 1987

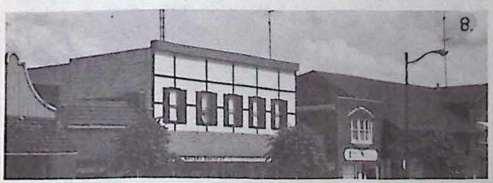


1.Southeast corner of the 700 block of Franklin St. 2. and 3. The 700 block of Franklin St. on the south side of the square. 4. North side of the 600 block of Franklin St. 5. North side of the 600 block of Franklin St. 6. South side of the 600 block of Franklin St. 7. South side of the 600 block of Franklin St. 8. "The Livery" on the northwest corner of the 500 block of Franklin St. (Photos by John H. Vandervoort.)

AROUND AND ON THE SQUARE







1. Southwest corner of 800 block across from square. 2. Looking down the 600 block south on Main St. 3. Middle of 800 block of Broadway west of the square. 4. East side of 800 block on Main St. 5. North of the square. 6. Half block north of Franklin on east side of East First. 7. Northeast corner across from the square. 8. Half block south of Franklin on east side of Main. 9. East side of square on Main St.

ALLEN TRAVEL AGENCY, INC.

B3

Allen Travel, Pella's first such agency, opened in June 1967 in a portion of the Gaass and Klyn Attorney-at-Law office. Margaret Van Vark managed the business alone in the early days of its organization with some assistance from her brother, A.J. Allen of Clear Lake, Ia.

The first additional employee was the late "Mickey" Hoksbergen who worked a total of eight years broken into two separated four-year periods.

Allen Travel moved to their present location at 729 Main St., in 1971 and, in 1975 added their authentic Dutch Front.

Shirley Schutte, presently an employee, was hired in 1976. At that time, all travel tickets were hand-written. It was in Oct. 1979, that the installation of computers and ticket printers gave the business instant availability. With the new innovations came additional employees, Karen Bokhoven in 1983, and Nancy Verros in 1985.

Computers have enhanced the travel agency in providing great variances in methods of transportation. Allen Travel offers customers Amtrak and Britrail-Eurailpass tickets. They provide hotel reservations, car rentals, travel insurance, and book on all available airlines, both domestic, and international.

Twenty years have elapsed since Allen Travel located in Pella and in those two decades many changes have occurred in concepts of travel. Allen's ideas of courteous, thorough, and convenient planning of your trips, flights or voyages have remained the same and they continue to search for means to complement your travels with their expertise.

by Margaret Van Vark

DR. DAVID D. BARNES

B4

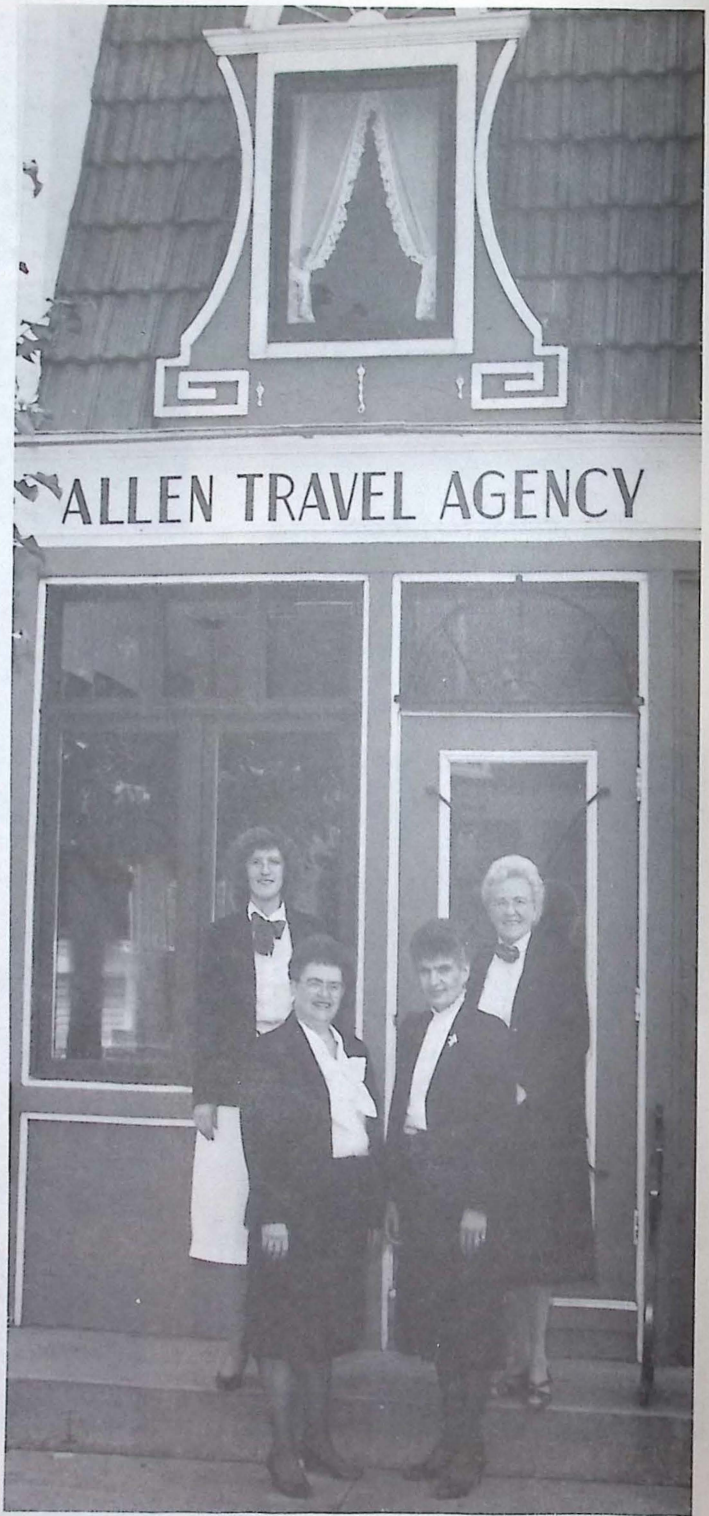
In 1978 Dr. David D. Barnes began his practice in Pella in General Dentistry. He was a graduate of Iowa State University in 1974, with a B.S. in zoology and from the University of Iowa in 1978, with a D.D.S. Dr. Barnes borrowed money from Marion County Bank to buy equipment to being general dental service at 602 Franklin St.

In 1983 Dr. Barnes purchased a building at 709 Main St., where he is currently practicing. His early employees were Robin Bolen and Marilyn Weyers. Other employees have been Sherry Leydens, Donna Boschma, Sharon Van Wyk, and Kristi Van Ee.

Dr. Barnes' practice includes the three counties of Marion, Jasper, and Mahaska.

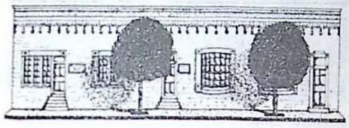
Dave has been a member of Pella Kiwanis for nine years and was a member of the Pella Jaycees for five years. He served on the Consistory at the Second Reformed Church.

Dr. Barnes looks forward to continued growth and good caring dental service and



Front, l-r: Nancy Verros, Shirley Schutte; Back, l-r: Karen Bokhoven, Margaret Van Vark

709 Main Street



David D. Barnes D.D.S.

has a sincere interest in new skills and techniques.

by David D. Barnes

BLOM PAINTING

B5

Blom Painting was established in Apr. 1969, by Keith V. Blom at the age of 30. Keith had previously been employed as a painter for John H. Hoogenakker for nine years, and as a carpenter for Delbert Hol and Duane Van Maanen for more than two years.

Blom Painting has employed numerous workers over the past 18 years. In June, 1976, Keith's wife, Karen, became his only full-time employee, and has remained as such ever since.

The Bloms' work covers nearly every phase of painting that exists. They finish new woodwork and restore old furniture. Keith's wide range of equipment allows him to accept and complete a large variety of jobs. He sprays outside buildings and barns with the use of an airless sprayer. He often is able to use this sprayer on large inside jobs, also. He has a shop on his farm in rural Pella, where he is able to paint and varnish using an air sprayer from a large compressor.

The husband and wife team also completes painting the outside of houses with conventional means, such as brushes and rollers. They also have hung a lot of wallpaper, more in the past few years as it has once again gained popularity in new and remodeled homes and offices.

Keith and Karen have taken part in many large and important jobs in Pella, in addition to their work in personal homes. They have painted either the inside or outside of nearly all the churches in Pella. In the Fall of 1977,Keith sandblasted and painted expoxy on the Tulip Toren.

The twosome has completed the offices of Vermeer Manufacturing and the Pella Rolscreen Company remodeling, plus the addition in 1981 to Hilltop Manor.

The Bloms feel that the best part of painting is to watch the total completion of a job from beginning to end. They also have many people who have been repeat customers over all these past years; they appreciate all the wonderful people they work for, whom they have gotten to know so well and can call their "friends".

by Karen Blom

Keith – 1977 – sandblasting and painting the Pella Tulip Toren.

Keith – refinishing church pews at a local church.

BOAT'S HOME FURNISHINGS STORE

B6

Boat's Home Furnishings Store 1985 photo. 620 Franklin St.

Bert R. Boat

Established 1943

It was an obvious business opportunity that prompted Bert Boat to purchase the Awtry and Lankelma furniture store in Aug. 1943. At that time he was employed by Rolscreen Company where he had worked in the order, sales, and advertising departments for 14 years. Until 1929 he had assisted his father, C. Boat, in a general merchandise store at 806 Main St.

Before Autry and Lankelma started their business, the building at 620 Franklin St. was used for a harness shop operated by Isaac and Frank Le Cocq. The store was identified by a large life-like horse mounted on roller skates and outfitted with a full set of fancy harness. In good weather it was moved from inside the show window to the sidewalk. Members of the Le Cocq family later became owners of the Ford Agency in Pella. At one time there was a stairway, open to the street, between the double building at 620 Franklin. This offered access to the one-room second floor that spanned both first floor rooms. The wooden plank floor for this large room was laid in an oval pattern, indicating that it may have been used for Pella's early roller skating rink.

Boat's Home Furnishings, as the store is now known, has an interesting history. The Awtry and Lankelma store had been operated for many years as a combination furniture and funeral business. This was a customary practice in smaller communities before the "Fifties". Traditionally, furniture stores had to own a horse drawn delivery wagon. Horse teams and a casket – bearing hearse were available at the nearby livery stable on East Second St. A hand-operated elevator in the store was used to transport caskets to a special display room on the second floor. Ransom Awtry, one of the partners, was a licensed embalmer and conducted funerals. This service was discontinued when Bert bought the store. George Van Gorkum, a long-time faithful employee, continued with the store for some years until his illness and death.

1943 was a year of uncertainties. World War II was in progress and manufacturers were limited in the use of strategic materials. Good furniture was available on an allotment basis only. Major appliances and some furniture items were not being manufactured. Having opened his business with a very small inventory, Mr. Boat gave priority to finding sources for the best merchandise available. One good source in St. Louis prompted him to make frequent trips there. In those days the Wabash Railroad train traveled through Howell Station, near the Des Moines River bridge on the road to Knoxville. The station was closed, but Bert used a flashlight to flag down the train (usually filled with GI's) late in the evening, boarded and paid the conductor an estimated fare. Arriving in St. Louis at 7:30 a.m., he would proceed to Lammert's Wholesale Division, do his buying and return to the Wabash Station for the 2:00 p.m. departure. Again, the train would make an unscheduled stop at Howell Station. Other buying trips were made to the Chicago Furniture Market twice each year.

Furniture, rugs, carpets, and all appliances were in great demand. Many customers placed their names on waiting lists for those items that were in short supply. When manufacturers were able to resume production of domestic products on a limited basis, merchandise moved from the crate, on arrival at the store, to consumer's homes with no opportunity to build a normal inventory. This continued for some time before the normal pattern of selling from a complete inventory was resumed.

Sales increased rapidly the first year of operation. In Aug. 1944, the adjoining building, vacated by Platte grocery, was annexed by cutting a large archway through the partition wall.

By 1947 the store had several employees, but Bert decided that having a management partner could be productive for further expansion of the business. In Jan., 1948, Jack Boatsma, then Assistant Sales Manager at Rolscreen Company, joined Bert to form the Boat and Boatsma partnership. This unique name was later featured by Ripley in his "Believe It Or Not" column as a son and mother partnership. At this time the store front was remodeled with an impressive name sign and new show window display features. Further growth demanded still more space and in 1953 an attractive new building was added at the rear of the original store. This included a full basement, first and second floors, a balcony, a new stairway, loading dock, and a modern automatic elevator. Many other improvements have been added since.

The Boat and Boatsma partnership, a very successful venture, was dissolved in 1964 when, for health reasons, Jack Boatsma considered it impractical to continue as an active partner. The store again became known as Boat Furniture.

Still another two-story building was annexed in 1967. It was known as the Van Zante Building, occupied for many years by Van Zante Brothers Hardware. Later it was a Gamble Agency Store, and for a short time Tony's Auto Parts. The final addition to floor space was made in 1968 by the purchase of a building to the west. It had formerly housed the Pella Dress Club. The four buildings in use today have a frontage of 85 feet.

The large plate glass show windows of the store must have had some magic attraction for cars approaching the curb for parking. On three separate occasions automobiles crashed into the store front, causing extensive damage. The first accident occurred in 1954 when an elderly couple from Sully lost control, crashed through the windows and came to rest well inside the store. In 1974 it happened again when a lady driver broke through another section and stopped inside the store. In the third incident, the car traveled some 40 feet inside, bolting over furniture displays, and came to a halt on top of a carpet display, the motor running and the wheels spinning freely.

Early in 1944 a group of local business and professional men met in Bert's store to organize the Pella Kiwanis Club. The men gathered around an old-fashioned coal heater, the only source of heat for the store. Coal was carried in a hod through a trap door from a storage bin under the front walk.

Bert Boat was responsible for returning the original Scholte church pulpit to Pella in 1946. He contacted the State Historical Museum in Des Moines and was granted permission to remove it for display in his show window during the Tulip Time Festival that year. Later, he persuaded them to release it for a permanent home in Pella, and it was kept in the archives department at Central College prior to its present use in the replica of the Scholte church.

Boat Furniture was incorporated in 1967 at which time a partial interest was sold to Bruce Heerema who later became the majority stockholder and General Manager. Bert Boat retired from the business in 1973 after almost 30 years of active service. He had many capable, faithful employees and associates contributing to his success, among them: George Van Gorkum; Fred Lankelma; Richard Vos; Marion Roorda; Leroy Steenhoek; Ronald Helm; Harlan Van Vark; Douglas Van Gorkum; Jack Boatsma; and Bruce Heerema. Of these, many have been active for long periods of service, as long as 25 to 42 years. Four of the men, Harlan Van Vark (now General Manager), Ron Helm (Service Manager), Doug Van Gorkum, and Bruce Heerema are still associated with the store. Several new employees have been hired in recent years.

As a result of it's commitment to offering a complete line of quality home furnishings and dependable service, the store has come to serve a wide trade area, drawing customers from Marion, Mahaska, and Jasper Co's. and beyond. The store has contributed much to the growth of Pella's retail trade through extensive advertising and sound business practices. It continues in that tradition today.

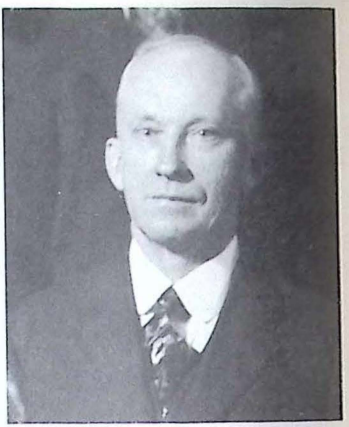
by Bert R. Boat

C. BOAT

B7

Pella Merchant from 1899 to 1929

C. Boat was a highly respected retailer in Pella. He began in 1899 at 618 Franklin St. in partnership with his brother-in-law, D.G. Gosselink. From 1905 to 1929 he engaged in his own enterprise — a general store, selling



Cornelius Boat respected retailer in Pella. Closed out in August, 1929, weeks before the "crash" of stock market.

dry goods, groceries, and shoes. It was located at 806 Main St., on the east side of the city park called "Garden Square," in a three-story building owned by John Dykstra — a saintly, gentle man with a flowing white beard.

To the north, the adjoining building housed a boot and shoe store owned by D.G. Gosselink. The Security State Bank was adjacent to the Boat store on the south. Open stairs with an iron railing at the sidewalk level led to a basement barber shop operated by Arie De Neef and John Goedhart. In full view behind the railing, Gys Van Vliet, the local Justice of the Peace, had his desk with cuspidor (spitoon) near the front window of the bank.

Cornelius Boat was the son of Marinus Boat and Hendrika Ver Steeg, both born in The Netherlands. His father emigrated to America in 1847 and died when Cornelius was age ten. At age twelve he was employed in the G. Boekenoogen grocery store for three years. He then worked in the D. Kruidenier store for six months. Following that he was a clerk in the Vander Meulen and Boekenoogen general store for five and one-half years, and the A.N. Vander Linden shoe store for two years. He left that job to work for Bentley and Olmsted, wholesalers of shoes, Des Moines, Ia., where he served as office clerk for two years. While employed in Des Moines he married Barbara Langerak of Pella.

In the year 1895 they moved to Sully, Ia., where he entered into partnership with his brother, Arthur C. Boat. They engaged in the general merchandise business in Sully for four years. Cornelius was appointed postmaster of Sully by President McKinley. The post office was located in the store. He returned to his hometown to live in 1899. The partnership with D.G. Gosselink was followed by the establishment of his own store — a successful enterprise of 24 years.

The Boat store did not require a special name to insure it's success. "C. Boat", as it appeared in large gold-finish letters on the show window glass, was the trademark of his integrity. He was a trusted merchant who through 70 years of business experience had established a reputation for honesty, faithfulness to duty, and service. He offered quality merchandise, sometimes sold for

cash, but more often on "book accounts" to which produce (butter and eggs from farm customers) was credited as payment in trade. Some customers settled accounts at the end of each year.

Mr. Boat had a wide knowledge of business practices. He was trained in bookkeeping under Bill Cook, father of Ed Cook, who offered the course at Central College. Here he was taught a beautiful form of Spencerian Script which he always used in his bookkeeping, recording and writing. He became an excellent bookkeeper with meticulous attention to detail and neatness. In his retirement he served as accountant for a number of Pella merchants, among them D. Den Adel, John Heerema, Awtry and Lankelma, and lastly Boat and Boatsma. He was Pella's city treasurer for 14 years. He also served as treasurer of the Second Reformed Church and secretary-treasurer of the Oakwood Cemetery Association.

The history of the C. Boat store transpired in a period of dramatic change. Main St. had a broad concrete sidewalk, but the street was not paved until approximately 1911. There were hitching racks on all four sides of the park. A large drinking trough for the horses was located at the southeast corner. In summer, the dry dusty streets were sprayed with water from a wide spray-bar at the rear of a horse-drawn tank wagon. Gas lamps were used to light the store and were fueled with calcium carbide and water in a pressure tank. When farmers approached the store in their rigs, clerks were expected to dash out to remove produce, regardless of weather — after which the driver went on to some convenient hitching rack before returning. A wife or child would enter the store at once. Shopping completed, purchases were placed in their basket or egg crate awaiting the pick-up when the driver returned. Items were usually placed under a flap covering the rear compartment of the buggy – again a service of the clerk. This curb service continued for most customers even after they came to town in "horseless carriages." In summertime, Saturday was the big shopping day. Farmers arrived in late afternoon or early evening. Many stayed to attend the band concert in the park across the street. Some lingered to visit and returned to pick up their orders late in the evening.

The dry goods department was well stocked with bolts of fabric neatly stacked on shelves. A long counter with a solid walnut top served for showing and cutting percale, gingham, chambray, muslin, and cotton flannel. Later there was rayon, Skinner satin, and Peter Pan prints. The notion department and the hosiery section were always busy. Long, black "Iron Clad" hose were popular. One old gentleman customer came to buy a darning needle and not having cash, drew an egg from his pocket to pay for it. Blue denim overalls, mainly the "Pella Dutch" brand, sold for $1 ; blue work shirts for less.

Groceries were stocked on shelves behind counters. Many bulk items were in wooden boxes or barrels and kept under the counter. Bulk coffee beans, sugar, rice, beans, etc., were pre-packaged in brown bags to save time during the Saturday rush. Cookies and crackers were displayed in glass-topped metal containers. Home churned butter in crocks was stored in a cool basement cupboard. Groceries, kerosene, and other items were delivered to the intown customers using an Iver Johnson bicycle.

The shoe department included a stock of infant's bootees and tiny patent leather slippers; also, women's fashion styles and men's dress and work shoes. Overshoes, rubbers, and knee-high rubber boots for men and boys were good sellers. Button shoes for children and women were popular about 1910 to 1920. Some high tops had as many as eight to ten buttons to be fastened with button hooks. Buttons were reset by machine to fit varying leg sizes.

Mr. Boat considered it important to train his children in business practices. His three sons, Marion, Earl, and Bert, and daughter, Grace, all clerked in the store from high school age on; some full time and others part time. He also hired other employees through the years as needed. In Aug., 1929, he advertised a closing out sale which was finalized only weeks before the impending stock market crash and the great depression that followed.

by Bert R. Boat

BOB'S BARBER SHOP

B8

Bob's Barber Shop, 630 Franklin.

The location of Bob's Barber Shop, at 630 Franklin, has had a continuous history as a barber shop for almost a hundred years.

Since there are no clear records to follow it has been determined, by logical estimation, that around 1890 Mr. Billy Boatsma either bought or started the barber shop in this location. For several years, Mr. Arie De Neef was employed as an assistant.

As there were no schools to learn the trade, one would work as an apprentice for an established barber to get started in the business.

In the early 1900's there were haircuts, shaves, facials, tonics, and shampoos which kept the barbers busy. This continued until World War II when safety edge razors were made for service men who weren't allowed to use straight-edge razors. Later on, the majority of men were using safety razors which phased out barber shop shaves.

In 1910, Frank Vanden Berg bought the shop from Billy Boatsma (father of Jack Boatsma). Frank had barbered in Oskaloosa from 1901 to the date he bought the shop from Mr. Boatsma. For many years Martin De Wit and Arie De Neef worked for Frank. It was told that many an enjoyable time was spent (there was a croquet court back of the shop) playing croquet. Also there were a lot of fun-loving pranks played in the shop in those years.

For many years, in the corner by the front window was a chair whose occasional occupant was the Chief of Police, Joe De Hoog. This particular location was where he could efficiently fulfill his duties by looking over to the corner of the intersection to tell whether the red light was on, which meant a call to action.

On a beautiful Monday morning, May 1, 1955, Bob Van Ryswyk walked into the barber shop as new owner after buying it from Frank Vanden Berg. Frank had barbered around 57 years and owned and operated this shop around 45 years. His assistant for 43 years, Martin De Wit, retired a few months later.

Bob graduated from Iowa Barber College and worked in Des Moines before coming to Pella. At that time, flat tops were popular along with crew cuts, and hair was generally cut short with the going price of $1. Frequency of haircuts was from every week to once a month.

Later on the barber shop was remodeled; along with a new Dutch Front in 1970. Incorporated into the new Dutch front was the word "Herenkapper," which means gentleman's barber. While traveling through Holland Mr. H.S. (Stu) Kuyper, doing research for Dutch fronts, noticed the word "Herenkapper" on barber shops. He was inspired with this idea and suggested it and through the years it has caught the eye of many a tourist.

In the late 60's barbering entered a new era; hair became long and was cut less often. Many barbers left the trade and those that remained were re-educated to styling and cutting long hair. Since haircuts were cut less often, from a frequency of once a month to eight months, prices adjusted, ranging from $5 to $10.

Although the frequency of haircuts hasn't changed much, in 1986 there was a return to shorter hair, along with flattops and crew-cuts.

At this date women are the majority haircutters and very few men are left in the business.

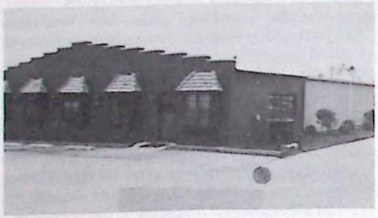
Over the last 32 years Bob has operated a one-chair shop and will continue to do so until time for retirement.

by Bob Van Ryswyk

BOOMSMA'S

B9

This picture of the four Boomsma brothers was taken in 1980 at the wedding of one of Milt's sons, L-R: Archie, Tom, Neil, and Milt



Boomsma's egg grading facility located east of Pella on New Sharon Road. This operation is one of the highest volume, most efficient plants in the Midwest with the capacity to process a trailer load of eggs every 90 minutes. (1984)

The Boomsma egg business came to Iowa in early 1961 when the owners, Cornelius Boomsma, Sr. (father and grandfather of the present family stockholders), and his sons, Milton, Arnold (Archie), and Cornelius, Jr. (Neil), made the decision to expand their wholesale egg business from the Chicago area to Iowa.

A bit about the past . . .

Boomsma's began back in 1922 on the south side of Chicago as a produce company handling fresh fruits and vegetables. At that time, Boomsma's was a one-man, one-truck operation that survived the Great Depression and World War II. After the war, the two oldest sons, Milt and Arch, returned from the service and joined Neil, Sr. in the company. During the early fifties, with sons in the business and marketing demands changing, poultry processing was added and became the main emphasis of the company. By the mid-fifties, a few eggs were being procured from near-by Indiana farmers, graded and packaged for sale to existing poultry customers. Eventually eggs were brought in from Iowa and, again seeing a need for change, the emphasis went to eggs. Before long, fruits and vegetables, as well as poultry were eliminated.

By the late fifties, with another son, Neil, joining the company, the Boomsma men realized that to build a future in the egg business it would be necessary to have a processing facility near egg production. Having procured eggs in Sully, Ia., it seemed that this area was the place to be. In 1961, after Neil, Sr. had retired, Neil, Jr. was given the responsibility of opening the egg procurement and processing plant in Pella, Ia. The decision to locate in Pella was based simply on the desire of the Boomsmas to settle in a Dutch community.

The original Boomsma operation began in a 1200 square foot building on East First St. just a block south of Franklin. By the mid-sixties, increased business demanded a larger facility and Neil and his employees moved to a steel building at 221 South St. Throughout the sixties all of the eggs were procured and processed in Pella and distributed in the Chicago area. In the late sixties, Thomas Boomsma, the youngest son of Neil, Sr., joined the company and was soon sent to Pella to begin a marketing and sales program for this and future locations. This company setup proved to be a good one, with the two older brothers in Chicago, and the two younger brothers in Pella.

By 1971, it was evident that continued growth called for an even larger operating facility. At this time, the present building was constructed on a 12-acre site on New Sharon Road. By 1985, the building had been expanded four times from its original 7000 square feet to its present size of 20,000 square feet.

The seventies proved to be a time of tremendous growth for Boomsma's with acquisition of five plants located throughout Iowa and Missouri. With these acquisitions came facilities which brought Boomsma's into the liquid egg products business. Boomsma's emerged from the seventies as an egg industry leader, the hub of which remains in Pella, Ia.

Today . . .

During the eighties, along with continued growth in the egg and egg-products markets, Boomsma's has introduced a complete line of cheese, butter and margarine. Though marketing areas reach into 17 states, the Pella operation continues to be the mainstay of the Boomsma organization. The Pella egg grading operation is one of the highest volume, most efficient plants in the Midwest, with the capacity to process a trailer load of eggs every 90 minutes. The Pella facility also houses the Boomsma corporate offices and centralized accounting department.

by Jan Boomsma

CENTRAL PARK CAFE

B10

The Meulpolder Bros.

In 1919 after living and working in California for nine years, Dan decided to move to Iowa with the intention of buying a farm. He took the train to Newton and from there came to Pella. He stopped at Bart Donai's Cafe to eat and asked Bart if he knew of a good farm for sale. Bart replied that he would do better to buy his cafe. Dan liked the idea but first wanted to check with Mia. Her answer was "Buy it!" The cafe was theirs for about $2,000. and being a good Dutchman, Dan paid cash.

The cafe was more of a lunch room and had wooden floors with large cracks between the boards. The floors were usually covered with peanut shells since the pot-bellied stove was not only used for heating, but also for roasting peanuts. Sweeping the floor, especially on Saturday nights, was a major chore.

By the end of the first year the business had grown so that it was necessary to put on an addition to the building. Also in 1920 Marinus moved from California to Pella and became a business partner. He attended a cooking school in Des Moines at Bolton and Hay's. Soon after that Mia retired from cooking to start raising a family.

In 1925 they decided to tear down the old building and erect a completely new one. Arie Schilder was building a new meat market on one side and Black's Style Shop was constructing a new building on the other. While the new building was under construction, equipment was moved four buildings west to accommodate their customers. When the new building was ready to open for business, Lane joined the partnership.

The new building was 24 feet by 80 feet with a low partition dividing the two eating areas. The large soda fountain and long counter were on one side and booths and tables with white vitreous tops on the other. The efficient kitchen had a huge cookstove, a smokeless grill for cooking hamburgers and steaks, an electric potato masher, and a large stainless steel sink for washing dishes. The full basement contained the heating and refrigeration units and also walk-in freezers and refrigerators. Central Park became known as one of the cleanest and finest restaurants in the state of Iowa.

The decision to buy an ice-cream machine was made in 1929. The machine and freezers were installed in the front show window and Lane became the home-made-ice-cream-maker. The ice-cream was made fresh daily and had no preservatives. Fresh milk and cream were delivered each day by Southwoods Dairy.

At that time Saturday nights drew large crowds of people to town. The stores were open and in the summer there were band concerts. One of the popular things to do while "in town" was to stop at Central Park and buy a half-pint of ice-cream for a dime.

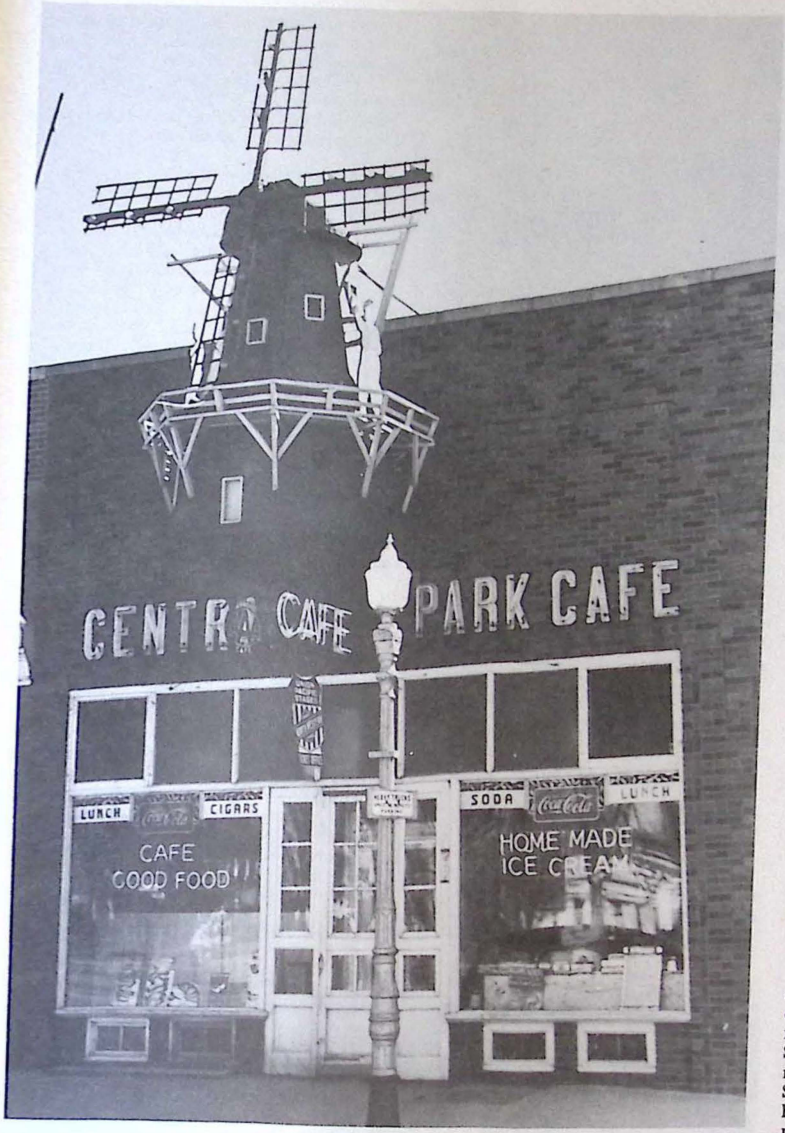
Central Park was family oriented so the menu was plain and the food was home-cooked. During the summers the three wives – Mia, Lilly, and Nettie – would can hundreds of one-half gallon jars of dill pickles, snipped beans, and spiced peaches. Also, chickens were purchased live and Nettie would kill and dress them on the premises.

The Meulpolders hired many college students over the years. They washed dishes, swept and scrubbed floors, and waited on the counter trade. For payment they could eat all the food they desired.

The restaurant was a popular meeting place for all ages. "Meet me at Central Park" was a common byword. The cafe was open seven days a week from 6 a.m. until 12 p.m. and was closed only on Christmas Day. No story of Central Park would be complete without mentioning Annie Rietveld. She came to work every morning at six o'clock and would make fresh pies for the day plus helping to prepare the noon dinners.

About 1930 the brothers improved the attractiveness of their building by erecting a large windmill. By using an electric motor the mill was converted into the revolving type and its brilliant lights at night made an impressive sight. Several years later they were the first on the square to put in air-conditioning.

The idea of Tulip Time in Pella was looked



Central Park Cafe, under the windmill at 719 Franklin St.

forward to with anticipation. They served simple meals and, of course, hired extra help. Being civic minded, owning and operating a business was no excuse for not participating in the festivities. They were the "originals" in the Whole Dutch Family unit of the parade. Marinus went to Holland in 1937 and returned with complete Dutch costumes for all three families. They were the first to wear authentic costumes.

In Dec. 1943, the Meulpolders sold Central Park Cafe to Eldon Thorpe.

by Mary DuPree

CIRCLE M WESTERN WEAR

B11

Circle M Western Wear was founded by Mike Schuring, Mert Kramer, and Marv Meppelink in May of 1980, a period of time when the popularity of Western influence was flourishing. The location at 631½ Franklin above Kramers Country Cobbler provided convenience for the customer to select his or her clothing upstairs then travel downstairs for the boots or shoes to complete the outfit.

As well as being co-owner of the business, Schuring also served as buyer/manager. He acquired the necessary skills to fill these

Circle M owned by Mike Schuring located at 609 Franklin St.

positions by completing Des Moines Area Community College's business program, followed by working in the retail profession for several years. One experience included being manager of a major western store at two locations in Des Moines.

In 1985, Schuring bought his partners' share of the business and became sole owner of Circle M. He moved the business to its present address of 609 Franklin, a location offering more space for expansion and a better traffic flow, and benefited by being on the main level. He then added the Sportswear to Circle M Western Wear and Sportswear.

Circle M remains a specialty shop for western wear and with the focus always on fashion has, over the years, branched out the inventory to include a nice selection of casual wear and traditional styles for the whole family.

Customers of all ages and clothing style preferences have come to expect quality clothing at reasonable prices with much emphasis placed on personal service. It is the owner's interest and desire to continue these fine services in the future for the community. Schuring presently serves on the Pella Community Development Committee, is 4-H Superintendent for Marion Co. (a position held for eight years), and has been an active member of the Pella Chamber of Commerce Retail Committee, and the Pella Jaycees. Always striving to satisfy the needs and desires of the people of Pella, Schuring intends to provide satisfaction for the customer through Circle M Western Wear and Sportswear.

by Mike Schuring

COUNTRY KITCHEN OF PELLA

B12

On Dec. 15, 1982, the doors of Country Kitchen of Pella opened. The newly remodeled building used to be an AGI grocery store and before that was Van's Grocery. Remodeling was done by Valster Construction.

The 500 Block of Main Street, East side, looking South. Country Kitchen 514 Main formerly Van's Food Market. 1987 Photo. This area was the location of Buerkens Wagon Factory before it burned in 1950's.

The new business is owned by Al Janelt and Rich Johansen and is designed to be a full-service family restaurant.

Currently they employ between 35 and 40 waitresses, waiters, cooks, prep cooks, and salad bar staff.

There are three full-time managers: Tim Peterson who came in mid-June of 1987 as manager; Cran Van Loon, assistant manager; and Dave Willits, manager trainee.

Long-time employees include: Evelyn Verschuure; Cathy Jennings; Loren Bennink; Sue Gordon; Nancy Bouwman; and Kelly Uitermarkt.

Some former employees of Country Kitchen are: Melanie Valster; Dave Dykstra; Rick Strabala; Brad Nelson; Thelma Van Wyk and ;Cathy Eysink.

The restaurant specializes in breakfasts and skillet breakfasts but also serves sandwiches and full meals as well as maintaining a salad bar from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. that is supplemented by a Breakfast Buffet on Saturday and Sunday.

Country Kitchen's hours are Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 12 p.m. and Sunday from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

DR. JAMES P. DAHM
B13

James P. Dahm received his Dental Degree from the College of Dentistry, University of Iowa, in 1966. After graduating, he entered the U.S. Public Health Service for two years of service. He was assigned as Dental Officer at the United States Penitentiary, Marion, Ill., a maximum security facility newly built to replace the closing of Alcatraz.

In 1968, Dr. Dahm and his family moved to Pella, Ia. where he began the practice of dentistry in July of the same year. The practice was purchased from Dr. Richard Roush who had begun five years earlier and who was leaving for further orthodontic study.

For the first ten months the dental office was located at 835 Broadway on the west side of Central Park. In May of 1969, the practice was moved to the new facilities at 1119 East Second St. where it remains to the time of this writing.

During the 19 years of this practice in Pella, several women have found employment in the office, full or part-time, including the five presently working: Gladys Newendorp, office manager; Rhonda Verslys, dental hygienist; Char Kaisand, receptionist; Barbara Houser, dental assistant; and Jane Dahm, dental assistant.

by Dr. James F. Dahm

DE JONG GREENHOUSES, INC.
B14

De Jong Greenhouses had its origin in 1933, when Martin J. De Jong built one small greenhouse on West Second St. next to the family home. Mr. De Jong had been in the greenhouse business prior to contracting polio at age 35. His illness confined him to a wheelchair the rest of his life.

He had a retail flower shop on Main St., which is still known as De Jong Floral. As his health improved some, he longed to get back into a greenhouse and his love for growing plants.

His older son, Albert, managed the retail store with the help of his mother, Ebbie. Martin instilled his love for growing in his son, Bill, who helped after school and later took over. Martin spent much of his time in the greenhouse in his wheelchair. Bill remembers his first trip out to another greenhouse to buy plants to sell. His father let him pick them out, knowing full well that they were bug infested. When Bill discovered this after they returned home, he had learned an important lesson.

Mr. De Jong died in 1940 at age 47. His three sons continued in the business. His son Paul was never active in the business and pursued a career in education.

In 1954, due to Albert's health, he sold out his interest in the retail store to Charles, who later sold it and moved to Illinois. Bill and his wife Bea assumed ownership of the greenhouses.

The business was incorporated in 1958 and has continued to grow and has expanded to a second location in Oskaloosa. The business is now entirely wholesale and has weekly truck routes to Omaha, Des Moines, and many towns in central Iowa.

Bill's son Mark joined the firm in 1969 after his graduation from Drake University. Dennis G. Van Gorp, De Jong's son-in-law joined the firm in 1971, after attending the University of Iowa.

At the present time approximately twenty people are employed at the greenhouse.

Mark De Jong and Dennis G. Van Gorp took over ownership in 1984. Bill is still taking a very active part and has never lost his love for growing.

by Bea De Jong

Dr. James P. Dahm's staff L to R: Barbara Houser, Gladys Newendorp, Rhonda Verslys, Dr. Dahm, Jane Dahm, Char Kaisand (1987)

Martin J. De Jong (left) and Bill De Jong in front of De Jong Greenhouse, 1105 West Second St.

De VRIES ELECTRIC, INC.

B15

De Vries Electric, Inc. was founded by Larry E. De Vries in 1971. At that time he was a senior at Pella Christian High School. He began moonlighting, working after school hours and worked well into the morning. He took full-time employment with Vanden Berg Electric Company after graduation for a few months, which gave him experience in the commercial and industrial construction spectrum. Then he took employment with Vos and Boot Electric Company for a short time to gain experience in the residential areas. At the termination of that employment in 1973, and within two months after getting married to Rosie Van Gilst, he decided to make the decision and plunge into it — and that he did. Starting his business as noted above as a part-time moonlighting endeavor while still living at home with his parents at R.R. #1, Lynnville, Ia., he took claim to a small corner of his father's garage, where he kept his inventory — probably two electrical boxes and one box of wire.

When he married, he and Rosie made their home and business at 1354 East 3rd St. in Pella. He continued to use his garage for his inventory by installing shelving on the sides, just so he could still get his car in. The office, or headquarters for the business, at that time was the second bedroom of their two-bedroom home. The first company vehicle was a 1954 Buick car from which he removed the back seat so he could build boxes for inventory and in the trunk. After the old Dyna-flow transmission gave out on this old Buick, the company purchased a Supersweet Feed van from Bakker and Rus Feed Service of Pella. Yes, it was white with the Supersweet Feed colors red and blue. Then in 1973 when the business took the big step into full-time they purchased a new 1973 Ford Econoline window van. Some of the first jobs they did, for beginners, was to repair existing light sockets or even install new ones. Most of his work was performed on local farms — hog sheds, chicken houses, etc.

De Vries Electric Inc. 1987, 808 E. 1st St.

When the business started, Larry withdrew his entire savings account of $122 to purchase some necessary small hand tools. And he remembers well getting a couple of screw drivers from his father's tractor tool box. But business was good, overhead was, of course, extremely low, customers paid well at that time, and credibility with the company continued to grow at local suppliers' establishments. Business was soon to outgrow the single-car attached garage on Larry and Rosie's home and they then rented another single-car garage in an alley south of West Market Park. The next move was renting space in a larger storage building owned by Chuck Vander Ploeg. In 1987 the company purchased their own warehouse facility on Fifield Road.

Business continued to grow. They went from wiring confinement hog sheds to grain bins and many new houses in Pella and surrounding towns. In the late 70's speculative houses were being built by the hundreds and they were kept very busy taking on new customers in that field.

When Larry become so busy in earlier years that he saw the need to hire additional help, he looked first to friends and high school classmates. Some of his early employees were Jerry Uitermarkt, now a C.P.A., and Carl Roose, who later left to a full time farming career, but since 1983 has been back with the company, first again as an electrician and currently as a company estimator. Others were William Jr. De Boef, Ron Van Weelden, Leon Van Weelden, Larry's brothers Bryce and Wavern and others, not to underestimate them. Wavern continues to work with the company as corporate vice-president.

The business for several years thrived on the local farm economy and small projects around Pella, but in the later 70's branched out to smaller type commercial jobs, such as FHA apartment projects. A lot of work was performed on several slip-form concrete grain elevators and feed mill and fertilizer projects for coops, etc. As the farm economy began its downward trend and the farmers were not building grain bins and confinement buildings anymore, this really had no bad effects on the company. This was because at the very same time De Vries Electric, Inc. was becoming more involved in the competitive bidding market throughout the state and getting into larger commercial and industrial projects.

In the early 80's the company grew to 10-15 employees and had landed contracts throughout the state. They were working on apartments in Maquoketa, Coralville, Oskaloosa, Fremont, Ottumwa, Laurel, and others, among other commercial projects. Business continued to grow and demanded

Fleet of vans used by De Vries Electric in 1987.

much of Larry's time toward managerial responsibilities and office time. The office was now located in a room in their new home in Parkview Addition, Pella. The last project that Larry actually worked on as foreman was McCann Village, a 65 unit apartment complex in Newton, Ia., which was in 1980-81. At the same time his brother, Wavern, who started working in the early 80's, was running a project at the Mental Health Institute at Mt. Pleasant, Ia. The company negotiated the installation of fire alarm and security systems on several Holiday Inns owned by the Harper Foundation of Colorado and Brock Hotel Corp. of Tennessee. These projects were in Iowa, Illinois, and Nebraska.

In 1982 De Vries Electric, Inc., purchased all assets, inventory and the real estate of Vanden Berg Electric Company of Pella, where the firm is presently located at 808 East First St. The company continues to bid a large geographical area now including several states throughout the Midwest. In 1984 and 1985 they had 28 contracts under current construction which totaled well into the millions of dollars.

In the large type construction business contractors must obtain bonding for all their projects, which is like an insurance to the owners of the projects that the contractors will complete these projects. Bonding is very difficult to acquire, unless you are working a total contractual portfolio smaller than your net worth. So in the fast growth that this company has experienced in the past and continues to enjoy, bonding and banking has always been a major hurdle to deal with. De Vries Electric Inc.'s continued success has brought them to a position since 1985 where they no longer needed to borrow money for operating purposes, but rather have grown and accumulated the required capital and liquidity to operate without the banks. This has been a giant step forward in the financial negotiations on current projects relevant to the ongoing day-to-day operations.

The company has recently completed well over five million dollars in total contracts and expended a payroll well over $500,000. They continue to penetrate a large portion of the electrical construction industry in the Midwest as they currently have six projects in the Kansas City area, also working in Iowa, Missouri, and Indiana on all types of construction.

De Vries Electric, Inc. in 1986 completely redecorated the office facility at 808 East First St., purchased computer equipment and other high-tech office equipment. They have also spent hundreds of thousands of dollars for newly acquired construction equipment to augment productivity and to enhance their potential to negotiate larger projects. Those purchases give them the capability to get the projects finished on time or before.

The company has seen a payroll activity of over 50 employees in the recent years. That varies dependent upon the projects' progress in the seasons.

Has it all be worth it? Larry says he could write a book dedicated toward that answer, but in summary: It is, if you are interested in long long days, willing to pass up the invited opportunities of community and church involvement, you enjoy challenges and struggles, are able to deal sensibly with obstacles and roadblocks which are many and will continue to be, and are willing to utilize a tremendous amount of perseverance, patience and prayer, which is probably the most important in the progress and success of this company. Larry has a very loyal brother, Wavern, who has taken on several of the hardest assignments in the construction installation, such as installing large conduits in dirt crawl-spaces under the Missouri State Penitentiary for months in an effort to complete a very profitable project because very few others of our competition were even interested in it. And there have been others like that, for example, his responsibility to drill through four or five feet of solid river rock concrete in the tunnels of the Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison on a large electrical distribution project. The list goes on over the past 16 years.

Yes, it has been worth it. It has, because we have watched a small rural Iowa farm boy grow into the role of entrepreneur and now operating a successful electrical contracting company, recognized and commended throughout the Midwest as a corporation with high quality standards and daily commitments which have grown on the very same principles with which the company was founded.

Larry says he could not have pulled it off without the tremendous help of a very loving and supportive wife. It mattered not what problems the projects focused on, what answers he received from the banks or bonding companies in his fast growing years, how hard it was to terminate employment of certain employees, and the list of hardships continues. He says it was perfect joy to return home to the supportive arms of a family who never questioned the future of the entrepreneur who made it all become a reality.

That is De Vries Electric, Inc. yesterday and today, but we do not know about tomorrow.

by Larry De Vries

DE WAARD AND VAN MAANEN, CPA'S

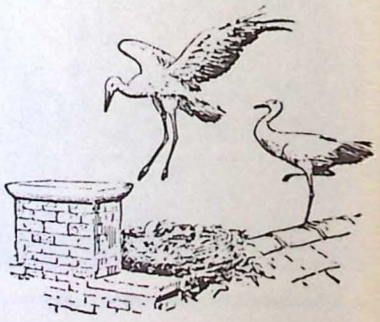
B16

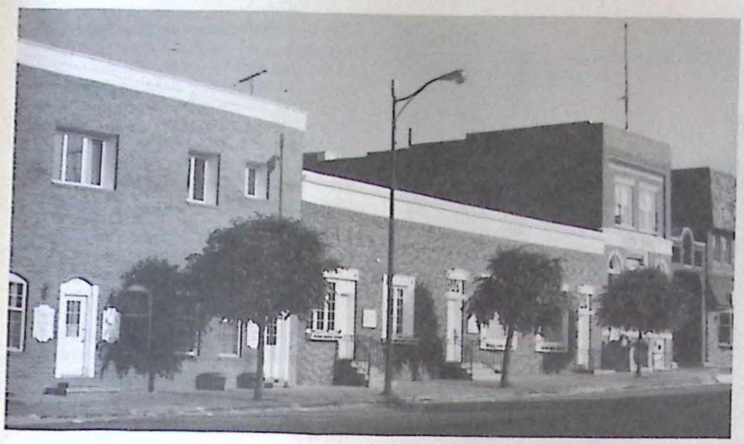
Located at 705 Main St., De Waard and Van Maanen, CPAs was founded Jan. 1, 1983. Both Don De Waard and Jeff Van Maanen are college graduates having passed the CPA exams and acquired experience by working for a CPA firm for four years. They then purchased the accounts of a local CPA firm and started their own practice. They were first located at 733 Franklin St. but moved to 713 Franklin St. for more room and then purchased their own building at the Main St. address.

De Waard and Van Maanen's customers are from the Pella area and nearby communities. They have continued to grow every year and have been able to obtain audit work in other Iowa communities as well as Pella. The demand for audited financial statements continues to increase as tax laws continue to get more complex.

Their goal is to give quality service to local businesses and citizens.

by Jeff Van Maanen





De Waard and Van Maanen CPA's at 705 Main looking North. Before street remodeling summer of 1987.

DUTCHMAN'S COVE
B17

Dutchman's Cove is located at 804 E. 1st. St., and is owned by Mary and Darrell Erickson. It opened Mar. 1, 1986, as a new business serving and selling fresh fish, deli, cheeses, hors d'oeuvre trays, canned beef, bonket, and deep fried fish. They also have a catering service.

The interior is done in nautical decor.

by Mary and Darrell Erickson

COOK AND SON INSURANCE AGENCY
B18

Cook and Son Insurance Agency was started in 1904. It was established by W.W. Cook and his son Edward S. Cook. W.W. Cook was a mathematics instructor with what was then known as Central Academy. His son Edward S. Cook was affiliated with the Pella National Bank and later became vice-president. The Cook family was of Dutch descent, the name originally being spelled Koek. While W.W. Cook was teaching at the Academy he was told "if you are going to pronounce your name Cook why don't you spell it that way", so he did.

The Insurance Agency first had office space in the Gaass Law Office at 725 Main St. The Agency was started by representing four companies: The INA; The Home Insurance Co.; The Springfield Fire and Marine; and The Hanover Insurance Co. Much of the business written was rural and for a number of years Cook and Son wrote the largest volume of farm related insurance for the Home Insurance Co. of any agency in the State of Iowa. After the death of W.W. Cook in 1943, Edward S. Cook continued the agency and was assisted for a number of years by John Blommers. In 1950 Edward S. Cook's son-in-law Earl L. Pohlmann entered the business and purchased the agency in 1951. Earl Pohlmann operated Cook and Son Insurance Agency until Jan. 1, 1985. At this time the agency was purchased by Howard G. Slagter who continued with the name of Cook and Son Agency. Howard G. Slagter and his wife Diane were born and raised in and around Albia, Ia. Howard joined the agency in 1976 and both he and Diane worked into the Pella scene very well.

by Earl L. Pohlmann

DELTA DISTRIBUTING COMPANY
B19

Delta Distributing Company, Highway #163 West was initially organized as Vermeer Delta, Inc., in Apr. of 1985. The two principals of the company were Gary Vermeer and Carl Boat. The company was formed for the purpose of importing hay making equipment manufactured by the P.J. Zweegers Company in Geldrop, The Netherlands. Although manufactured by this company in The Netherlands, it did carry the brand name "Delta".

The original facilities of Vermeer Manufacturing which were vacated by Vermeer, were purchased from them to house the operation. This included 75,000 sq. ft. of manufacturing and office space.

During the company's first year of operation, products were distributed through Vermeer Manufacturing's agricultural equipment distribution organization throughout North America. This method of distribution continues up to the present.

In 1986 there was a tremendous surplus of grain in the area, creating an unusual demand for temporary storage space. Because Delta Distributing did not need the total facility for its operation, it leased to the local Farmers Coop, approximately two-thirds of the space for grain storage during 1986-1987.

Delta currently employs five people and as an infant company is looking for new and different methods of expansion. In the fall of 1986 Carl Boat purchased Gary Vermeer's interest in the company and became its sole owner.

by Carl Boat

DEN BESTEN'S PELLA FOOD ROUTE
B20

Wholesale Food Distribution

Harold Den Besten moved to Pella as a teenager with his family in 1936, and graduated from Pella High School. In 1940 he acquired a wholesale food distribution route from "Buck" Johnson of Prairie City who had in turn acquired it from Max Andeweg son of Jack Andeweg of Monroe who had started it. The purchase involved a used 1940 Ford Sedan Delivery with ne inventory and a lot of goodwill. It was a jobbing set-up and the line consisted of Pella Bologna by De Wit and later by Klynn and De Winter, Vander Ploeg and Sybenga baked goods, Blommers Wizard Pancake Flour, Hiland Potato Chips and, in season, hot house tomatoes from South Pella Greenhouse. Aside from the Hiland line, the territory was open and limited only by distance and competition. Some 800 miles were driven per week and involved some 150 retail outlets and the owner-operator was able to net $50. per week which was excellent at that time. World War II, with its shortages, brought this venture to a temporary halt and Harold responded to his country's call to serve in 1942. Clarence Goodell of the West End Station salvaged some business from the territory before shortages forced complete shutdown. After the war and following, this basic route was re-established in 1948 by Harold Den Besten who was now married and father of Timothy, born in 1946. After starting again with an automobile, Harold purchased a used 1941 International delivery truck from Hiland, and efforts began to expand sales. Product lines were the same, except Ulrich's Pella Bologna was used and Hiland Potato Chip Company began expanding its line. Hothouse tomatoes became a problem so were dropped. After 120,000 miles, another International panel truck was purchased in 1950 followed by a series of Chevrolet Step Vans which became the basic vehicles. Before the War, Pella Bologna had wholesaled for 20¢ per pound and retailed from 25¢ to 29¢. Potato chips retailed in 5¢, 10¢, and 29¢ bags during the early years with one-pound boxes carried on special order for 69¢ retail. Potatoes are high in water and starch content which need to be removed and, as such, 100 pounds of potatoes produces only 25 pounds of processed chips. As the years went by snack foods became increasingly popular until the line included over 100 items and sizes and the volume of sales held prices down for many years. The Hiland Potato Chip Company originated in the Des Moines Hiland Park area with two cooking kettles in a garage.

The assets of the company were taken over by A.C. Holman who won it in a card game and in the years to come it developed into one of the nation's finest, completely automated plants capable of processing two rail cars of raw potatoes per day and it totally dominated the market in those days. All products sold by the "Pella Food Route" were originally picked up at the producer but later the potato chips were delivered by semi-load which necessitated a local warehouse. As the business expanded it soon became apparent that

Pella Food Route delivery vehicles.

Harold's son Timothy Den Besten resides at M.C.C.F. Knoxville, Ia.

help was needed and in 1953 Gary Vriezelaar became Den Besten's first employee and the second truck was put into operation. Over the next ten years, packaging and merchandising changed drastically. In the early days Pella Bologna would be stacked on trays atop meat counters covered only by a sheet of cellophane or placed near the checkout of a smaller market. Stores were not air-conditioned and the roar of fans was ever present. The coming of self-serve meats, however, changed all that and packaging became necessary first with cellophane and then with Cryovac vacuum pak. Potato chips were first displayed on a hall tree type of rack, then on free standing basket racks and then later on built-in shelving. Bakery products always had to withstand competitive shoving and pushing on the store display rack. Adrian Rozenboom replaced Gary Vriezelaar in

A sampling demonstration at a major food store. Left to right: Harold Den Besten, Wilma Den Besten, and Kathy Branderhorst

1962, and not long after that "Pella Food Route" became a three-man, three-truck operation with Dale Vos becoming the second employee, later replaced by Marion L. Roorda. Several good men were involved in summer vacation help; some of whom were John and Frank Brouwer who were Central College students from the Leighton area and Anthony (Tony) Hoekstra who arrived in Pella with his family to attend Central College. Tony and his boys proved to by good help for a number of years during vacations. In 1971 "Pella Food Route" underwent some major changes. State law mandated that Pella Bologna could no longer be carried without refrigeration so Harold Den Besten discontinued snack foods and the Hiland Potato Chip Company took over the distribution, purchasing trucks and hiring "Pella Food Route" employees although Marion L. Roorda decided not to continue. At this point Harold purchased a refrigerated truck and once again was a one-man operation, selling Ulrich's Pella Bologna and some Pella bakery products. With less items to sell, travel was cut and promotion was undertaken with demonstration sampling and mass display. Pella food products carry strong appeal in the marketplace. In 1974 the former employee Adrian Rozenboom, purchased the route and equipment from Den Besten and is operating it as of this writing. In 1973 Harold and Wilma Van Dort Den Besten built an apartment house at 832 Franklin on the site of the original Welle Boarding House property which was the home of Wm. and Emma Van Dort for 23 years. The Den Bestens still own and operate the apartment house at this writing. Many a year has come and gone but Harold and Adrian continue to share the "business pulse" at breakfast once per week. Being veterans of route distribution wars, they have a wealth of stories like "remember when" the truck stood with open door outside a store in Milo, Ia., and a dog entered and was last seen bolting down the street carrying a ring of delicious Pella Bologna — then also the times a "chip" routeman would be followed like the Pied Piper as kids would plead for samples and turn a bit "ugly" when refused. It has been said that route salesmen have a lot of faults and yet they are a power in society and in the public economy. Salesmen keep the wheels of commerce turning and the currents of human emotions running so be careful whom you call SALESMAN lest you flatter him.

by Harold Den Besten

DE PELIKAAN AND ANTIEK MALL

B21

Dutch Imports and Antiques

Ralph Jaarsma, co-owner of Jaarsma Bakery, sold Dutch imports in his bakery to local customers and to the growing number of tourists who came to Tulip Time and to visit the community to enjoy our Dutch heritage.

One of the most popular Dutch imported items he sold was the Dutch lace curtain fabric seen all over Europe. At that time, Ralph was the only importer of this type of lace in Iowa. It was difficult to cut the lace for his customers in the shop where bakery goods were sold. He decided that another shop would be an asset to Pella because it could become another reason for people to visit Pella. It would be a place for people to see a large variety of Dutch imports, including the lace.

A residence owned by Charles Dykhuis at 721 Broadway, around the corner from "The Pella Chronicle" office, was purchased by Ralph and his wife, Elaine, for the new shop. This house was remodeled to suit the needs of a retail shop and the doors were open to the public on Oct. 25, 1980, with nine part-time employees.

The shop sold Dutch delftware, tiles, copper, brass, pewter, lace curtain fabric, Hindeloopen art objects, cocoa, candies, cookies, and antiques. Business was slow because of the location off the square where there was no foot traffic. When Ken De Wild decided to sell The Grill at 627 Franklin St., next door to the proposed Franklin Street Mall, the Jaarsmas decided it would be a perfect location for the import shop since the mall would be a tourist attraction.

June, 1984, was the date the shop moved to new quarters. Dutch antiques were scattered throughout the store with the import items. It was decided that the rooms upstairs over the shop could be used for an antique mall since only two other antique shops were in town. The Jaarsmas asked antique dealers from Oskaloosa, Newton, and Des Moines to join together to start a Mall. In the beginning, the Jaarsmas sold only Dutch antiques in their booth at the Mall. However, Ralph enjoyed antiques so much that he decided to also carry a general line of antiques, as did the other dealers involved in the enterprise. The Antiek Mall was opened Nov. 16, 1984.

The Dutch Import Shop and the Antiek Mall are operated as two separate businesses. Ten part-time or full-time people are employed by the Jaarsmas at this location.

by Elaine Jaarsma

DE WILD STUDIO

B22

In the late 1950's, the Bond's Studio closed and created a definite need for a photography studio in Pella.

Photography had always been one of Al De Wild's hobbies. During his college years he served as the staff photographer on the *Central Ray*. Soon he found himself taking portrait and wedding photos for friends, family, and classmates at Central College.

For the first years, 1957-1964, Al had a basement studio and darkroom at his home where he worked evenings and sometimes all night. When he went into partnership with his father, Roy, at the T&D Department Store, he moved the studio from his home to the third level of T&D. De Wild Studio became a department of T&D Department Store, Inc.

Over the years photography has changed from black and white with color only available in oils to an almost exclusively direct color process. The studio has operated its own color lab since the early 70's. Today outdoor and home portraiture have become increasingly popular and De Wild Studio specializes in portraiture, wedding, and commercial photography.

Presently, De Wild Studio employs three full-time personnel. Al is a Certified Professional Photographer. In 1985 Sarah McKeag became lab technician and is also a very competent photographer. Audri King has worked as receptionist and salesperson since 1976. She also is an excellent portrait finisher.

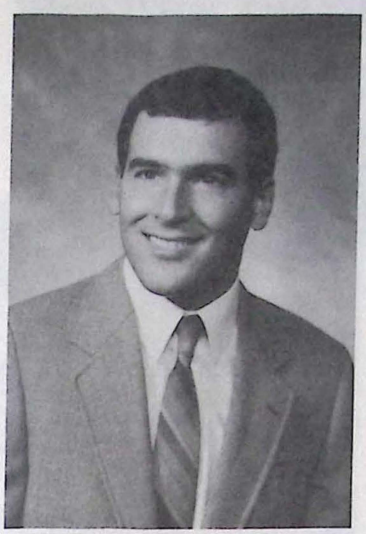
In the spring of 1987, De Wild Studio underwent a complete remodeling and enlargement of camera room and additional dressing rooms. The new floor plan now exposes the attractive, original, leaded tulip windows at the front of the building.

For the past five years Al De Wild has served on the Professional Photographers of Iowa Board of Directors, and is presently the state president. He has won many awards over the years for excellence in both wedding and portrait photography.

by Marlys De Wild

EDWARD D. JONES AND CO.

B23



Scott Van Tasell, Investment Representative, Edward D. Jones and Co., 809 Washington St., Pella, Ia.

Edward D. Jones and Co. got its start more than a century ago, in 1871, as the bond house of Whitaker and Company. In 1922, Edward D. Jones Sr. founded the financial services firm which bears his name, and in 1943 Jones merged with Whitaker.

Until approximately the 1950s, Edward D. Jones and Co. was typical of numerous New York Stock Exchange firms. In the '40s and '50s the representatives from Edward D. Jones and Co. were called "TNT brokers" because they traveled the countryside surrounding the company's office in St. Louis, Mo., from Tuesday until Thursday looking for business.

In 1948 Edward D. "Ted" Jones Jr., son of founder, returned to work in the family business after studying agriculture at the University of Missouri and a stint on Wall Street. While working a territory in rural Missouri and Illinois he began experimenting with the concept of locating offices in communities outside St. Louis. In 1955 he hired a representative for Mexico, Mo., and with the opening of this first branch office, a new era was begun.

From that first Mexico, Mo., office, the firm expanded to other Missouri and Illinois locations, then to Colorado and Kansas, before moving into Texas and undertaking an expansion program that has seen the number of offices rise from 170 located in 28 states in 1976 to the more than 1,100 in 36 states today.

Edward D. Jones and Co.'s Pella office was opened in Aug., 1985, with Scott Van Tasell as the Investment Representative. The office is located at 809 Washington St., in the back of what used to be Slob's Grocery building.

Through these years of expansion, Edward D. Jones and Co. has maintained its commitment both to a conservative investment approach and the one-person branch office concept.

In addition to opening and operating more branch offices than any other investment firm in the nation including, more recently, many in suburban markets of cities such as Chicago and Atlanta, Edward D. Jones and Co. has been an innovator in other areas.

In 1970, the firm became one of the first in the nation to offer United States government guaranteed bonds in amounts conservative individual investors sought. In 1971, Edward D. Jones and Co. became the first firm to offer a Securities and Exchange Commission registered real estate limited partnership and in 1974, the first to add the individual investor features to bonds, including the Estate Redemption Benefit and the Early Redemption option. In 1976, Edward D. Jones and Co. became one of the first three investment firms in the nation to offer a full-service money market fund account, and 1981 saw the firm become number one in the nation in number of New York Stock Exchange branch offices.

Scott Van Tasell works to provide both small savers and large investors in the Pella area with conservative financial advice and investments such as U.S. Government guaranteed bonds, FDIC insured certificates of deposit, tax-free municipal bonds, very conservative mutual funds, and selected stocks. Additional services recently introduced include a pre-approved line of credit where customers in need of immediate cash can borrow against their securities, as well as residential mortgage services.

by Scott Van Tasell

F AND B DECORATORS

B24

It all began at the new Registered Jersey Calf Barn at The School of the Ozarks, Point Lookout, Mo., in the fall of 1943. There Robert Frederick started painting and that same week he became the student foreman of the school's painting crew.

However, the painting firm known as F&B Decorators of Pella, Ia., did not have its inception until approximately 1961 with Robert R. Frederick, John P. Frederick, and Gary Blom as partners.

Robert and John painted for several years in the Pella area for Dale Vander Pol. The starting wage at that time was only 65¢ per hour. After working for Mr. Vander Pol, Robert worked for himself for two years, 1957-1958, around Danville, Ia. His helper at that time was Leo De Prenger, then the pastor of the Pella Open Bible Church. Meanwhile, his brother John worked in Pella for Arvin Hoogenakker.

John and Robert began working together, in late 1959, or early 1960, on local homes and farms as Farm and Home Decorating. When they expanded to schools, churches, and commercial buildings the name was changed to F&F Decorating, using the "F"s from their surnames. In late 1961, they hired Gary Blom from Sully, Ia. Gary quickly became the third partner of the business thereby lending his

F and B Decorators, Robert Frederick and Verlin Frederick.

name to the firm. Thereafter the business became known as F&B Decorators, by dropping one "F" to become "Frederick and Blom Decorators."

In 1964, John moved to Michigan, leaving Robert and Gary to continue the business. By this time, Gary had gotten married and moved to Grinnell, Ia. He commuted daily to the work sites, which later became a hardship for him. In 1966, the partnership was dissolved leaving only Robert to operate the business.

In the process of dissolvement, the lawyer suggested that the "F&B Decorators' name could be preserved and maintained simply by having it recorded at the Marion County Recorder's Office in Knoxville, Ia. Robert took the advice of his lawyer and had this done. Thus, the letter "B" became silent in the firm's name. Later on the letter could have stood for "Boys", as suggested by Robert's boys, Verlin, Kevin, and Leon. Yet the records have never been changed. Since then, F&B Decorators has basically been a family business with minimal outside help.

F&B Decorators was asked to become a painting sub-contractor for Roth and Associates of Storm Lake, Ia. This soon led to Robert's being hired as their employee for approximately 11 years. Even during this period there was enough activity to keep the business name intact. In 1982, when Roth and Associates went out of business, the 11 years out of the area's building market posed a serious problem to the firm. To get back into the local market, where the new building contractors had become the mainstay of the construction business, was and still is difficult to say the least.

Some of F&B Decorators' many past outstanding jobs include: the Mayflower Home for Retired Ministers, in Grinnell, Ia.; the Mercy Clinic Addition in Oskaloosa, Ia.; the new Senior High School in Marshalltown, Ia. Other Iowa schools worked on by the company are in Dayton, Bussey, Pekin, New Sharon, Pella, Colfax, Rockford, and Eddyville. Churches and church additions included in the firm efforts are Otley, Marion, Altoona, Solon, Eddyville, Pella, and Knoxville. In the home and farm sector of the business, you can credit them with such jobs as turkey farms and new homes around Corydon, Pella, Indianola, Osceola, New Sharon, Grinnell, and Boxholm, Ia. F&B Decorators has also done work for the Rolscreen Company, and the Pella Community Hospital and Nursing Home complex. They are currently involved in supplying Central College with sub-contracted labor to maintain its upkeep.

One prestigious home, furnished by F&B Decorators, was built in a grove of oak and hickory trees between US 69 and I-35 north of Osceola, Ia. The company that built the house was the Godwin Brothers from Indianola, Ia. They built the house for the husband and wife attorney team, Mr. and Mrs. Ward Reynoldson, who at that time maintained offices in Osceola. Later, Governor Robert Ray appointed Mr. Reynoldson to the Iowa Supreme Court, where he is now the Chief Justice for the State of Iowa. F&B Decorators had the privilege of being called back to redo their home several years later.

F&B Decorators is basically a painting firm that handles other jobs, such as minor repairs of plaster, sheetrock, wood, and glass. They also hang vinyl and paper wall coverings, stain and varnish wood, and custom match colors for customers, including Pella Farmer's Lumber. They also have seen the price of paint soar from under five dollars per gallon to over $20 per gallon.

Wages paid to the employees at the forming of the firm was under two dollars per hour. The changes in the economy has increased both the wages and the charge adjustments necessary to maintain the stability and the quality of their work. Present employee wages range from the minimum wage to ten dollars per hour, depending upon the individual's experience and quality of work.

F&B Decorators has earned and maintained an excellent working relationship with architects, builders, and owners with whom they have come in contact. The quality of work and their fairness, both to customers and employees, brings very satisfactory results. The firm is always eager to honestly finish the work expected of them in a very expedient and prudent manner. With this thought in mind, they figure that the waste of time on the job is a waste of the customer's money.

Safety has also been the goal of this company, and as a result they have not suffered any major losses from falls or any other accidents.

by Robert R. Frederick

FIRST REALTY OF PELLA

B25

Better Homes and Gardens

First Realty of Pella/Better Homes and Gardens started out in the basement of the Marion County Savings and Loan building at 712 Washington St. in Sept., 1982. The Savings and Loan had bought the Better Homes and Gardens franchise, then called Stanbrough Realty, for Pella from Gene Stanbrough who owned the Central Iowa area and sold Affiliate Memberships. Marion County Savings and Loan also owned Knoxville's franchise and operated the Pella operation through Knoxville. Initially, the Savings and Loan looked for a manager to open the new Pella business. Failing, they offered Gladys L. Nieuwsma part-ownership for starting-up, two years free rent, and the capital to begin the operation.

Beginning with no agents and no listings, the first effort was to recruit a sales force. By early 1983, Judy Strong, Keith Nibbelink, Karyn Renaud, Cornie Tromp, Gertrude Van Zee, Harris Nieuwsma, and Jann Goodyk, were licensed. The business soon had a substantial market share. In 1984, the Savings and Loan divested its interest to the Knoxville office, owned by Richard Bailey, and Bailey and Nieuwsma became partners.

By 1985, the Savings and Loan had changed its name to First Financial and the franchise was changed from Stanbrough Realtors to First Realty. The Savings and Loan needed all its space, necessitating a move by First Realty. Evert Kroes, the proprietor of 716 Main St., was willing to move his auto parts store and sell the building to the Nieuwsmas who remodeled the lower level. The Hair Factory occupied the rear portion. The move occurred in February. The staff had grown with the addition of Henry Roush, Mary Van Wyk, and Jeane Nossaman, with Nibbelink and Van Zee choosing "inactive" status. Karyn Renaud served as closing officer for the greatly increased business. In this two and one-half year period the number of Pella real estate offices decreased from six to three. The surviving offices joined a franchise.

In 1986, Broker Nieuwsma bought the balance of the business to become sole proprietor. Karyn Renaud finished her college degree and sought other employment to be replaced by Chic Visser, former Vice-president and Manager of First Financial Savings Bank. George Verburg, Diane Steenhoek, and Ernie Reese, joined the staff with Heidi Van Hemert working part-time as Records Manager.

First Realty won all Affiliate productions awards in the first quarter of 1987 and were consistently carrying half or more of the city listings. Gladys Nieuwsma, Mary Van Wyk, and Diane Steenhoek carry Million-Dollar Club memberships. Sales were brisk as sprint interest rates dipped to nine and one-half per

cent and built-up demand brought business. Home values which peaked in 1980-81 had dropped with largest losses seen in houses 40 years or older. In the fall of 1987, interest rates are ten and one-half per cent for 30 years and home values appear to be stable.

by Gladys Nieuwsma

GAASS, KLYN AND BOEHLJE

B26

Date unknown, shows George G. Gaass on the left, the desk of W.W. Cook, who operated Cook and Son insurance agency, at the far left, A.M. Vander Linden at the desk on the far right, and George's father Peter Gerrit Gaass, who operated a real estate office, at the desk in the middle on the right.

Attorneys-at-Law

This law firm was established in 1903 when George G. Gaass, having graduated from Columbia University Law School in New York, N.Y., started practicing law in the building at 725 Main Street, Pella, Ia. He continued as sole practitioner until Jan., 1946, when his son, Peter G. Gaass, joined him under the firm name of Gaass and Gaass.

This partnership continued until George G. Gaass' death in 1962, and Peter G. Gaass continued the practice until 1963 at which time he and Andrew Wm. Klyn formed a partnership under the name of Gaass and Klyn. In 1967 Boyd W. Boehlje joined the firm and, at that time, the building adjoining the Gaass and Klyn building on the north, (formerly occupied by the De Jong Floral Shop), was acquired and incorporated as a part of the law office.

In 1977 Vincent S. Klyn, son of Andrew Wm. Klyn, joined the firm and it has remained in that form to the date of the publication of this book.

THE GALLERY

B27

Betty Kilpatrick opened her business in Oct., 1976, a gift and antique store called The Gallery. She made the statement that it took "Guts" to start a new business in Pella as she had no experience in being a merchant.

She is capably assisted in The Gallery by Tami Malcom Sikkema and Jan Petersma.

They cater to bridal business and out-of-towners, the volume of trade having grown. They discontinued the antiques recently and have added more gift lines. A bright future is anticipated for The Gallery.

The Gallery

631 Franklin Street
Pella, Iowa 50219
(515)628-1511

by Betty Kilpatrick

GARY GEZEL T.V.

B28

Gary Gezel T.V. got its start in 1946 as a spare time business. It was named Gary Gezel Radio, T.V. and Air Conditioning, having a very modest beginning with a few instruments and a soldering iron that was heated over the gas flame of a water heater.

The business had some firsts in Pella,

First satellite dish in the Pella area installed by Gary Gezel and located at Pella Manor.

having installed the first air conditioner in an automobile when most all mounting and belt drives had to be handmade. It was one of the first to service televisions in Pella, and also to install the first satellite dish in this area at the Pella Manor. The satellite serves about 100 televisions in the Manor and Fair Haven East and West.

During the early years the radio provided a great source of entertainment, with wonderful music including the big bands, comedy, plays, serials, soaps, and mysteries, all of which left you to your own imagination.

The first radios were battery-operated vacuum tube types – AM only. FM came along in the 1940's after WW II. Stereo was added in the 1950's. The transistor replaced the vacuum tube in radio in the mid to late 50's. So many changes have come about in radio and TV over a short period that the service man has had to adapt to.

Television viewing came to Pella in 1949 with WOI-Ames being the first to telecast on Channel 4 and then later switched to Channel 5, as it is at this writing. In the early years of TV the programs came on the air in the afternoon with a test pattern, which lasted for over an hour. The Milton Beryl Comedy Show was one of the first shows and also Kukla, Fran, and Ollie, a puppet show. A show that aired on Saturday night was wresting which attracted many people and was great entertainment during that period. People that did not have a TV visited friends or stopped at a local TV dealer to watch wrestling. Some children would look through the windows of a neighbor's home fascinated by the television.

Early on the picture was rather snowy. Television was the fastest growing industry that had ever hit this country as well as Europe. In 1954 Channel 8 – KRNT (later called KCCI) came on the air; Channel 13 – WHO in 1955; Channel 11 in 1961; and Channel 17 in 1985 – all from Des Moines. Channel 2, 7, and 9 came from Cedar Rapids; Channel 3 from Ottumwa; and Waterloo could also be received.

In 1949 Gary Gezel TV started business full time servicing television, radio, air conditioners, and sound and has been a Sylvania TV dealer for over 25 years.

The sound business has been a very interesting business as well as television, due to it being a continuous challenge with its many changes over the years. Most of all it is the wonderful people that you come in contact with locally and otherwise. With the sound business I've been able to work with religious leaders, politicians, business lead-

ers, comedians, musicians, singers, bands, tractor pulls, and radio personalities. Those names that come to mind are: Gov. Ray; Gov. Branstad; Sen. Dole, (candidate for U.S. President); Sen. Clark; Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King; Rev. Norman Vincent Peale; and Rev. Dr. Nederhood.

Operating the sound for Pella's Tulip Festival for many years has been a joy. The talent that the Pella people have presented over the years is remarkable and memorable.

by Gary Gezel

HAWKEYE HYBRIDS, 1987

B29

Hawkeye Hybrids is an independent hybrid seed corn company located about one mile southwest of Pella on County Road T-15. It was begun in 1945 by William A. Frundt under the name Frundt Seed Company and was located on Franklin St. in Pella. It was moved to its current location in 1955. The business was purchased by its current owners, Arlen and Janet Eggerling, in 1976. The name was changed to Hawkeye Hybrids in 1982.

Hawkeye Hybrids raises, processes, bags, and sells hybrid seed corn. There are about 15 full-time year round employees. In addition about 80-85 detasslers are hired each summer, usually high school or college students. Harvest time in the fall finds another 30-35 temporary employees picking and sorting the corn. Hawkeye has a sales territory reaching from Illinois across Iowa to west-central Nebraska.

The full-time year round employees at the plant at Pella are: Arlen Eggerling, President and General Manager; Janet Eggerling, Treasurer and Office Manager; Chuck Goodley, Sales Manager; Tom VandenBerg, Plant Manager; Walter Graham; Tracy Haley; Roger Van Hal; Dan VandeVoort; and Janice Kaisand. Employed part-time: Dave VandeVoort; Alan Van Dusseldorp; and Rus Engle. Employed as full-time Sales Representatives are: Gordon Mattox, eastern Nebraska; Robert Studnicka, central Nebraska; LeRoy Meyer, southeast Nebraska and southwest Iowa; Bruce Christie, western Iowa; and Clev Clevenger, north central Iowa.

Arlen is a plant breeder and conducts a Research Program with research plots at Pella in the summer and at Buin, Chile, in the winter. This enables him to develop superior hybrids with disease resistance, good standability, and high yields.

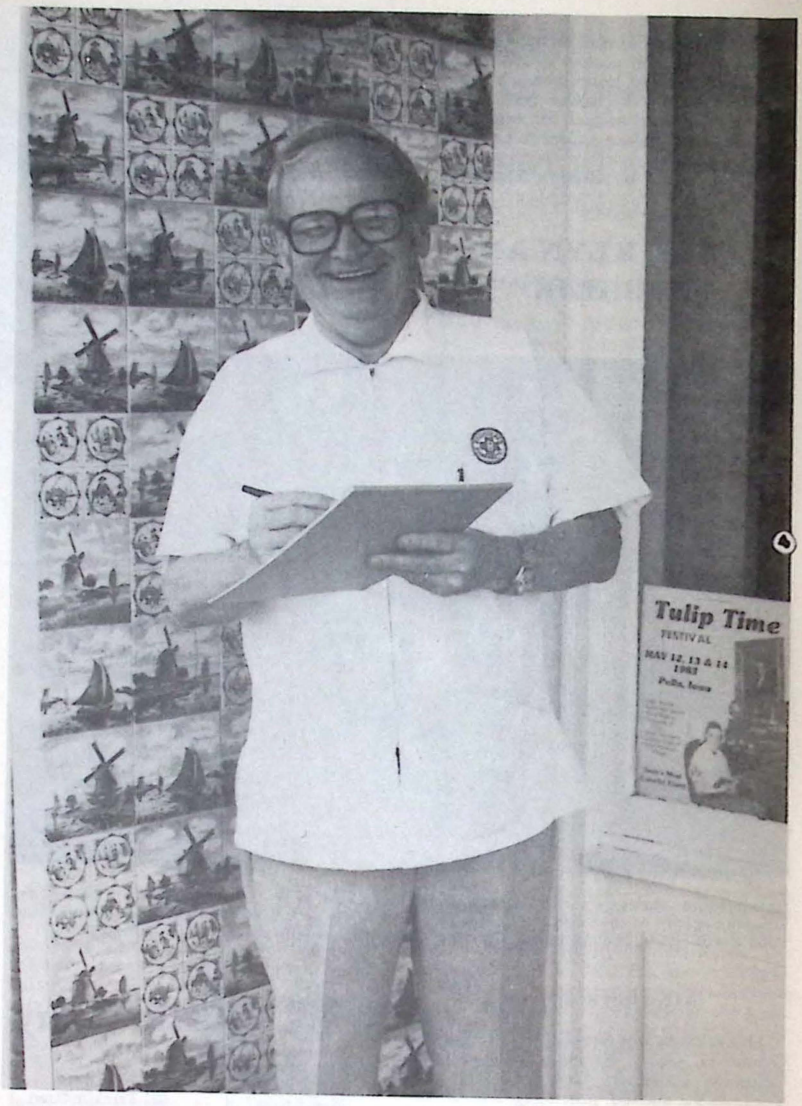
by Arlen and Janet Eggerling

IDEAL PHARMACY

B30

On the night before Abraham Lincoln was elected president of the U.S., a man came to Pella who was to play a large part in its development. He was F.W. Brinkhoff.

He immediately went to work in the store of Esquire Graefe. Later he formed a partnership with H.F. Bousquet and then with W.D. Forsyth who conducted a drug business on



Pella's long-time mayor and pharmacist, "Babe" Caldwell. (Early 1980's picture.)

Martin Paardekooper Owner of Ideal Pharmacy from 1919-1959.

Paardekooper Ideal Pharmacy 1940's. at 639 Franklin

Gary Cottington present owner of Ideal Pharmacy.

"Tice" Paardekooper Drug Store, 820 Main (now Int'Velds).

Main St. where the present day offices of Gaass, Klyn, and Boehlje are located. In 1897, Mr. Brinkhoff sold his business to Allen and Stubenrauch and, with his family, left for England.

Returning to Pella in 1911, Mr. Brinkhoff constructed the Main St. building which now houses In't Veld's Meat Market. In 1906, after graduating from Pella High School, Martin Paardekooper embarked in the drug business with Frank D. Stubenrauch. He qualified for a degree in pharmacy from the now defunct Highland Park College in Des Moines. In Aug. 1917, he entered the service of the U.S. Army during World War I.

Following termination of his service in the military in 1919, Mr. Paardekooper and M.D. McWilliams purchased the interest of Mr. Stubenrauch. Their partnership was dissolved in 1923 when he bought Mr. McWilliam's interest.

For a time the pharmacy was located on the south side of the square on Franklin St., the building now occupied by Inga's. In 1942 the pharmacy moved to its present location on the southeast corner of the square. The building, erected in 1892, is one of several Brinkhoff erected in Pella.

In 1950 Mr. Paardekooper entered into partnership with C.B. "Babe" Caldwell, Reg. Ph. and, upon Paardekooper's death in 1959, Mr. Caldwell became the sole owner. At Mr. Caldwell's death in 1984, the business was sold to its present owner, Gary Cottington, Reg. Ph.

by Sara Schakel Caldwell

INT VELD'S MEAT MARKET

B31

Klaas Int Veld owned the meat market from 1941 to 1972.

Int Veld's Bologna sign attracted many customers on the east side of the square. The family lived in the upstairs apartment.

Klaas Int Veld had been raised in the surroundings of a meat market which his father owned in The Netherlands. It was his work later in America when Klaas went to work for Arie Schilder in Ulrich's Meat Market in Pella. In 1941, Klaas opened his own meat market in the grocery store owned by Dick and Tone Ver Meer in the building where the meat market is still located at 820 Main.

Klaas closed the meat market for two years while he was in the service in World War II but reopened when he returned. He took over making bologna for a route to Des Moines making a specialty of wholesale bologna sales while continuing the butcher shop in the grocery store.

In 1972 he sold the business to Bob Vander Linden who later sold it to Stan Bogaards and the Jaarsma Brothers, Ralph and Howard.

Klaas hired Ed Kooi to work for him during the years 1947-50 when Ed was a student at Central College. He persuaded Pete Horman to come in from the farm to work for him and Pete has been an employee for many years.

Bogaards and Jaarsma have made a deli business in the front portion of the store. The grocery business is no longer continued other than in a small supply of quick service items.

by Klaas Int Veld

JANSEN'S DECORATING AND KITCHENS

B32

Located at 614 Franklin St., Jansen's Decorating and Kitchens has been in operation since 1959. It was founded by Dale Jansen and Albert Rouw who began as home builders at that time. Their experience had been gained by working for Martin "Bats" De Jong in his construction firm. With very little capital, they built a speculative house using their labor as equity. The office of the business was at first in the home's garage.

The business was located at 700 Block E. 1st. until Apr. 1965, when they moved to their present address. Here they concentrated on building houses and had a specialty of building kitchens. Early prices were less than $10.00 per square foot for home. Wages were $1.25 to $1.50 an hour.

Early employees were Kenny Rouw and Martin Van Zee. Ron Riggen and Keith De Huis are also long-time employees.

The best customers of Jansen's are those who appreciate quality work and products. They have grown with special expansion in the kitchen operation in an expanded trade area. Jansen's offers quality products at reasonable prices with innovative designing in all the work.

The business changed to Jansen's in the fall of 1969 when Dale bought out partner Albert Rouw. Business expanded in 1965 when it moved and included carpeting, and a year later drapery.

In 1980 home building was deleted and emphasis was put on interior decorating, adding pictures, wallpaper, and accessories, and total kitchen cabinets, with design and selling a major part of the business.

by Irma Jansen

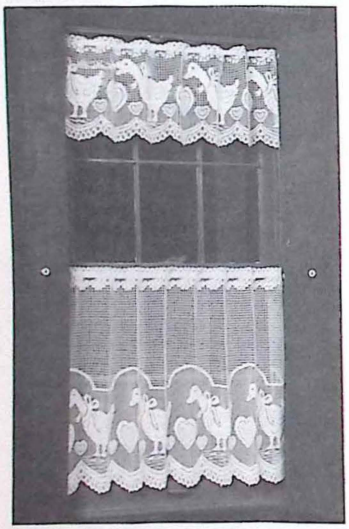
HERITAGE IMPORTS

B33

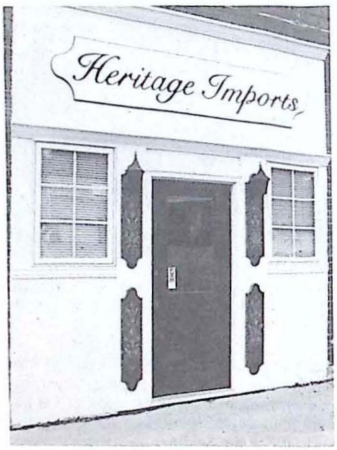
Behind a modest "Dutch front" facade at 713 East First St. is one of Pella's newest and most unique business firms. Heritage Imports, Inc. is a rapidly growing organization which specializes in importing and marketing fine European lace throughout North America. Though its office and warehouse facilities are located in the central business district, few Pella residents are aware of its activities as more than twenty employees daily transact business with Europe and all of the fifty states, deal in foreign currency exchange, and receive and ship goods from several European countries.

The product offering, Heritage European Lace, includes well over one hundred different items — window dressings, decorative trims and edgings, and table coverings. Manufactured by some of Western Europe's finest artisans, Heritage Lace offers an easy

36 inch by 36 inch Heritage Alpine Lace tablecloth



Window treatment with Heritage Country Knit Lace



Heritage Imports Office at 713 East First Street, Pella

and convenient way to achieve the elegant look of the Old World at reasonable cost. Even the most casual visitor to Pella quickly becomes aware that the European look in windows has become very popular here. Heritage Imports is busily at work popularizing that look nationwide.

The idea for a lace-importing business grew out of the retail sales success of De Dutch Lacery, a department of Boat's Home Furnishings in Pella. Because of the strong interest in lace locally and on the part of visitors, Bruce Heerema of Boat's began selling European lace wholesale to a few other stores in 1979. Retail sales were strong and continued so for several years but Boat's had neither the personnel nor the sales time available to market lace aggressively within Iowa or to expand sales outside the state.

In 1983, Bruce joined forces with Mark De Cook, formerly a sales executive with Rolscreen Company, to form a new company. The two set out to establish a direct importing firm and a network of dealers to market their products. Bruce brought a broad background in retail selling and his knowledge of lace to the venture; Mark contributed extensive experience in setting up wholesale distribution networks. Together, the partners traveled to Europe in the fall of 1983 to make contacts with manufacturers there and to locate sources for their products.

Heritage Imports, Inc. was formally incorporated in Oct. of 1983 and moved into a small office-and-warehouse space at 713 East First St. It began business with two names on the payroll, those of Mark De Cook and Dave Heinen. They immediately began the task of establishing a network of sales representatives and retail outlets, primarily among drapery shops. Because of the quality and unique character of the lace, it attracted immediate attention and sales success came very soon. Growth accelerated after Heritage discovered that its primary market was not drapery shops but gift shops, fabric centers, and specialty stores. With sales efforts now concentrated in this area, a network of over 2,500 retail dealers has been built up by mid-1987, serviced by an organization of more than 60 sales representatives. And as the business has grown, Heritage has steadily expanded both its work force and its facilities at 713 East First St.

At present, the emphasis at Heritage Imports is on continuing to develop its retail network and particularly "lace specialty shops" which are dedicated primarily or exclusively to the display and sales of fine lace curtains and table accessories. The firm is an exhibitor at more than twenty regional and national shows of giftware and specialty merchandise annually and is beginning a program of national advertising.

The management team at Heritage Imports includes: Bruce Heerema, Chairman and Production Manager; Mark De Cook, President and Marketing Manager; Dave Ericson, Credit Manager; Dave Heinen, Operations Manager; Steve Langrud, Sales Manager; and Markay Lyon, Office Manager. The firm has acquired a property in the East Industrial Park and plans to erect new, larger quarters during 1988.

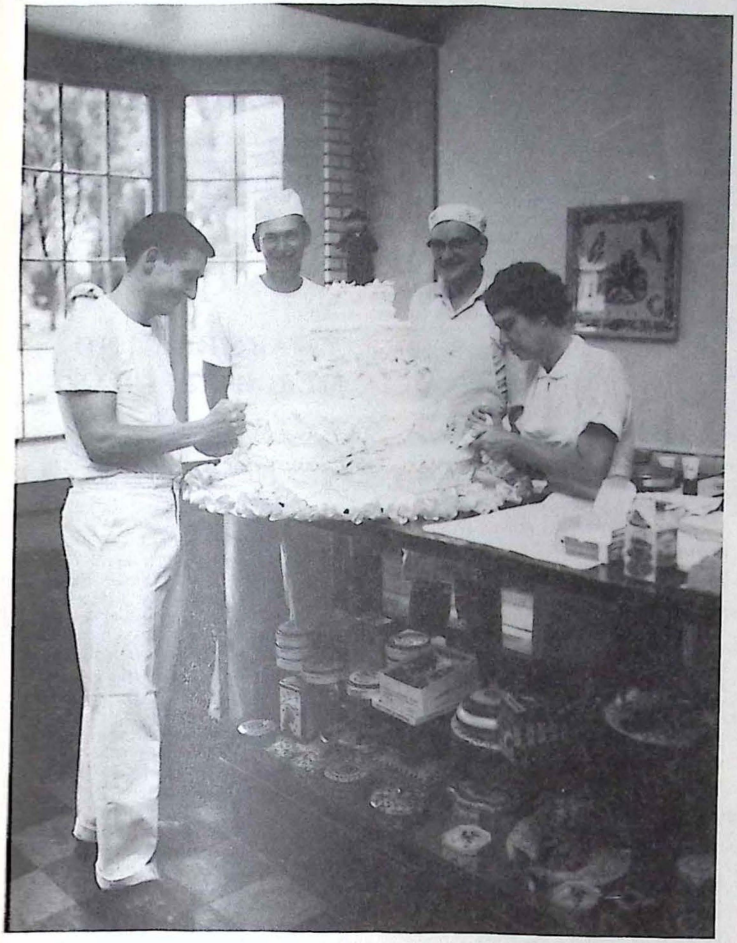
by Henry Vande Kieft

JAARSMA BAKERY
B34

The Jaarsma family has been involved in the baking industry in Pella for almost one hundred years. When Harmon Jaarsma arrived from his native Friesland in 1892, he began working in a bakery for his home-town friend, Sybenga. After several years of employment, Mr. Sybenga relocated his business from the house-bakery-luncheon combination at 706 West First St. to a new location on the square. Harmon Jaarsma was able to take over Sybenga's old location and operated the bakery on his own.

Harmon needed a location on the square and purchased an existing bakery-grocery-lunchroom at 810 Main St. several years later. No baking was done on this site, however. Everything was baked in the old wood-fired brick ovens in the bakery he owned on West First St.

Frank Jaarsma, Harmon's son, continued production until 1948, when the existing Sybenga Bakery was purchased from Harry Hurr at 727 Franklin St. Operations suddenly became modern with this well-equipped facility. Both downtown locations remained open for about five years and finally consolidated at the Franklin St. location. Frank's sons, Howard and Ralph, became involved in the business, working for Frank until 1973, when fire leveled the building. Howard and Ralph replaced the structure with a new



Newly remodeled Jaarsma Bakery at 727 Franklin. Left to Right: Ralph, Howard, Frank Jaarsma, and Hilda Ver Dught, cake decorator. Photo taken in 1960

building and continued baking. Today, production is for the local outlet as well as stores in Oskaloosa and Knoxville, and counters and racks in many surrounding towns as far away as Des Moines and Winfield.

Approximately 35 employees produce or sell the Dutch pastries made from the recipes used by Harmon and Frank and other formulas from Holland collected by Ralph and Howard. In addition, they make an array of American favorites to satisfy their customers.

by Elaine Jaarsma

KREYKES LAW OFFICE

B35

Fred J. Kreykes began practicing law in Pella in Jan., 1979. He graduated from Dordt College in 1973 and received a law degree from Drake University in Dec., 1978. He is a native of Hospers, Ia., where his parents are still living on a farm. Fred moved directly to Pella after graduation from law school because he was attracted by the quality of life and the opportunity to start a law practice in Pella.

The Kreykes Law Office is engaged in the general practice of law, emphasizing the legal needs of businesses, farmers, and families. The firm is extensively involved in real estate matters, contracts, taxes, wills, probate, and commercial matters. The business has grown steadily over the years by relying on a broad clientele of industrious Pella people.

Chris Shepperd, a May, 1987 graduate of Drake University Law School, has recently started working at the Kreykes Law Office. He will be developing his law practice by focusing on trial work and other general practice matters.

Secretary, Jacki Westerkamp, has been with the firm since June, 1984, as a graduate of Pella Christian High School. She has blossomed as a well-respected and trusted member of the legal community in Pella.

In 1986 the Kreykes Law Office acquired a building at 707 Main St. The building was totally renovated and a new Dutch front was added.

Fred J. Kreykes

The Kreykes Law Office has a very positive outlook for the future of business in Pella. The stability of the community and the opportunities for growth appear to be excellent.

Fred has been involved in various community activities in the past including Kiwanis Club, Chamber of Commerce committees, as well as committees in other organizations, churches and schools. Fred is currently involved in helping develop a recreational trail between Pella and Lake Red Rock and he is also chairman of the Pella Economic Development Committee.

by Fred Kreykes

KUYPER'S MUSIC HOUSE

B36

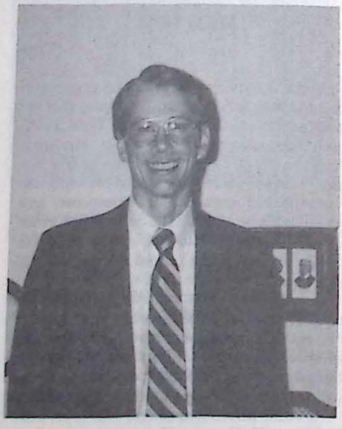
Arie P. Kuyper sold pianos and gave piano and clarinet lessons from the home that he built on the southwest corner of West Third and Independence Sts. in Pella. His wife, Arta Hospers Kuyper, a graduate of Oberlin, also taught piano. Mr. Kuyper was an accomplished organist and composer, and was the only organist in the Second Reformed Church from 1900 to 1935 and, upon his death, his son, Jean, played for the next 25 years.

In 1910 Mr. Groot built the building that now houses Kuyper's Music House. In 1916 he, his wife and son drowned in the Des Moines River. Mr. Kuyper purchased this building and, in 1987, Kuyper's Music House will celebrate 70 years in the same location.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuyper had two sons, Jean M.M. and H. Hospers. Upon graduation from Central College, Jean became a partner and, upon the passing of A.P. Kuyper, "Hop" became a partner. Jean and Hospers were partners for 40 years and, upon retirement, sold the business to Jean's son, J. Paul Kuyper. Paul and Mary Kuyper have two

A.P. Kuyper accomplished musician and early merchant.

Left to Right: Jean M.M. and H. Hospers Kuyper, 2nd Generation in Kuyper's Music House.



J. Paul Kuyper, 3rd generation at Kuyper's Music House.

sons, Daniel Jean and Lucas Earl.

Mr. A.P. Kuyper's father, Pieter, immigrated from The Netherlands in 1849, while Mrs. Kuyper's father, Henry Hospers, immigrated from The Netherlands in 1847, with Dominie Hendrik Pieter Scholte. Mr. Hospers was a surveyor, banker and state senator. He was mayor of Pella from 1867 until he resigned to moved to Orange City, of which he was considered the founding father.

Kuyper's Music House, stared on Independence St. about 1900, and continuing at its present location at 702-704 Washington St., is the oldest business in Pella that has continued to be operated by the same family.

The story of Mrs. Kuyper's father, Henry Hospers, appears in another part of this book.

by Jean M.M. Kuyper

LADY FAIR BEAUTY SALON

B37

After finishing beauty schools in Omaha and Des Moines, Bernice Van Zee opened her own business with Viola VandeNoord in Sept. 1950. The business was first upstairs in what was then Dingeman Construction and later changed to Van Sittert Plumbing. It is now a law office. The partnership was dissolved and Bernice moved to the Rook Bldg. which is now First Financial's parking lot.

The first salons had no air conditioning. (Imagine sitting under a hot drier for an hour and then come up 'smelling like a rose'.) Later Bernice Van Zee moved her business to 725 Main St. where it is currently located in a building that once housed the *Pella Chronicle* and is owned by Dean Sadler.

Some of the first services were shampoo and sets for $1.00, 85¢ for a manicure, 85¢ for a hair cut, and $10 for a perm. Perms were the Zotos brand and early wages were by commission only.

Janet Kriegel was one of the earliest employees at Lady Fair. She worked there for 20 years. Mary Vander Wilt, Diana Van Weelden, Sharon Vander Veer all worked for 15 years. Patti De Moss and Linda Van Vark have worked for ten years; Carlyn Graham and Trudy Van Wyk (receptionist) have worked for five years.

Among the first customers when Bernice had a partnership were: Junella Van Zee, Nettie Hindman, Gladys De Vries; Leona Zylstra, Mary DuPree, Jo Smorenberg, Margaretee Vander Verr, Joyce Kuyper, and Jean De Haan.

by Bernice Van Zee

FARMERS AND MERCHANTS BANK

B38

After Ruard Vander Ploeg (1836-1920) moved from his farm into Pella in 1904, he started the Farmers and Merchants Bank along with his son, Watson H. and daughter Anna Van Spanckeren. In Jan. 1905, the bank opened with Ruard Vander Ploeg, President, W.G. Vander Ploeg, Cashier, and E.C. Cook, Assistant Cashier. Mr. Vander Ploeg announced that "the bank is a private institution and the business is protected by what the owners are worth. It is the desire and intention of the new concern to be accommodating and obliging, yet all transactions will be conducted strictly on a conservative business basis."

Ruard Vander Ploeg retired from active business in 1917. In 1918 this bank was merged with the Citizens National Bank to become the Farmers National Bank. James Cochrane moved to Pella from Monroe to become the President of the new bank. Directors and officers were: P.H. Van Gorp, W.G. Vander Ploeg, A.C. Van Houweling, G.H. Wormhoudt, James H. Cochrane, President; Anna Van Spanckeren, Vice-President; W.H. Vander Ploeg, Cashier; and J.B. Roovaart, Assistant Cashier. Arthur Vander

Northeast corner of Franklin and Main Street. View from Farmers and Merchants Bank looking east. 600 block on Franklin

Ploeg, a grandson of Ruard, remembers going to the bank as a child and says that it was located on the southeast corner of the square on the same site as the current Marion County State Bank.

by Carol Vander Ploeg

MARION COUNTY STATE BANK

B39

The Marion County State Bank was started by Kenneth H. Bean on Sept. 21, 1935. Mr. Bean started working for the First National Bank of Harvey, while he was still in high school. Upon graduation from the Knoxville High School in 1920, he became a regular employee of the First National Bank of Harvey and rapidly advanced to Assistant Cashier, Cashier, Vice President and President. In 1933 the First National Bank of Harvey was the only bank, out of the 23 in the county in 1920, that opened after the bank holiday on a 100% basis without any loss to depositors. In Aug. of 1935, Mr. Bean, as President of the bank voluntarily liquidated the First National Bank of Harvey, and secured a new state charter for the Marion County State Bank of Pella. The Harvey Bank then became an office of the Marion County State Bank of Pella.

Ralph Vermeer started working with Kenneth Bean in the bank, and with his brother William Bean in the insurance business in 1935. He continued full time with the bank until 1951, when he left and went full time with Vermeer Manufacturing Company. Remaining on the bank board, Ralph made arrangements for the Vermeers to buy the bank in 1961. Robert C. Power came to the bank as Executive Vice President on Dec. 1, 1955, from Creston, Ia. In 1974 Harry Vermeer bought Gary and Ralph Vermeer's stock in the bank and named Robert C. Power President. Other longtime employees include, Vernon Roorda, who started in 1945; Beulah Blom, starting in 1951; and Earl VerMeer, starting in 1956.

In the early days the Marion County State Bank was advertised and known as the fastest-growing bank in Marion County. On Sept. 21, 1935, when it opened, the bank had footings of $208,826. By Sept. of 1945, ten years later, the footings had grown to $1,842,004. In Mar. of 1961, when the Vermeer's purchased controlling interest in the bank, it had footings of $4,087,258. and on Dec. 31, 1986, Marion County State Bank had footings of $75,227,444. The bank has had four presidents during its 51 years of existence including: Kenneth H. Bean, the organizer of the bank who served as president from 1935 to 1961; Ralph J. Vermeer, who was president from 1961 to his death in 1962; Harry G. Vermeer became the third president and served from 1962 to 1974; Robert C. Power was elected president in 1974 and is serving in that capacity in 1987.

When Kenneth Bean founded the Marion County State Bank, it was located in the former Security Bank Building at the corner of Main and Franklin St. The building was redecorated when the bank started. Over the years it has experienced many improvements and remodeling. In 1961 when the Vermeers purchased controlling interest it was extensively remodeled. In 1968, the Meulpolder Building located just north of the Marion County State Bank was purchased and the bank was again extensively remodeled. In 1975 a new Windmill Drive-In was opened at the intersection of Main Street and Independence. The Drive-In bank was built to represent a Dutch Windmill to emphasize Pella's Dutch heritage. The Drive-In has three drive-up lanes and two walk-up windows and boasts the slogan that when "the windmill blades are turning" the bank is open. Over the years, thousands of individuals and school children have climbed the circular staircase of 22 steps to the balcony of the windmill which overlooks the surrounding area. In 1981 when the bank went on computer, the backroom of the main bank was extensively remodeled and the whole interior was redecorated. In 1984 the upstairs of the bank was remodeled and redecorated.

As of Dec. 31, 1986, Marion County State Bank was the largest bank in the county and

This photo was taken for Marion County State Bank's 50th Anniversary in September 1985. It includes all employees at that time with their position and length of service. 1st Row, l-r: Judy Dobernecker, Secretary, 5 years; Deb De Nooy, Bookkeeper, 5 years; Vickie Van Wyk, Teller, 3 years; Peggy Ashman, Assistant Cashier, 9 years; Melanie Negen, Bookkeeper, 5 years; Donna Van Weelden, Teller, 5 years. 2nd Row: Willa Hart, Bookkeeper, 21 years; Beth Nunnikhoven, Bookkeeper, 9 years; Frances Heerema, Drive In Teller, 9 years; Penne Fox, Teller, 5 years; Beverly Wisse, Teller, 11 years; Bonnie Boot, Assistant Cashier, 11 years; Delores Greving, Assistant Vice President, 23 years. 3rd Row: Howard Pothoven, Vice President, Agricultural Representative, 12 years; Julia Caldwell, Drive In Teller, 4 years; Judy De Vries, Bookkeeper, 17 years; Beulah Blom, Cashier, 35 years; Steve Kraayenbrink, Loan Officer, 2 years. 4th Row: Peter W. Verhey, Vice President, 13 years; Vernon W. Roorda, Assistant Vice President, 41 years; Robert C. Power, President, 31 years; Harry G. Vermeer, Chairman of the Board, 25 years; Earl N. Ver Meer, Assistant Cashier, Drive In Bank Manager, 30 years.

Marion County State Bank as it gets a new sign in the early 1960's. Corner of Main and Franklin. (Notice old popcorn stand on corner.)

Each year Marion County State Bank gives a calendar to its customers featuring a photo of Pella's Tulip Queen and court in front of the Windmill Drive-In Bank. This has become a collectors item. The above photo is of the 1980 Tulip Queen and Court. Left to right: (Page) Lynn Veldhuizen, Andrea Busker, Patti Monsma, Queen Monica May, Renee De Boef, Norma Stursma, (Page) Kim Duven, (Flower Girl) Jonquil Terpstra and (Flower Girl) Heidi Rumer.

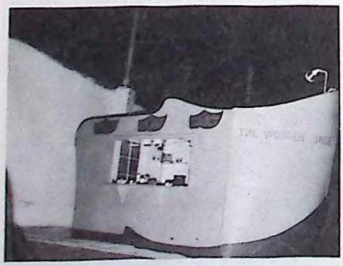
was still locally owned – using the theme of "building our community through financial assistance." Over the years the bank has had a very low turnover of employees. Under the picture of bank employees taken at the time of the 50th Anniversary of the bank in Sept. of 1985, we have listed the name of each employee along with the years of employment. Marion County State Bank is a full service bank servicing the financial needs of Pella and the surrounding area.

by Harry G. Ver Meer

MENNING IMPORTS

B40

Display room at Menning Imports. Lolly and Bob Menning



The Wooden Shoe used at Tulip Time and State Fair

The Menning Import Business was started by a pleasure trip to Holland, Mich. in 1950. Shortly after the war, Dolores (nicknamed Lolly) Menning decided to visit Bob's grandparents. While there, they visited The Wooden Shoe Factory. The factory made wooden shoes by hand and machine and sold Dutch souvenirs, delft, Dutch foods, etc. Bob talked to the owner and asked how he got started. The owner told him that he called on a few businesses in Pella and sold them souvenirs for Tulip Time. The next year when he came to take orders, he called on Bob and suggested that he take over selling in Pella. So Bob did this for about five years.

There seemed to be a great demand for these items, not only for Tulip Time but all year around. The Mennings borrowed some money, and bought one thousand dollars worth of merchandise (a lot of money at that time), and sold to stores in Pella and Orange City, Ia.

A year later they had a building built in the shape of a wooden shoe, and at Tulip Time sold bologna, sandwiches (which were made at home), Dutch pastries from the bakery, and souvenirs. Every year they took the Wooden Shoe to the State Fair in Des Moines and sold Dutch pastries, Dutch chocolate ice cream, bologna, and bologna sandwiches. This was a real treat for State Fair visitors.

In 1960 the Mennings decided to add some delft to their business. They took a business trip to New York to buy. They stocked the delft in their basement and garage. Soon there was too much merchandise, so they rented a building. This soon became too small, and they decided to build a warehouse and office one-half mile west of town.

They made their first trip to Holland (Netherlands) to buy in 1965. The sold in Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Colorado, Minnesota, and South Dakota.

Almost every year after that they made a buying trip to Holland in September. They would go to the Jaarbuers (trade fair) in Utrecht. There they bought delft, silver, linens, dolls, jewelry, tapestries, and all sizes of souvenir windmills, and wooden shoes, also Droste's Cocoa, Van Houten Chocolates, assorted mints, dried soups, cookies, and rusks.

Business increased every year and the warehouse became too small. In 1977 they sold the building to Cleats and Spikes' Restaurant and built a bigger building.

During the past eight years there have been many changes in the sale and manufacturing of delft. Holland began importing delft from Korea which sold for less than one-half the price of delft made in Holland. Korean delft was better quality, so the United States and European stores have more Korean delft than delft made in Holland.

In 1982 the business was sold to Marian and James Kempkes. James is originally from Pella and Marian attended Central College. They didn't change the name of the business, and the business is still growing and prospering.

The Mennings enjoyed their business and worked hard. Most of the work was done by them with help from their daughters, Nancy and Molly. This was a moonlighting job, for Bob also worked as an Administrative Assistant at the VA Hospital in Knoxville, Ia., and Lolly was a teacher's aid at Webster School in Pella.

by Lolly Menning

MERLIN'S CONSTRUCTION

B41

On May 1, 1967, Merlin Van Vark and Dean Butler went into partnership together. We had our shop in my garage for about six months. Then we moved our shop to where the South End Cafe was previously located and where Dutch Oven Pizza is now located. In1968 we bought the building in which I am presently located, at 910½ Franklin St.

In 1977 Dean and I dissolved partnership and I purchased his share of the building.

When Dean and I were first in business we did cement work and carpenter work, but a little later on we discontinued the cement work.

My company's first full time employee was Gary Fields from Prairie City. I have had several part-time employees. At one time I had three full-time employees and a couple of part-time employees. My son Larry started working for me full-time in May of 1979 and worked full time until June 1986 and is currently still working part-time.

I have built several new houses but the biggest percentage of my carpenter work has

been remodeling, room additions, garages, etc.

by Merlin Van Vark

MIDWEST SANITATION SERVICE

B42

In 1969 when road building was drawing to a close because the money was getting scarce, and the environmental people were getting upset about pollution and made a law that garbage had to be brought to a central location to be covered every night, Gordon Van Der Hart and Elmer Klein decided to start a garbage route and haul commercial garbage and trash. It had to be brought to an old coal mine that the county bought for a landfill and it was to be 13 miles south of Pella which we thought was too long for a business to go with a few boxes in a pickup truck to dump them. We then decided to purchase a garbage truck and a dumpster and proceed to sell the businesses on the idea. It was not easy and when we went to the city council, we found out we had a competitor. We did not get discouraged and proceeded to contact as many as we could and by Apr. 1, 1970, we picked up our first garbage. The first month we sent out 13 statements and my wife diligently stayed by the phone as this was our bread and butter. After a year and a half, we decided two families could not live off of it so Gordon Van Der Hart bought Elmer Klein's share and carried on. After that had taken place, my competitor, who also had a successful trucking business, wanted to sell so I bought him out which gave me more customers.

Soon came the gas shortage scare which also increased by customer list as they could not afford to drive the distances required of them to go to the landfill. Needless to say, it was not long until I needed a larger truck. I also had to hire additional help. I also got the contract to haul the town of Sully's garbage. Soon after, the town of Lynnville became a customer and that brought another problem, what do you do when you have a breakdown? The only solution was to buy an additional truck. In 1975, I got a call from the major manufacturer in the area and I negotiated with them which meant another larger and more rugged truck. As time went on, more and more customers used our services and we were not without the usual problems, breakdowns, accidents, upsets, etc.

In 1982, under the advice of my doctor, I sold the business to Lyle and Kathy Van Der Meiden and they took over Nov. 1, 1982.

It would not be fair if I did not give credit to my wife for her loyalty in answering the telephones, running the errands and doing the bookkeeping. Thanks also to my children for their help when I needed it; and lastly to my loyal employees for making this a successful venture.

by Gordon Van Der Hart

MODE HUIS, FORMERLY BLACK'S STYLE SHOPPE

B43

Nettie Black of Black's Style Shop – 1930

Black's Style Shoppe started as a corset shop in 1919 by Mrs. E.F. Black and Miss Bernice Van Gorp. This shop was located in the 700 block of Franklin St. They offered Warner's, Redfern, and La Camille corsets, brassieres, and bandeaus of all kinds, and all kinds of silk, lisle, and cotton hosiery. Their corsets were guaranteed not to rust, break, or tear.

The business started in a building owned by Mrs. Dena Vander Pol, in which she had a restaurant, and which had been deeded to her by the government in 1847. It was one of the oldest buildings in Pella.

By 1920 Mrs. Black was listed as the sole owner of the business.

The original building was torn down in 1924. A new building was erected in its place and a complete stock of ready-to-wear was offered. In 1929 the Blacks acquired the Leffers building, located immediately to the west. It had been occupied by the Central States Electric Co. De Jong Floral is now located there. The building was remodeled and an opening was made between the two stores. A complete line of coats and children's wear was introduced.

After a period of time, Mrs. Black dropped the children's wear and coats and the store was returned to its original size.

In Feb., 1962, the business was sold to Elmer L. and Marjorie Veenman Van Zee. In 1972, they remodeled the original store, more than doubling its size by adding on the rear of the building. At this time the store's name was changed from Black's Style Shoppe to Mode Huis, which means house of fashion.

In Feb., 1986, the Van Zees sold the business to Mary Brillhart and Carolyn Jaarsma.

Black's Style Shoppe and Mode Huis have been in the same location for 68 years.

by Mari Savery

NORTH SHORE BOATS

B44

North Shore Boats, Lake Red Rock's first marina, opened for business in the spring of 1969, at the same time the lake first appeared on the Des Moines River just south and west from Pella. Owners Dean and Patsy Sadler were certain the new 9,000-acre-lake would attract a good many fishermen and sport boaters, so an old barn near the Sadler house was stocked with fishing boats and Evinrude outboard motors.

In June, 1969, the business relocated in a large steel building and yard which had earlier served as maintenance headquarters for the Wm. A. Smith Company, contractor for the final construction stage of Red Rock Dam. The new location provided easy access to the water for launching and retrieving boats, using the Smith Company's haul road for their heavy earth-moving equipment. The same road, although somewhat altered by high water and wave erosion, is used today for carrying boats to and from the water.

Many boaters were attracted to Sadler's boat yard during the first few years of operation. During the early 1970's more than 150 units were in storage during the boating season. On warm weekends and holidays the 1953 model Jeep and 1948 Ferguson tractor were kept busy from early morning until after dark, launching boats and hauling empty trailers.

Boating traffic in and out of North Shore Boats decreased considerably during the mid to late 70's when other U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoir projects were completed near Des Moines and Centerville. During the past decade boating activity has steadily increased at North Shore Boats, and camping facilities have been expanded also. This year about a dozen campers are parked on a permanent basis and several temporary sites are in use during weekends and holidays.

Complete motor service and hull repair are major services available at North Shore Boats. Parts and accessories are stocked and sold year-round.

Still active in the business are Patsy, Dean, and long-time employee and service technician, Rick Vander Horst.

by Dean Sadler

NORTHWESTERN MUTUAL LIFE

B45

The "Quiet Company", founded in 1857 in Milwaukee, Wis., has been represented in the Marion – Mahaska Co. areas since the early 1900's.

The late Ernest De Cook represented Northwestern Mutual for 34 years and was highly recognized for his untiring efforts to

insure many people of the area. Mr. De Cook farmed prior to entering the insurance business.

In 1974, Darrell Dobernecker began representing the Company and established a permanent office in Pella. Darrell was made a District Agent in 1977 and the Pella office took on more responsibilities.

At this writing, July 6, 1987, the Office Manager of the Pella Office is Karen Dobernecker, wife of Darrell. Sally Drake is Production Assistant. Agents working out of the Pella Office include William Bruxvoort – Leighton and Oskaloosa areas, Rex De Moss – Knoxville area, Chris Mc Aninch – Montezuma area, and Bill Weeks – Grinnell area.

The Agency is very modernized with the latest in computer technology to properly service the many clients in the area.

Products sold include Life and Health Insurance, Disability Insurance, Annuities, and a wide range of Investments through the Robert W. Baird Company which is owned by Northwestern Mutual Life.

by Darrell Dobernecker

OVERMAN OPTOMETRIC OFFICE AND BRILLEMAAKER OPTICAL

B46

On Sept. 1, 1957, Dr. Frank Overman opened his optometric office on the second floor above Van Sittert Plumbing at 706½ Washington. This was a two-room office with a small waiting room and a large room with partitions for his examination area, frame display area, and office. The laboratory was in a small closet. The lens grinding laboratory was in the basement of his home. He did the grinding evenings and weekends.

Behind his office was Lady Fair Beauty Salon. Bernice Van Zee and Vi Holliday Vande Noord always had a cup of coffee handy when things weren't busy, which was most of the time, that first year.

In the summer of 1958, when business picked up, and because of the long stairs, he moved to 835 Broadway and rented office space from the Kleins. He shared the downstairs with Pella Products and later with Dr. Richard Roush, a dentist.

Dr. Overman thought that he would never need a larger office. He had his lens grinding shop at the office now and separate rooms for everything else.

In 1962 Dr. Overman hired a part-time receptionist Esther Vander Weide Tromp. Esther resigned about the time Dr. Roush moved in.

The doctors hired a receptionist together. Beverly De Weerd Quick did a great job keeping things straight for them.

When Dr. Roush sold his practice, Bev began working full-time for Dr. Overman.

When it was time for a second assistant, Dr. Overman hired Sandy Roorda Van Steenis, and after her, Marla Van Dee, each for short periods of time. Joann Ryerson was then hired and stayed on for a number of years.

When he did need more space, in 1971, he moved up the street to 839 Broadway and rented the whole building. He now had two assistants and double the office size. He never would need to move again. He had more space than he ever could use. He eliminated the lens grinding shop.

Beverly got married and decided to have a family instead of working. Dr. Overman hired Helen Van Zee Vande Ree in May of 1972. A little later he hired Diane Thom as a third assistant. She only stayed a couple of years and then he hired Benita Perkey Sanders in Aug. of 1975. In 1983 Joann wanted to retire and he hired Linda Ver Heul De Haan. Linda also wanted to raise a family and Dr. Overman hired Twyla Vander Ley in May of 1983.

Thirteen years after moving the last time he needed a little more space and had a chance to buy the building next door. So he remodeled it and moved down the street, to 837 Broadway, in the summer of 1984.

At the end of Feb. 1987, Twyla and her family moved to California. Dr. Overman then hired Eileen Dieleman Hiemstra.

He did a little remodeling again in 1987 and put in a lens grinding shop which he called Brillemaaker Optical.

The doctor has been in practice for 30 years since the doors opened that Sept. 1, 1957, and the people of Pella, the surrounding area, and the surrounding towns have kept the business growing.

by Dr. Frank H. Overman

PELLA BUILDING AND SUPPLY 1947-1987

B47

1008 W. 2nd, 1st house built by Edgar Roorda. Left to Right: Sandra, Minnie, Eunice, and Edgar.

Pella Building and Supply has its roots back in the 1940s when Edgar and Minnie (Den Besten) Roorda sold their farm Dec., 1947. This was primarily due to an old leg-back problem, four years of trial and error in farming with the first year drying out due to hilly ground, then three years of Skunk River flooding over the cropland. The move into Pella required a home. It was decided to purchase a quarter of a block, the north 200 feet of Block 6 in the 1000 Block on West Second St. which was used for a cow pasture by Simon Dowstra of 1014 West First St. West Second St. had just been paved due north to the former Oak Grove Nursery. The property would need some grading to develop it into building sites.

Edgar had acquired much of his experience working on the family farm with his father, Epke, who was the neighborhood carpenter, blacksmith, and general "fix-it" man. With some help from his father and father-in-law Ed, Edgar built his first home from the foundation to the finished product and was able to move his family in Mar. of 1948, from the house temporarily rented from the Otto Ver Meers. Wages averaged 80 cents to $1.00 per hour at the time.

In April Edgar entered University Hospitals in Iowa City for spinal fusion surgery to eliminate the leg-back problem. After a five-month recovery period it was back to work remodeling bathrooms, kitchens, and finishing his home.

To haul equipment to and from jobs, a used 1940 panel truck was purchased from A.B. Van Howeling Auto. The Fall of 1948 the house was sold and a second one built on the corner of West Second and Lincoln St. A brother-in-law, John Engbers, was hired and took advantage of the government G.I. bill which helped him to buy the tools needed and provided supplemental income to learn the trade. Growing out of the double garage facilities, a shop-warehouse was built on the rear of the lot where, of this writing, is the location of Pella Building and Supply. In 1950 the second house was sold and a third one built, again on West Second St. Also in 1950, Edgar and John formed a partnership, named the company Roorda and Engbers Construction and expanded into plumbing, heating, electrical, masonry and concrete work, giving control and coordination to all the facets of the work in progress. In 1954 George, and son Rudy Heeren closed their woodworking shop. The basic equipment was purchased giving the company a large planing mill, tablesaw, bandsaw, shaper, woodlathe, disc sander, and compressed air sprayer. Custom woodworking includes cabinetry, surface planing, furniture building, designing of new homes and all detailed products. The business then needed more room so the equipment was moved to the north building (showroom) of White Way Auto Co. John also sold his share of the mechanical, plumbing, heating, and electrical business to Edgar who gave it the name of Building and Supply Service.

Conscious of customer employee relationship, vacations were at a minimum. The main attraction for the children was to ride along with Dad to pick up supplies, an occasional sales promotion with the family, including food and beverage, or Edgar would let his wife, Minnie, go for supplies. The Fall of 1954, the third house was sold and a fourth one built; again, on the same block but around the corner on 909 West Lincoln St. Too much other work interfered so the family lived in the basement two years, however, that move as to this writing is still their home.

With the continuing growth in the construction of custom-built homes, schools, churches, commercial buildings and equipment, the company reached its peak in construction, early in 1960 with a total of 38 employees.

In the Fall of 1960 John informed Edgar of his desire to dissolve his partnership and return to school for the ministry, in which he is still active.

In 1961 the business moved out of the rented building back to the former location into a new and larger shop-warehouse. With

an alley adjacent to the shop it serves well for customer parking, truck deliveries, and the convenience of the business next to the home. The name was changed to Roorda Construction. In the mid-60s both window and central air-conditioning models were added to the inventory and installation created a busy time during the hot summer months. The home building continued to be the main portion of work through the 1970s where quality over quantity and a fair price for labor and supplies were always stressed. The two companies then merged under one name, Pella Building and Supply. In the late 1970s Edgar developed his last parcels of ground, Sandy Lane Addition on Prairie, off Hazel and Sunset Hills West on West Fourth St.

The timing was not right with the sudden increase of interest rates in the early 1980s. Along with the decline in the farming economy, plus extensive major surgery, the business suffered. Time brought about many changes and new management when their son Bruce took over. Again seeing potentials in growth the present facilities have been updated and remodeled. In 1986 their son Edwin set up the business on computer to give accurate accounting with inventory and overall control.

Even though Edgar is now on the retired list and does enjoy some travel, golf, and fishing, his real joy is to take on a project, help on a job site, or work in the shop, with the challenge that whatever you want built, designed or constructed, to take on the positive attitude that it can be done. It is our hope and sincere prayer that the City of Pella and the surrounding community may have benefited from our efforts that were put forth in the past and for continued growth for future generations.

by Elmer J. Roorda

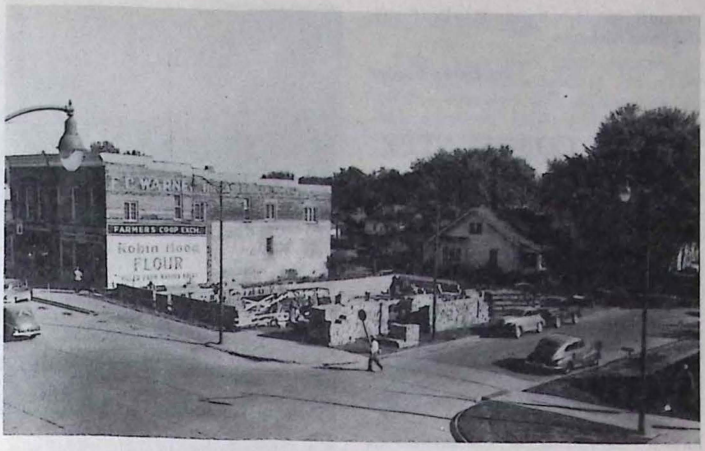
HISTORY OF PELLA NEWSPAPERS, INCLUDING THE PELLA CHRONICLE

B48

1987 photo of Franklin Street with Pella Chronicle in foreground.

The need for a newspaper in the City of Pella didn't become apparent until 1854-1855.

Edwin H. Grant, a practical printer, came from the east to Pella and entered into a publishing partnership with H.P. Scholte. Their first newspaper office was in the old Pella National Bank building at the corner of Main and Washington St.



Preparation for new Chronicle Building on corner of Franklin and Broadway in 1954.

The first issue of the *Pella Gazette* appeared *on Feb. 1, 1855. This was the first newspaper in Marion Co. and at the time the most western paper published in Iowa. The Des Moines Star* published in Fort Des Moines had suspended printing just previously.

Mr. Grant continued his connection with the *Gazette* until 1857-58. The paper was suspended for some time. In 1859 it was revived by S.M. Hammond and published by him. Mr. Scholte edited the paper as a campaign paper.

From Nov. to Mar., 1860 it was published by Hammond and Hannold when it was finally discontinued.

Pella was without a paper in the English language, but in Sept. 1861, Henry Hospers purchased the old *Pella Gazette* office and began publication of a Holland language paper called *Pella's Weekblad.* It was a Democratic paper and enjoyed a good patronage since the community was largely Democratic.

In June 1870, Mr. Hospers was appointed by the Legislature to the office of Immigrant Agent and he sold the paper to H. Neyenesch.

In the winter of 1864-65, C.S. Wilson started publication of the *Pella Blade,* second English language newspaper. Mr. Wilson was a Republican and evidently had his own style of writing. The *Pella Blade* changed hands several times after Wilson sold the paper about a year after it was introduced. The last owner was H. Neyensch.

In 1893, G.A. Stout founded the *Pella Advertiser* (later called the "Saturday Advertiser"), and at about the turn of the century bought out Neyenesch's *Pella Blade.* He combined the two publications and in 1901 named his newspaper *The Pella Chronicle.*

Since the *Pella Blade* dated back to 1864, Stout elected to sustain the *Blade's* volume number in the *Chronicle's* masthead. This numbering continues to this day.

Mr. Stout was publisher of *The Chronicle* when it was purchased by Rev. R.R. Sadler and his four sons, Lindsay, Leslie, Hoge, and Walker, when they came to Pella in 1903.

The Pella Banner published by Sam Sherman for two years was bought out by the Sadlers in 1904. After this, Pella was served by only two newspapers, *The Chronicle* and its Dutch language competitor, *The Weekblad.*

Within the following two decades, the Sadler brothers dissolved their partnership. Leslie Sadler went into the printing business in Omaha where he died in 1914. Walker Sadler left in 1915 to farm in northwest Iowa, returning to *The Chronicle* in 1925. In 1918, Lindsay Sadler returned to native West Virginia and entered into the newspaper business in Beckley. The elder Sadler died in 1921, leaving Hoge Sadler in charge of the business.

In 1903, *The Chronicle* shop and office were located in the back room over the People's Saving Bank. This bank was operated by Herman Rietveld who was instrumental in getting the Sadlers to move to Pella and buy *The Chronicle.*

In 1905 Mr. Rietveld built the building at 717 Main, now occupied by City Hall, and *The Chronicle* moved into the basement in the front of the building. In 1907 *The Chronicle* bought the building at 725 Main where it continued publishing the news until 1954 when the plant was moved to the corner of Franklin and Broadway.

In 1908, J.H. Shutts bought an interest in *The Chronicle* and sold back his interest in 1910.

In 1948, Marion De Zwarte bought an interest in *The Chronicle* and operated the newspaper with Hoge Sadler until 1959, when Mr. Sadler's interest in the paper was passed on to his son, Dean.

In 1961, *The Chronicle* changed from a weekly publication to a semi-weekly in order to furnish readers with more current news coverage.

Marion De Zwarte and Dean Sadler operated the paper from 1909, to 1968. Marion was business manager and Dean served as advertising manager, editor, and print shop supervisor. They sold the business to E.K. Shaw in 1968. This ended 65 years of Sadler ownership of *The Chronicle.* Shaw held the paper until Gil Boat, Phil and Ernie Visser purchased the paper with E. Visser serving as publisher from 1971-1975. At this time Richard Barton purchased the paper. Barton sold in 1978 to Boone Enterprises from Alabama. Dolph Tillotson operated the pa-

per until 1986 when it was sold to Ben Smith, also from Alabama.

by Patsy Sadler

PELLA COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

B49

An early Buick (1927 or 1928) ambulance in Pella

Pella Community Hospital (1987 photo)

A hospital which would be conveniently located to serve the varied needs of the Pella community — this was a long-standing dream of many progressive local citizens. For decades they had envisioned a facility which would be available to everyone for routine health care and treatment as well as for more urgent surgical and obstetrical needs. It would ease the burden and occasional danger of driving to Oskaloosa or Des Moines hospitals and greatly enhance the quality of life in Pella.

A private hospital had been in operation for a short time in the 1940's in the old Pella Christian High School building on North Main St. While it was open only briefly, it probably alerted many local people to the possibilities and benefits of a more complete facility in Pella. And as the forties lengthened into the fifties, public sentiment began to grow in favor of a hospital.

An ad hoc group, the Pella Civic Betterment Committee, finally got things started during the mid-fifties with a series of feasibility studies. The committee, headed by Stu Kuyper, concluded that both the need for a hospital and strong public sentiment in favor of it existed and a building project was proposed in a series of public meetings. In Jan. of 1958, plans took definite shape and a steering committee was formed with Gary Vermeer as chairman. Other members were Bert Boat, J.B. Dahm, Max Hoeksema, Henry Klein, Stu Kuyper, Henry Vande Voort, John Van Dyk, and Verle Ver Dught. A month later, it was expanded to include administrative, building, finance, and publicity sub-committees as well as a "women's advisory committee".

Thorson, Thorson and Madson, Architects of Storm Lake, Ia., were named to design the proposed building and a fund-raising goal of $450,000 was set. On June 21, it was announced that the community had exceeded its financial goal and that $225,000 in government aid had been obtained for the project. A total contract price of $679,000 had been set and ground-breaking ceremonies had already been held on Apr. 5, 1959. General contractors for the new hospital building were Roth and Associates of Storm Lake and over 600 community residents voluntarily assisted with construction.

The various committees spent a very busy year and a half overseeing construction and outfitting of the new facility. John Harmeling of Sac City, Ia., had been hired as administrator and began work on May 16, 1960, directing the equipping and staffing. Finally, on Dec. 16, 1960, Pella Community Hospital opened its doors and welcomed the public to tour its facilities. The first patient was admitted on Dec. 27 and during the first month of operation, the census averaged five and one-half patients per day along with fifty-one outpatients for the month.

Just as predicted by the preliminary studies, the hospital proved to be a success from the beginning. Along with a steady increase in the patient census, there was a great deal of demand voiced for a nursing home as part of the hospital. Already in Dec., 1960, when it opened, consideration had been given to building such an addition. Soon a fund-raising goal of $180,000 was established and an additional $90,000 in government aid was secured. Again the community responded by oversubscribing its goal and the 30-bed nursing home became a reality in Feb. of 1962. It began operations with an open house and the first residents were admitted to the skilled-care and convalescent facility on Feb. 5.

The nursing home enjoyed a 99% occupancy rate from the day that it opened and expansion soon became necessary. An addition costing $270,000 added another thirty-one beds in June, 1966. Fully occupied since then, the nursing home offers a structured program of activities, family involvement, and professional care for its elderly residents and meets a pressing community need.

But the need for additional hospital facilities as well was felt very strongly by 1977.

In the Coffee Shop at the Pella Hospital are Beulah Roorda, Gary Van Vark, Esther Boat, Marlene Dieleman, John Harmeling, Louise Cummings, and Dr. Herm Vander Meulen.

Overcrowded conditions and the necessity for modernization of the seventeen-year-old plant lent strong impetus to an expansion plan and a fund-raising drive which began in May. Four months later, over $3,000,000 had been raised to finance the project. An interesting feature of the 1977 drive was the weekly progress reports. A large thermometer was added to the Tulip Tower in Central Park and each week a helicopter piloted by chairman Gary Vermeer landed on a platform atop the tower. The passenger, a different local figure each week, would descend in a bosun's chair to paint in the week's receipts.

Roth and Associates again were the general contractors for the project which carried a total price over $2,900,000. It included expansion of the laboratory, X-ray, emergency, and surgical suites and space was added for coronary care, visiting specialists, and outpatient services. The project was completed in Dec., 1979; it permitted a significant expansion of hospital services so that outpatient visits since that time have increased to over 57,000 annually.

Currently, Pella Community Hospital offers a broad range of general services in its 47-bed facility combined with the 61-bed nursing wing. There is a strong emphasis by both board and staff on in-patient services which stress a "we care" philosophy. And specialized out-patient programs are intended to facilitate treatment and promote wellness. They include CAT scan, mammography, fetal monitoring, and Medi-mate services and clinics utilizing visiting specialists in allergies, dermatology, neurology, otolaryngology, ophthalmology, and orthopedics.

In Apr. of 1987, the decision was made to add a 24-bed, low-stimulus Alzheimer's care facility to the nursing home. The concept was approved at the annual meeting and the board was instructed to proceed with detailed planning. Approval by the Iowa State Department of Health was granted, based on community need, and construction of the addition was begun in Oct. of 1987.

Since 1960, the hospital has played an important part in the life of this community. A vital resource and a major employer, it has provided a variety of services which contribute to the health, fitness, and well-being of residents of Pella and the surrounding area.

by Henry Vande Kieft

PELLA COOPERATIVE ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION

B50

In 1935, only one farm in ten in this country had electricity. The vast majority of farm people still read by lamplight, pumped their own water, hauled ice for the ice box and performed their household and farm chores from dawn to dusk without the help of electricity. Then on May 11, 1935, Pres. Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed an Executive Order setting up the Rural Electrification Administration and appropriated $100 million for rural electrification loan funds. That bold action sent a wave of hope across the countryside that some day rural Americans would have lights and a standard of

Pella Cooperative Electric Headquarters corner of Fifield Road and Washington Street.

living comparable to their urban neighbors.

The government required that there be three houses per mile of line before a cooperative receive funding for a project. Meeting that requirement was the first hurdle to be crossed on the road to electrification.

One Sunday afternoon, Pella City Councilman John Hoeksema and his wife Alice piled their three young children into the family automobile and headed on a drive north and west of Pella. The children may have been distracted in the back seat, but up front John and Alice were intent on counting houses as they traveled over 30 miles of rough country roads. Later, after carefully rechecking their route and numbers, John looked at his wife, and exclaimed, "It can be done!"

The prospect of getting electricity in the countryside near Pella was first tossed around in 1935 at agricultural meetings, rural school get-togethers, and almost anywhere farmers and their families gathered to talk.

Those discussions took a more organized form as a small group of dedicated men began meeting at the homes of John and Alice Hoeksema and Harold and Marie Veenstra to consider starting a non-profit rural electric cooperative.

They sought technical assistance from Iowa State College in Ames on forming a cooperative and applying for a loan from the Rural Electrification Administration. During the winter of 1935-36, John Boot and John Hoeksema traveled at their own expense to Washington, D.C. to apply for a loan of $70,000 at three percent interest to finance the construction of the cooperative's first 65 miles of electric line.

After reams of correspondence between Pella and the nation's capitol, the loan contract was approved in early 1936, and allotment was made on Sept. 21 of that year.

It took two dollars to sign up for the Pella Cooperative Electric Association, and by the fall of 1936, enough people had signed on the dotted line to get the business of the cooperative rolling. The first official meeting of the newly incorporated cooperative was held at the temporary office at 900 Lincoln St. in Pella at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 29, 1936.

Harold J. Veenstra was elected temporary chairman. Other incorporators present included John Van Den Baard, George Van Vark, Dick Gosselink, Ed Keuning, A.J. Ter Louw, Louis Van Roekel, John Boot, Alonzo Ver Ploeg, and John Van Zee.

Pella Cooperative Electric Association was on its way. In the spring of 1937, a contract was signed with Crawford Electric Co. of North Platte, Neb., to erect the first 70 miles of line north and west of Pella. An arrangement was struck with the Pella Municipal Light Co. to supply the electricity. Construction of the lines began in the summer and in Oct. of 1937.

Today, more than 2,000 accounts are served by over 575 miles of line in five different counties. Dedicated directors have been joined by hard-working and loyal employees and concerned, active members to make Pella Cooperative Electric Association a success. That partnership between members, directors, and employees will continue to make sure that reliable and adequate energy for Pella Cooperative members will continue for years to come.

by Phil Visser

PELLA FARMERS COOPERATIVE EXCHANGE

B51

Pella Farmers Cooperative Exchange located at East 109 South Street.

In the early 1900s, the farmers of the community began to feel the need to sell their livestock and grain and buy their supplies cooperatively. On Oct. 27, 1919, local farm leaders called a meeting for the purpose of organizing a shipping organization. The meeting was held at the City Hall with about 300 in attendance. It was unanimously decided to organize. The membership fees were set at $10. Named by election to the first Board were: Jacob De Haan, James Ver Ploeg, Antonie Vander Waal, Peter Tysseling, and Wm. De Geus.

At the first Board meeting, Mr. C. Dieleman was hired for a wage of 6 cents cwt. on livestock shipments. In the second month, they began to sell feed items such as oilmeal, tankage, and salt. This required the first bank loan of $3,000. The Vander Zyl Elevator was purchased for $20,000 on Mar. 20, 1920, and they were in the grocery business soon after. With road and truck improvements, it became practical to haul livestock to market by truck, so facilities were built to load out truck shipments of livestock.

Due to the depression and the inability of egg and chicken buying firms to pay for purchased products, a vote to dissolve the Company was held in 1934. This was defeated, and the following year they showed a profit.

The 1930s, saw the change from a Stock Company to a patronage dividend cooperative under the new Coop laws. Economic conditions improved and remained good through the 1940s.

Following a fire in the feed mixing room in 1953, a new feed manufacturing and ware-

house building was constructed, followed by seed cleaning and grain storage facilities.

A major expansion occurred in 1955 with the construction of a bulk fertilizer plant. In 1955 the grocery department was closed.

Purchase of the Farmers Union Marketing Ass'n. took place in 1959. This placed the Coop in the refined fuels and lumber business. The Pella Produce Egg Plant was leased in 1961 to provide a better outlet for eggs. This facility was closed when an investment in the Glidden Quality Egg Marketing Ass'n. suffered a substantial loss.

The Vander Zyl property was purchased in 1965. On this site, a new modern lumberyard was built, and the uptown yard was sold to the City.

A parcel of land, approximately three acres, was purchased from Antonie Huyser in 1968, as was the adjoining ten acres in 1972. This site was used for new facilities to replace those at the old location.

The business and facilities of the Oskaloosa Oil Company was purchased in 1979, and was sold in 1987. An existing lumberyard was bought in Tracy in 1981 as a distribution center for that area and remains open to the present.

From a total asset figure of $15,000 in 1920, the Co-operative has grown to a current asset value of $3,800,000.

by Mel Vos

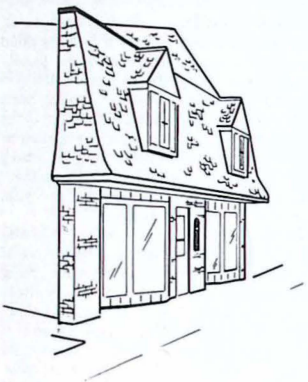
PELLA ENGRAVING CO.

B52

Duco Zylstra, Pella Engraving in basement of Pella Chronicle Building

Pella Engraving Co. has an interesting history dating back to 1934, as a photo engraving plant originally operated by the *Pella Chronicle.* This process was used to produce printing plates from photographs and drawings to be printed in newspapers and other printed pieces. At that time the *Pella Chronicle* made this service available to numerous daily and weekly newspapers and printing establishments around the state. It was called Pella Chronicle Engraving Dept. Bert Reynolds was its first employee.

Ed DuPree, photo engraving camera at Pella Engravers



Pella Engraving building at 807 East 1st. Street.

In 1937, upon graduation from high school, two local boys, Ed DuPree and Duco Zylstra were employed to learn the trade. During World War II the plant was temporarily closed because of material and manpower shortages. In 1946 Duco Zylstra and Ed DuPree returned from service and made arrangements to purchase the engraving business from the newspaper. In 1956, John Vroom purchased a share in the business. At this time the name was formally changed to Pella Engraving Co. As time passed many changes took place. Modern equipment was added and new areas opened for added services.

When the business began its operation it was located on the second floor of the newspaper office located at 725 Main. From 1952-1975 Pella Engraving Co.'s shop was located in the basement of the *Pella Chronicle.* In 1975 the Company purchased the former Gosselink TV Building at 807 East First Street where they are presently in operation.

As an interesting bit of history the following is recorded in the abstract of this property. In 1854 this parcel was purchased by the Christian Church. It was then sold in 1857 to the Reformed Protestant Dutch Church of Pella. In 1868 the name of this church was changed to read the First Reformed Church of Pella.

In 1980, Ed DuPree, with a desire to retire, sold his share to the remaining partners. In 1984 Duco Zylstra sold his share of the business to his partner John Vroom and continues to work on a part-time basis. The company currently employs ten persons, some on part-time status.

Pella Engraving has served the printing and publishing industry with various graphic arts needs for all those years mentioned. As times and methods changed so did the company. At the present time various products are produced. Listed are the following items available: engravings for letterpress printing; hot stamp dies for foil printing and embossing; color separations for four color process printing; litho negatives for printing and silk screening; deep etched/walnut base plaques for awards; and old photo reproductions.

The company has accounts all throughout the midwest, and stretching as far as California, Texas, and Florida.

by John Vroom

PELLA FLIGHT CENTER

B53

Elias Kolenbrander, early flyer in 1931

Old Pella Airport 1940's

Aviation in Pella had an early start. In the 1930s the airport was located east of Pella where Vermeer's office building stands. Elias Kolenbrander was one of the early flyers. Ila (Fox) Loetscher, a Pella native, was the first licensed, lady pilot in Iowa.

In 1940, the airport was relocated southeast of Pella by George Hanson on land

Photo of the Pella Municipal Airport taken in 1986 looking north-northwest. Extension will be to the lower right of the picture.

rented from Elbert Van Maanen. Several training programs, both civilian and military, were conducted there from 1941-45, with a peak enrollment of 120 students. Local instructors that were part of that program were: Keith Emmert, Willard Kaldenberg, Earl Pohlman, Virgil Vander Linden, Ralph Vander Zyl, and Norman Van Gorp. Bob Nemmers, remembered by many in Pella, was later associated with Iowa State Aeronautics. Ground school was taught at the college by Raymond Doorenbos and Marvin Baker.

Activity in 1945 relied on the G.I. training program as those returning from service learned to fly.

The City of Pella purchased land for the municipal airport at its present location one mile west of town from the Vander Linden family. In 1967, a new hard-surfaced runway was completed. The grading for the new runway was done by J.B. Dahm and the concrete work was completed by Pella Construction. The main hangar, 60'X72' was also erected in 1967. The south T hangars were constructed in 1968 and provide storage for five airplanes. After completion of Red Rock Dam, the engineer's office building was moved to the airport for the terminal building in 1969. A homing radio beacon (NDB) was installed at the airport to aid arriving aircraft. A lighted glide path (VASI) was added in 1975, as a help to aircraft on the glide path.

Satellite Airways, operated by Melvin Dop, was the first operation at the new airport.

On Apr. 1, 1977, Pella Flight Center started at the Pella Municipal airport. Riley and Bobbie Roberts were the owners. Flight instruction, airplane rental, and charter services were provided. Riley became the airport manager. Raymond De Geus and Cornelius Roose became part-time employees helping with various duties and keeping the airport attended while Riley would be away on charter or with students.

A rotating beacon, lighted wind tee, weather instruments, and two-way radio for communicating with aircraft in the area were added in 1977. A radio control was installed so that the VASI and runway lights may be turned on by the airplane radios.

Plans are to extend the runway length to 4,000 feet. That would be adequate length for larger corporate airplanes to bring personnel directly to Pella instead of to Newton or Des Moines, as is now the case.

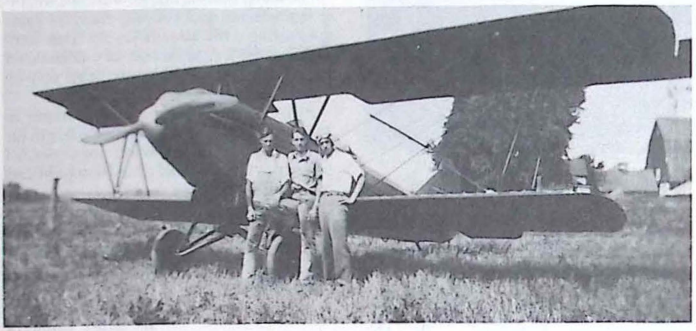
Airport committee members are: Gary Van Vark (Chr.) Kyle De Yarman, Andrew Klyn, Ronald Kramer, Ronald Noordsy, Marvin Tysseling, Franklin Van Gorp, and Robert F. Van Vark.

by Riley Roberts

(See photos next page.)

Aerial spraying made news in 1950. Airplane from Dexter, Mo.

Training programs, civilian and military, were conducted in 1941-1945



Left to Right: Ralph Vermeer, Alvin Hollenbrands, Edward Hollenbrands.

PELLA MEDICAL CENTER

B54

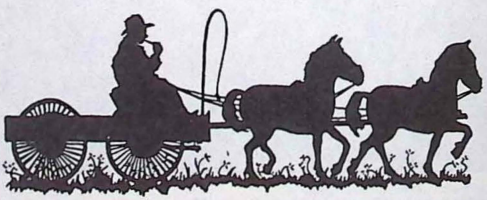
The present Pella Medical Center has its roots in the Pella Medical Center building first constructed on Jefferson Street next to Pella Community Hospital. The new clinic housed the budding practices of two physicians in partnership – Dr. Gene Van Zee and Dr. Stewart Kanis. Both hospital and clinic opened January 1, 1961.

At that time Dr. Alvin Evers was practicing medicine in Pella also and was joined in practice by Dr. Kenneth Monsma a short time later. Six years after the initial opening of the clinic all four physicians of Pella began working together.

The building was therefore enlarged to accommodate the merger of the two groups and any future specialists they hoped to adopt. Thus, the Pella Medical Center of 1987 was founded on Apr. 1, 1967.

The hopes of better service to the community have been fulfilled with the acquisition of more family practitioners, an internal medicine specialist, and a general surgeon. Several physicians have been associated with the Pella Medical Center through its growth. Dr. Steven Vander Waal practiced internal medicine with Pella Medical Center for five years prior to leaving in 1984. General surgeon Dr. Wesley Fromack served in Pella from Aug. of 1975, to Oct. of 1976. Dr. Kurt Vander Ploeg got his start in family practice with Pella Medical Center from 1978 to 1981. Dr. Charles Schafer joined Pella Medical Center nine years ago in 1977 as general surgeon. Dr. John Kanis began his practice in 1982. Dr. Alvin Evers passed away in 1984 after serving the Pella Community for 38 years. Dr. David Daining filled the opening in internal medicine when he arrived in Nov. of 1984. Pella Pine Rest with Mr. Cal Meuzelaar as counselor and Dr. Jerry Lewis as associated psychiatrist reside in the Pella Medical Center building.

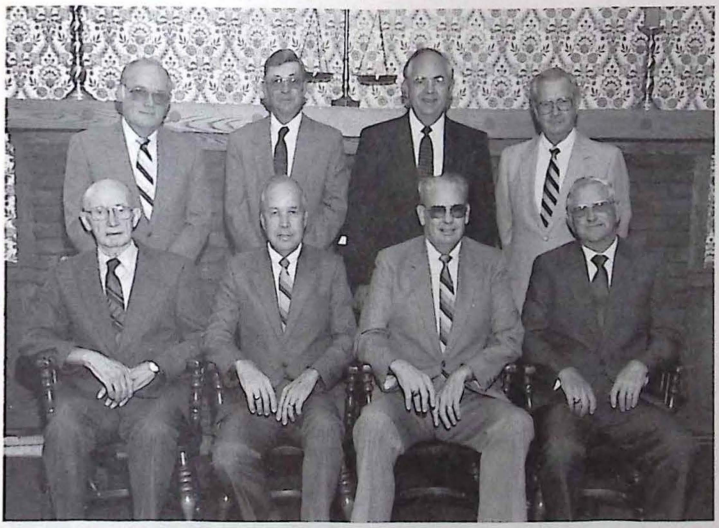
Seventeen people make up the Pella Medical Center current staff associated with four family practitioners, an internal medicine specialist, and a general surgeon. In the future Pella Medical Center hopes to continue to serve the community by adding more physicians to handle the ever-increasing patient numbers and replacing a physician contemplating retirement. As always, treating the mind, soul, and body, or whole person, remains Pella Medical Center's philosophy.



Pella Medical Center Staff June 1987. Front, l-r: Dr. Kenneth J. Monsma, Jane Ver Steeg, Sheri Brouwer, Dr. John Kanis, Dr. David Daining; Back, l-r: Julie Flory, Beverly Van Haaften, Elaine Keuning, Barbara Frank, Mary Pothoven, Dr. Charles Schafer, Ruth Van Genderen, Dr. Stewart Kanis, Pamela Robus, Teri Buitenwerf, Barbara De Penning, Marilyn De Bruin, Judy Ver Meer, Linda Rus, Florence Dieleman, Deb Vint, Dr. Gene K. Van Zee, and Sheryl Vande Noord.

PELLA NATIONAL BANK

B55



Front, l-r: J.G. boat, Honorary Board Member; Howard Knutson, President; C.W. Gifford, Exec. Vice President; Charles Vander Ploeg, Sr. Vice President. Absent Elmer (Dutch) Vermeer. Back, l-r: Carl Boat, Don Den Adel, Kenneth Weller, Bill Peters.

Pella Nat'l. Bank today, NW corner Broadway and Franklin, 1987 photo

"The People Helping People Bank"

In the summer of 1847, a company of immigrants from The Netherlands, under the leadership of Dominie Hendrik Pieter Scholte, settled in Marion Co., Ia., on the divide between the Des Moines and Skunk Rivers. Because of religious persecution, they had left their mother country to find a new home where they could worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. The new town was called Pella, The City of Refuge, and upon the seal of the new city was inscribed the words, "In Deo Spes Nostra et Refugim", meaning, "In God Our Hope and Refuge."

As additional immigrants came from The Netherlands, and the population of the colony increased, the need for banking facilities in Pella became urgent. In 1855 the first banking facilities were established under the name of "Scholte and Grant", but its business was limited and only special depo-

Pella National Bank, Pella, Iowa

on Comptroller's Call, December 31, 1936

RESOURCES

Loans	$ 197,354.85
U. S. Government Securities	76,354.40
Municipal and Market Bonds	477,473.87
Banking House & Equipment	7,000.00
Cash, Due from Federal Reserve and other Banks	474,924.27
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation	1,390.82
	$1,234,498.21

LIABILITIES

Demand Deposits	$ 822.866.20
Time and Savings Deposits	228,985.80
Public Depisits	97,150.24
Capital	50,000.00
Surplus	35,000.00
Undivided Profits	495.97
	$1,234,498.21

DIRECTORS

Geo. G. Gaass
E. S. Cook
J. H. De Vries
H. P. Scholte
H. S. Nollen
Mrs. H. P. Scholte

OFFICERS

Geo. G. Gaass, President
E. S. Cook, Vice President
J. H. De Vries, Vice President
H. P. Scholte, Cashier
C. Smorenberg, Asst. Cashier
Will Baer, Asst. Cashier

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

RESOURCES	1986 December 31
Cash and Due from Banks	$ 1,945,894.98
U.S. Gov. and Gov. Agency Securities	18,140,655.31
Municipal Bonds	830,837.42
Other Investments	17,593,277.92
Total Cash and Marketable Bonds	$38,510,665.63
Loans — (Net)	$29,800,930.69
Federal Reserve Bank Stock	15,000.00
Bank Bldg., Furniture and Fixtures — (Net)	425,994.91
Other Real Estate	909,387.00
Other Assets	1,398,060.88
Total Resources	$71,060,039.11
LIABILITIES	
Deposits	
Demand	$ 6,531,876.95
Savings and Time	59,115,521.16
Total Deposits	$65,647,398.11
Accrued Interest and Other Expense	289,479.09
Other Liabilities	418,506.13
Total Liabilities	$66,355,383.33
Capital	250,000.00
Surplus	250,000.00
Undivided Profits	4,204,655.78
Total Capital Accounts	$ 4,704,655.78
Total Liabilities and Capital Accounts	$71,060,039.11

OFFICERS:

President
Howard K. Knutson
Exec. Vice President
C. W. Gifford
Sr. Vice President & Trust Officer
C. L. Vander Ploeg
Sr. Vice President & Cashier
Dena Bokhoven
Vice President Ag Loans
Raymond Pothoven
Ag Loan Officer
Douglas Kleven
Ag Loan Officer
David Steenhoek
Manager Installment Loans
Donna Steenhoek
Real Estate Loan Officer
Rick Weber
Manager Investor Center
Pat Moriarity
Accounting Officer
Carol Primus
Assistant Cashier
Evelyn Trueblood

DIRECTORS

Howard K. Knutson, President — Pella National Bank
C. W. Gifford, Executive Vice President — Pella National Bank
C. L. Vander Ploeg, Senior Vice President & Trust Officer — Pella National Bank
Carl E. Bost, Senior V.P., International Operations — Vermeer Manufacturing Corporation
Elmer H. Vermeer, Retired
Kenneth Weller, President — Central College
R. W. Peters
Land Development
Donald L. Den Adel
Farmer
J. G. Bost — Honorary Board Member

Statements of Condition – Dec. 1936 and Dec. 1986

sits were accepted. However, a regular bank, where all transactions common to such an institution took place, first came into being on May 15, 1857, under the name of "Central Exchange and Land Office", which was started by P.P. Scholte, P.H. Bousquet and John Nollen. This business was soon succeeded by and changed to the "Pella Savings Institution", which was incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa. On Oct. 7, 1872, the Pella Savings Institution was converted to "The Pella National Bank" under the new banking act approved June 3, 1864.

Pella National Bank continued to grow under the capable leadership of the following presidents: 1857-1872, Hendrick Pieter Scholte; 1872-1875, John Nollen; 1875-1908, P.H. Bousquet; 1909-1920, R.R. Beard; 1921-1938, G.G. Gaass; 1939-1942, Henry S. Nollen; 1943-1947, C.F. Dykstra; 1948-1954, J.R. Drake; 1955-1967, J.G. Boat; 1967-1974, J.G. Leahy; 1974 – To the present, Howard K. Knutson.

In this our 130th year of operation, our banking institution has assisted thousands of people to acquire their farms, homes, personal property, and businesses. We have helped the people of our community, not only through good times, but were always ready to help and were standing by through their struggles in bad times. A large percentage of those who transact business with us toady, are descendants of our first customers and pioneers. We have been blessed with a dedicated staff and directors, as well as a loyal community. We are proud of what we have been able to accomplish in the past and are looking forward to even greater things in the future.

With our Main Bank, Drive-Up, and Walk-Up facilities, we are able to offer a wide range of services which will fill the needs of the individual and commercial customer, whether that be in loans, deposits, investments, or any service related to finances.

We presently have a staff of 38 officers and employees, 26 of which are full time employees and 12 part time employees. All officers and employees with their years of service are:

Under 5 years: Caryn Dahm; Patricia Deur; Paulette Van Gorp; Carla Hoeksema; Phyllis Hugen; Douglas Kleven; Debra Klyn; Kimberly Vander Molen; Patrick Moriarity; Brenda Ross; David Steenhoek; Donna Steenhoek; June Veenstra; Rick Weber.

5 years or more: Ruth Renaud; Ruth Eysink; Shirley Mathes; Vicki Meyers; Janet Overgergen; Sharon Seekamp; Julie Vander Molen.

10 years or more: Patti Van Zante; Gayle Wyma; Cindy Van Wyk; Debby Linn; Vicki Schuttinga; Jana Sietstra; Gladys Hol; Debbie Veenstra; Jennie Geetings; Howard Knutson.

15 years or more: Raymond Pothoven; Carol Primus; Evelyn Trueblood; Jo Vos.

25 years or more: C.W. Gifford; C.L. Vander Ploeg.

35 years or more: Dena Bokhoven.

With this many years of service given by our staff, we have sought to help and serve many a customer in this community and surrounding area, with their many and various needs. We have faith and confidence in the people of this community and we welcome the opportunity to serve them, for it is their business and good-will that has made our success possible.

1877.	June 30.	
	United States Bonds,	150.000.—
	Bank of New York.	11.026.89
	Northwestern Nat'l Bank.	82.965.59
	State Nat'l Bank.	1.218.36
	Bills Receivable.	231.644.09
	Expenses.	1.695.08
	Taxes.	3.757.64
	Redemption Fund.	6.760.—
	Cash & Cashand.	12.489.84
		451.646.59
	Capital Stock.	150.000.—
	Depositors.	128.956.76
	Time Deposits.	22.255.20
	Circulation.	124.800.—
	Exchange.	167.68
	Interest.	15.006.12
	Profit & Loss.	1.479.94
	Surplus.	451.646.59

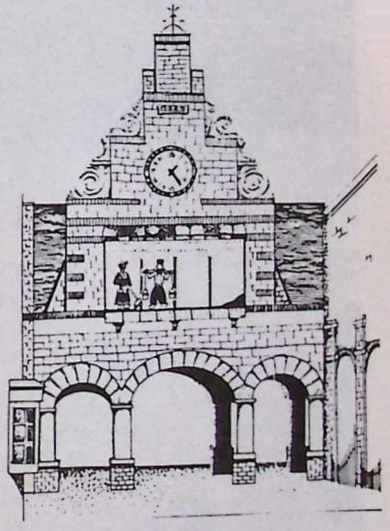
Statement of Condition – June 30, 1877. Taken from Old General Ledger Balance Book

Board of Directors, Pella National Bank, 1950 photo. Left to Right: Cook, Del DeHaan, Gil Boat, J.R. Drake, Charlie Dykstra, and Glen Andreas.

Current Directors and Officers are: J.G. Boat, Honorary Board Member; Carl E. Boat, Elmer H. Vermeer, Bill Peters, Kenneth Weller, and Donald Den Adel, Directors; Howard Knutson, President and Director; C.W. Gifford, Executive Vice-President and Director; C.L. Vander Ploeg, Sr. Vice-President and Director; Dena Bokhoven, Sr. Vice-President and Cashier; Raymond Pothoven, Vice President; Douglas Kleven and David Steenhoek, Ag. Loan Officers; Rick Weber, Real Estate Loan Officer; Donna Steenhoek, Installment Loan Manager; Patrick Moriarity, Investor Center Manager; Evelyn Trueblood, Ass't. Cashier; and Carol Primus, Accounting Officer.

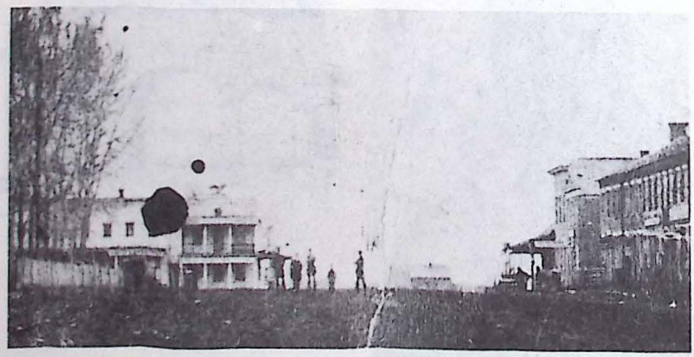
by Dena Bokhoven

(See photos next page.)



Left to Right: Keables home, Hardware Store, Photographer, Millinery, Pella National Bank. Note board sidewalk.

Kuyper Music House and newly remodeled Pella National Bank on the corner of Washington and Main, 1950's photo.



Looking north on the 800 block of Main. Notice eagle on Pella National Bank and the canopy on the building to the north of the present Wormhoudt Furniture Store. To the left is the fence which was built by Scholte around Garden Square. This photo taken before 1875. (PQO)

J.G. BOAT

B56

J. Gilbert Boat was a prominent business and community leader for many years. His introduction to business was at the Gamble Grocery Store where he worked as a teenager. In 1927, when he was only twenty, he joined the Rolscreen Company which he served as President from 1936-1945.

For many people, "Gil" Boat represented banking — The Pella National Bank. In 1939 he was elected vice-president of the board, and after leaving Rolscreen he directed his attention to managing the bank that he owned for many years. From 1955 to 1967 he served as bank president and then continued as chairman of the board.

As he reminisces about his years of banking, he recalls many changes — from records being kept in long hand to the technology of today. Now everything must be documented before loans can be made. He remembers discussing loans with young farmers, asking them a few questions about their needs, agreeing to the loan, but not being certain of the person's name until the contract was signed. "This happened many times; there was much more faith and confidence in people," he commented.

Mr. Boat served Pella not only through industry and banking. He was actively involved in education, serving on the public school board for years including those involving school reorganization.

Central College was an important part of his life even though he was able to attend it for only one year before having to go to work. For many years he was a Trustee and member of the executive committee. His years of distinguished service were recognized when in 1984 he was named an Honorary Member of the Board of Trustees.

Numerous civic, church, and government groups benefited from his leadership: the Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, Hospital, Baptist Church, and Governor's Commission to mention only a few.

Pella has been fortunate to have had prominent businessmen who believed that their leadership abilities should be directed to community betterment and their personal success should be shared. J. Gilbert Boat was such a person. He loved Pella and he was influential in making it a better place to live.

by Bette Brunsting

PELLA NURSERY COMPANY

B57

In 1960, the Pella Nursery Company opened for business on the farm of John H. Vermeer, one and one-half miles east of Pella on the New Sharon Road. The firm was founded by John H. Vermeer, Elmer H. Vermeer, and Earl L. Pohlmann. Originally trees and shrubs, purchased from other established nursery companies, were sold, and one-quarter acre of nursery stock was planted. The Pella Nursery Company had grown to 12 acres of trees and shrubs by 1970, and grass for their sodding operation was being raised. A new line was also established that year, an apple orchard was planted.

John H. Vermeer became the sole owner of the nursery in 1971, when he purchased the stock from his partners. He also bought the East End Orchard, an old fashioned orchard,

from John Van Arkel. Jay G. and Stephen J. (Steve), John's sons, began to buy shares in the nursery that year. Almost since the beginning of the nursery, Delmar Van Wyk has been a valued employee.

Over the years, 120 additional acres have been purchased near the original location, and this land has also been planted to nursery stock and apple orchards. The Pella Nursery, by 1986, had grown to around 200 acres on which have been planted nursery stock, apple orchards, sod, strawberry, raspberry, and asparagus beds. People in the Pella area and beyond are able to drive out to the nursery and pick and purchase the produce that is in season.

The nursery has five full-time employees and over 25 part-time during the height of the planting season. Many students, both high school and college, have been hired to work on landscaping projects. One Central College student in particular, Ben De Bree, an already accomplished horticulturist from The Netherlands, was especially helpful in the early days.

by John and Effie Ver Meer

PELLA LIMESTONE CO.

B58

Van Zee's Pella Limestone Co. in late 1950's now owned by Kaser Construction.

Pella, Iowa

The Pella Limestone Co. had its beginning on a farm east of Pella. It was known at that time as the Van Zee Quarry. It was begun in 1934 during the great drought to supplement farm income. It was a family operation with the help of two neighbors. It was started by John F.E. Van Zee and his son, Arnold. The work was done by hand. The holes for blasting were made with sledge hammer and chisel. The holes were filled with dynamite and a fuse was lit by a match. This was a very dangerous procedure. After the blast, the rock was pounded to size with sledge hammers, loaded in a wheelbarrow, and pushed to the pulverizer where it was ground into agricultural lime. Later two more men were employed. Wages at that time were ten cents an hour, and as times became better the operation became more mechanized. More men were hired and in 1949, a brother-in-law, Wm. R. Monsma, became a full partner.

The business was reorganized in 1957, as a corporation and it became the Pella Limestone Co. Arnold Van Zee was the president; Wm. R. Monsma, vice-president; and Margery Van Zee, the sec.-treas. The father, John F.E. Van Zee, wanted to be a silent partner. He bought a lime truck to spread the limestone on the fields. He did this until his death in 1961.

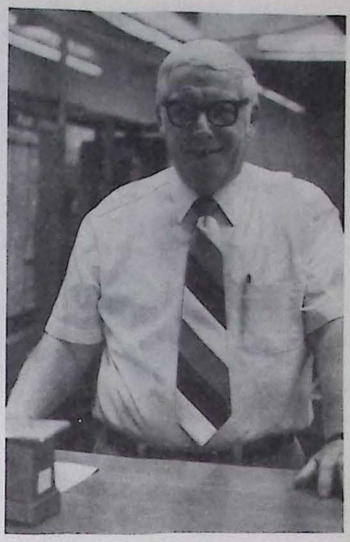
The business grew and a second plant was built by Arnold. At this time a sand plant was also acquired. This was located on the Des Moines River near Tracy. At this time there were 39 employees, later, due to financial reasons, the second plant and the sand plant were sold.

The Pella Limestone plant was portable, which means it could be moved to different locations. They operated mainly in Mahaska and Marion Co., and many sites are still visible today. Not only agricultural limestone was produced, but many roads used the crushed stone.

In 1954 the Durham plant was purchased from Lloyd McCabe by the Pella Limestone Co. and the Kibbey Limestone. This plant kept its own name. This was a stationary plant, which means it could not be moved. This plant sold many tons of stone to the Red Rock Dam.

In 1969 this plant was sold to Kaser Construction Co. of Des Moines, and in 1970 they also bought the Pella Limestone Co. Kaser is still operating the Durham plant today.

by Arnold H. Van Zee



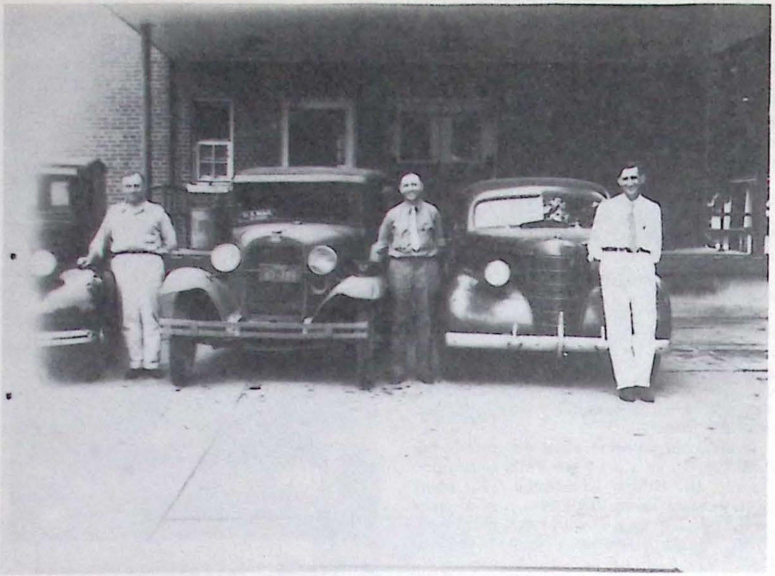
Ed Wesselink, Pella's Postmaster 1955-1980

PELLA POST OFFICE

B59

Prior to the establishment of any post office in Marion Co., people were comparatively isolated from the rest of the world. The nearest post office was at Oskaloosa, a distance of fifteen to thirty miles which precluded all thought of regular or frequent correspondence by mail. On Dec. 13, 1845, an office was established at Lake Prairie in Mahaska Co., on the Des Moines River. This office was then placed on a post route

Pella Postal Workers – early 60's. Left to Right: Arnold Schippers, Don Andrews, Max Schakel, Robert Hoeksema, Robert Heerema, Art Klein, Jess Vriezelaar, Bill Van Hemert, Marion Vanden Oever, and Walter Koopman. Joe DeHoog – Policeman at left



Rural mail carriers of another era: Left to Right: Nick Meppelink, Jake Van Wyk, and Bill Van Hemert.

L.F. Bousquet Postmaster 1908-1916

between Oskaloosa and Knoxville.

Names and dates for the next two years are conflicting, except that the office was moved to Marion Co. and the name was changed to Pella. From the K. Van Stigt History of Pella we see an example of the astuteness and foresight of Dominie Scholte. He arranged a purchase of the farm on which the Lake Prairie post office was located, which gave him control of the office. His petition to Washington to move the post office and change the name to Pella was approved Nov. 18, 1847. The move gave the people twice-a-week service from The Netherlands and Eastern States and routed the mail through Pella to the State Capitol.

Scholte was also given authority to appoint a suitable person to act as postmaster. Isaac Overkamp was selected and performed this service from his log-house home at 835 Washington St. Jacob Smeenk, who was a partner in a store at 836 Washington, was the first officially appointed Pella Postmaster, Dec. 19, 1851.

Washington S. Baston succeeded Smeenk in 1854 and moved the office to the C.C. Cole flour store just west of the American House on Franklin St. Peter Barendregt was the next postmaster. On Apr. 6, 1861, John M. Huiskamp was appointed, and he moved the office to a building on Main St. that is now the south part of Wormhoudt's Furniture Store.

Arthur Klein Postmaster 1948-1955

Pella Post Office March 10, 1915. Louis Bousquet (Postmaster), Tudor Kempkes, Ass't. Postmaster.

According to the Van Stigt History, on Dec. 13, 1872, a rumor spread like wildfire that Postmaster J.H. Betzer, who had been appointed Apr. 5, 1871, had absconded or as the Dutch put it, "met de noorde zon vertrokken". It soon proved all too true; also, several persons would suffer considerable losses. Those who lost most were Auke H. Viersen, Ass't. Postmaster, those who gave his bond, and those with whom he was associated as publisher of "The Pella Blade."

On Dec. 20, 1872, Auke Viersen was appointed Postmaster and served one of the longest terms. He was succeeded by John H. Stubenrauch in 1887 and Samuel F. Cole in 1892.

The present post office built in 1936 with WPA funds, doubled in size in 1966.

A rather surprising appointment was made May 6, 1896. Lois Martin, a former Pella school teacher and Central graduate from Des Moines, took charge on Aug. 22. From all outward appearances this seems unusual since women were not given voting rights until 1920. It is not known why she left office since the last comment found about her is that she left Pella, in June of 1899, for medical treatment in Des Moines and was replaced, in January of 1900, by Benjamin F. Keables.

Louis F. Bousquet is believed to be the first career postal employee in Pella to become Postmaster. He was appointed in 1908 and served eight years. He was replaced by G.A. Stout and in turn replaced Stout May 29, 1923. At this time most changes as Postmaster were due to political changes.

Edward Van Zante was appointed Jan. 12, 1932, and served through the Franklin Delano Roosevelt era. Arthur Klein, who worked in the postal service longer than any other Pella postmaster, took office Nov. 1, 1948. He was followed by Ed Wesselink who assumed charge, July 31, 1955. Wesselink remained in office 25 years. During his term the position was placed under Civil Service.

The present office was built in 1936 with WPA (Works Progress Administration) funds and occupied in 1937. It was doubled in size in 1966. Robert M. Manley is presently the Postmaster.

by Ed Wesselink

PELLA PRINTING

B60

Pella Printing, 739 Franklin St. is entered by the west door on Broadway St. in the Chronicle Building.

The business was part of the *Chronicle* for many years until purchased June 1, 1979, by Ernie Visser who had been employed there. Visser was at one time publisher of the *Chronicle* and manager of the commercial printing department. In her last four years at the *Chronicle* she managed only the commercial printing.

In 1979, Visser purchased the printing division from Boone Enterprises who had bought the *Chronicle* from Richard Barton in Dec., 1978.

As the firm grew from local printing to statewide and out-of-state customers, Visser added more employees, which now number ten. The specialties of Pella Printing are booklets, brochures, programs, business forms, limited edition prints for artists, and stationery. They do four-color printing and have a highly regarded commercial artist, Chuck Powers, on staff. Nancy VanderWilt is the typesetter, Lenora Schut does layout, and John Downing operates the folder and bindery, assisted by Pauline and Henry Buyert. Two pressmen are Craig Hall and Dick Thomas. Cameraman is Jerry Romans. Henry Buyert also runs the small letterpress on which traditional death and funeral notice cards are printed. Barb Jansen is collator and stitcher.

Visser has purchased many pieces of new equipment and replaced others since she became owner. Initially compugraphic typesetting equipment, Stahl folder, and Polar cutter were added. In 1984 a 19x25 Heidelberg Sork Press was added and in 1986 a Heidelberg GTO 14x20½ was installed. Also added was a film processor and a platemaker processor.

Business has quadrupled during the eight years Visser has owned the firm and continues to grow. Visser is optomistic that the firm's future volume of business will continue its expansion.

by Ernie Visser

THE RECORD COLLECTION

B61

Bruce Boertje opened the record collection in July, 1985, at 733 Main St. Bruce is owner and manager of this record, cassette tape, and compact disc retail store. The store opened with approximately 6000 records, tapes, and compact discs and over 1000 singles. Initially, sales were tape and record oriented, but by late 1987 compact disc sales had matched record sales, while cassettes continued to outsell the other two formats combined.

Bruce had formerly been employed at Hoeksema's Inc., the local John Deere implement dealer. This experience, along with a business degree from Central College in 1979, and an interest in music led him to open his record store. Pella had lacked a music store for some ten years since the closing of Pella Records and Tapes in the middle 1970's.

Next to Bruce, Spencer Ver Meer had been employed the longest time. Spence has recently left The Record Collection to attend college.

High school and college students provide the largest share of customers. Oskaloosa, Knoxville, and Newton have provided many additional customers. The trade area has been boosted by the fact that none of the surrounding towns have a store specializing in pre-recorded music.

The future outlook would seem to indicate continuing expansion of the compact disc market with a corresponding decline in record sales. Pre-recorded cassette sales should also remain strong. There are no plans to add any additional lines of merchandise at this time. With sales increasing annually, a healthy outlook is anticipated.

by Bruce Boertje

RENAUD FARM AND GARDEN CENTER

B62

Renaud's Farm and Garden Center, 1987.

In the Spring of 1937 Henry and Andrew "Brooks" Klyn opened the Klyn Brothers Hatchery and Feed Business at 1338 Main St. They purchased a barn which had been built in 1911 and built a new hatchery building. Their business was well known in south central and eastern Iowa for their registered male leghorn R.O.P. (Record of Perfor-

Renaud's Feed Store and workers in the past. Front, L to R: Dorothy Renaud, Marie Ver Ploeg, Evelyn Boot, Bertha Klyn, Veda Schippers, Brooks Klyn, Jim Renaud. Back: Alfred Renaud, Frank Westra, Ernie De Jong.

mance) flocks. Each year at least 40 Klyn Brothers Leghorn breeding flocks were sent out, some as far away as Deep River. They sold Purina and Larro feed and did grinding, mixing, and sacking of feed. The Klyn brothers had three mahogany incubators in their hatchery which held 20,000 eggs. The brothers took turns sleeping in the hatchery from Feb. 15 until June 1, to assure the temperature and circulation was exact as it was heated by electric bulbs. They employed Japanese specialists who determined the sex of the newly hatched chicks. The Klyn brothers also became well-known for their auctioneering services for local farm and estate sales. Henry died in 1951 and "Brooks" remained active and interested in the business until his death in 1986. In 1953, Alfred Renaud, son-in-law of Henry, became associated with the firm which eventually became known as Renaud's Farm Service. Alf, in addition to selling commercial feeds, specialized in buying and selling eggs and poultry.

In 1970 Paul Klyn, son of Henry, joined the business and later became a partner. Alf and Paul gradually introduced garden seeds, flower shop items, and lawn and nursery supplies. In 1983 Renaud's discontinued selling Supersweet feeds and sold the flower shop to Lois Vander Weide who continues to operate the Village Florist in the 50-year-old hatchery building. In the Fall of 1984 Paul started a lawn application service. This has remained a family business for 50 years.

by Joan Klyn

RUDD FINANCIAL SERVICES

B63

Rudd Financial Services originated in late 1980 locating at 739½ Franklin, Pella, Ia., where we are still located. We cover a full scope of insurance, investments, tax consultation, and estate planning. The business originated as an American Bankers affiliate, but from our financial background we soon became cognizant of the need for more diversification. Through this need, we became affiliated with several companies and it was obvious that our economy and the individual needs of our clients and the community were directed toward full financial services. Rudd Financial Services then became one of the first *full* financial services companies in the Pella area.

During the early 1980's we became associated with several A plus rated companies in insurance, and soon investments were added to our group of companies, including investments in rare coins. Hail and all-crop insurance and group contracts were added to the company portfolio along with group health and mortgage insurance. As the business expanded and grew we added a computer, a high speed printer, and accumulated a large library of software to facilitate our clients' immediate need for proposals in taxes, insurance, investments, and estate planning.

Rudd Financial Services is owned and operated by Orville and Marge Rudd.

by Orville Rudd

THE SODA JERK

B64

In the middle of winter in 1985, John Stralow of Pella left a high-paying job in one of the worst economic periods in Iowa since the Depression, to open an ice cream shop in Pella.

"It worried me, but I knew it would make it here." Even though his friends told him he was crazy, he went ahead as a rookie businessman to prove his point. The Soda Jerk is patterned after a shop similar to it in West Des Moines. Stralow serves soups, sandwiches, and kids' favorite soda fountain drinks including the flavors of other generations, Green Rivers, cherry Cokes, etc. He makes his sodas with the oldtime sidecar scoop of homemade ice cream on the lip of the glass.

The decor attracts teen-agers and oldtimers as well. A 1947 Rock-Ola jukebox will play records of that period of musical mania for a nickel. The floor is black-and-white checkered. There are stools near the goosenecked brass soda fountains or wire chairs surrounding cultured marble table tops. The walls are painted in art deco the color of bubble gum, and the glass windows are etched. The whole place recalls one's childhood, and childhood brings a warm feeling to the customers according to Stralow.

Stralow borrowed a large amount of money at the same time farmers in Iowa were having problems and he compares himself to the farmers' daily gamble. He has stated that he could go broke as well as some of the farmers could but that does not cause him to worry too much.

John Stralow is seeing the success of his venture and is optimistic in the future of the Soda Jerk. His wife assists him in the evenings and on weekends, his daughter and son have helped immensely but son Ray is now serving in the Navy. Tourists find it a unique little shop in which to enjoy the delights of the old-fashioned ice cream parlor with generous scoops of homemade ice cream, plenty of delicious toppings and, of course, the cherry on the top!

The Soda Jerk is a popular place for a quick noon meal of homemade sandwiches and a variety of soups which are also made "from scratch", reminiscent of those that Mother used to make.

STEENHOEK AUTO SUPPLY, INC.

B65

Steenhoek Auto Supply, 824 Main.

Steenhoek Auto Supply Inc. had its beginning in 1947. Gerald Dieleman started the business under the name of Dieleman Auto Supply. The business was then located on Franklin St. where the Klokkenspel is now located. A few years later Marion Steenhoek became a partner with Dieleman.

On Jan. 1, 1953, Gerrit Steenhoek, a brother of Marion, purchased the interest of Gerald Dieleman. The name was changed at that time to Steenhoek Auto Supply. A branch store was opened in Montezuma, Ia., in 1957. Branch stores were also operated by this partnership in Sully and New Sharon for a few years.

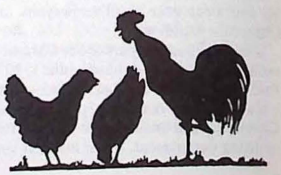
By 1962 the business had outgrown its Franklin St. building and purchased the building at 824 Main St. where it is still located. The partnership became incorporated in 1962. In Oct. of 1965, the machine shop was added to the business.

On July 1, 1966, the Steenhoek brothers sold the business to Arie Boot, Gerald Bogaards, Timothy Elsloo, and Daniel Vander Voort. All four were employees of the business. Dan Vander Voort and Tim Elsloo have since sold their stock. Present owners are Gerald Bogaards, Arie Boot, Charles Van Zante, and Galen Van Wyk.

In Aug. of 1984, the firm purchased a building off the northwest corner of the square in Montezuma and moved that operation into the remodeled building.

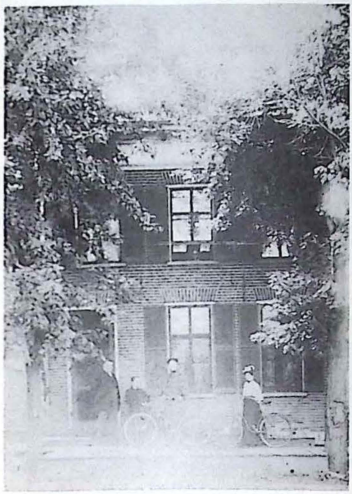
At the present time the firm continues to operate from the Pella and Montezuma locations, with both operations serving an approximate radius of 40 miles from their stores. The firm's corporate headquarters are located at the Pella address.

by Arie Boot



STRAWTOWN INN

B66



Sept. 1986, The Bousquets (Left to Right): E. Bousquet, P.H. Bousquet, Sora Marie Bousquet, and Emma Jo Bousquet (Langerak). This was their home 1883-1898, 1111 Washington St.

(Credit to Muriel Kooi's article, "The Strawtown Style" which appeared in THE IOWAN, Summer, 1975, for parts of this story.)

Home for Strawtown Inn is a modest red brick building (1111 Washington) that has served various functions throughout its 130 -year life. Built in 1855 as the residence of the Hagens family, it was at one time a bakery and during the late 1960's and early 1970's a "commune-type" dwelling for Central College students. Decorative murals adorned the plaster walls; rock music wafted from each occupied room; and a huge red C.U.I. flag flew from the second story windows. Peace symbols and banners presented the pertinent statement of the era.

In 1972 the buildings which comprise the Strawtown complex were purchased by Bob and Doretha Klein and Stu and Eunice Kuyper. The name Strawtown was derived from the term for the area jokingly given by the early Dutch settlers who built huts from the sod and roofed them with sticks and the slough grasses found locally on the prairie. These couples were responsible for saving the buildings from demolition with the intention of establishing a fine restaurant in the style of those found in Holland. It was the time, creativity and effort of all four, but especially Bob Klein which put together the restoration plan for the present Strawtown Inn. The Kleins had at one time owned the Holland House restaurant in what is now the Holland Theatre. Bob planned the excavation of the cellar (now known as de Kelder) which meant removing tons of dirt and rubble so that the "over six foot" customer could stand up when entering. He also, with Stu's suggestions, created the charming fireplace in the Rembrandt room as well as the lovely "Tuin Kamer" or Garden Room on the second level. In order to reach the second and third levels, guests had to climb a typical steep, Dutch staircase — sometimes with fear and trembling. The loft or "zolder" (attic) became the "Vogel Nest" (bird nest) where guests could enjoy a small thirst quencher before or after dinner. Its stair railing was made of inch and a half anchor hawser carried home lovingly from The Netherlands in Stu's suitcase and installed by him as well.

The restaurant officially opened its doors on July 23, 1974, after much scrambling to have everything ready. (Even Rini and Sari de Wit from Rolscreen's Panningen factory and cousins to Dody Boat and Klaas and Arnold In't Veld were put to work filling salt and pepper shakers.) Typical menu items included: Hollandse Rollade (Dutch spiced beef prepared by Klaas In't Veld and later by Stan Bogaard); Uitsmijter (a sandwich of a slice of bread layered with roast beef or ham with two fried eggs on top); Dutch apple bread made especially by Vander Ploeg's Bakery; fresh garden salad or Victorian Salad (an old Holland House recipe) with a choice of homemade dressing including the 50-year-old recipe of Nettie Van Houweling or the House dressing; Dutch Delight (still a secret today). Strawtown began making its own ice cream in 1980. A favorite is still Dutch Chocolate copied from the 60 or 70 year-old Heerema Drug Store recipe.

Shortly after opening its doors Strawtown embarked on an International Dinner series which remained successful for many years. The first, a Russian dinner, was reviewed in the Des Moines Register as "a gastronomical equivalent to Tolstoy's *War and Peace* – long, heavy and a masterpiece". Special dinners have since included Dutch (of course), French, Caribbean, African, Italian, and Oriental.

In 1979 the house of Shorty Zylstra immediately to the west of the restaurant was purchased and added as an office. Stu Kuyper died in 1980, but in spite of this it was determined to continue his dream of a fine place to dine. de Kelder was already bursting at the seams and had become a favorite hangout for young and old alike who responded to the "gezellig" intimate atmosphere as well as the simple good food. Rather than change that ambiance it was decided to incorporate the newly purchased house with the addition of the Delft Room. This provided space for about 30 more diners implementing de Kelder's menu.

During the Summer of 1983 the Dutch Colonial house on the corner of Washington and West 4th was purchased from Jake and Martha Swank and a long-time ambition was achieved. Strawtown could indeed become an Inn, a Bed and Breakfast Inn with all the hospitality which accompanies that concept. The Lodging, as it is called, was planned and orchestrated by Bob. Every nook and cranny was put to good use to create seven rooms each with its own bath. Names were given to the rooms, as with the Restaurant, that would reflect the "Dutch Connection." One could stay in the Bedstee Kamer (Dutch Bunk beds in the wall) or the Hindeloopen Kamer, lovingly decorated in the style of the Frisian painters of long ago or in the Juliana Kamer named in commemoration of the visit of then Princess Juliana of The Netherlands to Pella, May 17 and 18, 1942. A typical Dutch breakfast is served of cold meats and cheeses, homemade jam (raspberries grown by the Pella Nursery and jammed by Eunice Kuyper), assorted breads and sweet rolls from Jaarsma's or muffins made in Strawtown's kitchen.

The Kleins retired in 1984. Under the leadership of owner Eunice Kuyper and general manager Roger Olson, Strawtown continues to grow with the proposed addition of ten more Lodging rooms and the enclosure of the alleyway between the Restaurant and the original Central College buildings. In late 1987 these buildings were included in the National Register of Historic Places.

by Eunice Kuyper

Logo for the Strawtown Complex on West Washington St.

T & D DEPARTMENT STORE

B67

In Apr., 1958, Anthony F. Tysseling, "Tyse", and Roy De Wild founded T&D Department Store in a building at 626 Franklin which months earlier had been vacated by the J.C. Penney Company.

At that time, Tyse closed out his shoe store on Main St. and transferred the shoe stock to the new T&D location. Tyse and Roy soon filled the store with clothing and accessory items for the whole family, as well as, domestics, fabrics, and notions.

In 1965, Tyse sold out his partnership to Roy, but continued to work at T&D for a few years. Roy and his son, Alvin, formed a new partnership that same year and De Wild Studio became a new department on the third level of T&D.

In 1967, T&D received a 35 feet by 42 feet addition eliminating the existing back wall. This two-story addition expanded the upstairs ladies' and children's department and the downstairs fabric, domestic, and shoe departments.

In 1978, Al and Marlys became the owners of T&D and share management responsibilities. They have employed all three of their children in the business over the years.

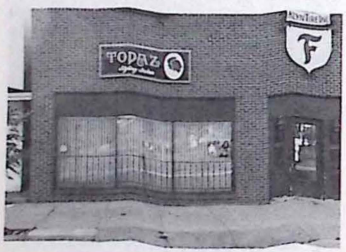
Presently T&D employs eight salespeople. Their loyal customers come from a radius of over 50 miles including the Des Moines area. With the new emphasis on tourism in Pella by the Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee, everyday, but especially Saturdays, brings in customers from all over the world.

In Apr. of 1988, T&D will celebrate its thirtieth year of serving their Pella area customers. In preparation they are currently redecorating the entire premises for the occasion.

by Marlys DeWild

TOPAZ STYLING SALON

B68



Topaz Beauty Salon at 819 Broadway.

Interior of Topaz Salon.

Topaz Styling Salon is located at 819½ Broadway. Owner and hairstylist is Brenda Wichhart Boeyink. The business was begun in Sept. 1980. Her husband, Eric Boeyink, has learned the business and helps manage the salon. Employees are Coleen McGarvey, Cheryl Lang, Trish Reinertson, Shelly Engbers Riggen, Lori Fox, Cindy Van Tasell, and Deb Dobernecker. Topaz is a "dream come true" for Brenda.

She graduated from Pella Community High School and moved to Littleton, Colo. and attended the University of Hair Design there. A year later she began working and training with designer Anthony Di Santis. He owned three salons in Denver and was a platform artist for several companies. Brenda worked as co-designer and later designed with Anthony and assisted him in several shows.

After working for Di Santis, Brenda returned to Iowa and attended the School of Beauty and then set up her own salon. Topaz was first a two-operator salon, but has grown to a four-operator full time six days a week salon. Two retail product lines, Nexxus and Matrix, have increased and expanded the business.

Customers are from the Pella and surrounding area. Central College students compose a bulk of the business patronizing men, wowmen, and children.

Topaz is a friendly hair salon, one that stays up with the latest hair fashions.

Brenda and her husband attend Second Reformed Church and belong to the Chamber of Commerce.

by Brenda Boeyink

TULIP CITY COLLECTIBLES

B69

Tulip City Collectibles opened its doors on Jan. 19, 1987. The store was the concept of Robert R. and Verlin E. Frederick, of Pella. The store carries a variety of merchandise, such as coins, stamps, antiques, and other collectibles.

Tulip City Collectibles was the merger of two businesses. The first was Frederick's Collectibles, owned and operated by Robert. The second was Tulip City Stamps and Coins owned and operated by Verlin.

Frederick's Collectibles got its start back in 1969, when Robert and his family went to the Newton Shopping Center, in Newton, Ia. Robert was there buying paint, he is also the owner-operator of F&B Decorators (painting contractors). While at the Diamond-Vogel paint store, which at the time was still located at the mall, the salesman asked the family to visit the antique show going on, since he had to get the paint order ready. Well, as you might have guessed, the antique bug bit and Robert ventured into the antique business.

Tulip City Stamps and Coins got its start, businesswise, in July of 1984. Verlin was looking for something to bring to antique shows and set up with his dad, Robert. Verlin had been collecting coins and stamps since he was 10 years old, so with this in mind, he decided to go into the business of selling coins and stamps.

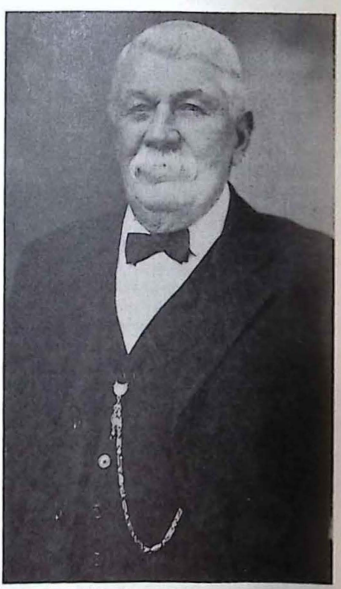
Both businesses prospered at times and at times business was dismal. Robert and Verlin both wanted to open a store, in Pella, mainly to get their business more accessible to the public. But, the stores on the square of Pella were too expensive to rent or they were too big for their needs. One day, while talking over insurance, with Francis Schiebout, the subject of looking for a store came up. He stated that his old office building, located at 1204½ Washington, was vacant. The office building, at one time, had belonged to a Pella painter, by the name of Harold Sack, who had a paint and wallpaper store, in the building. The Fredericks stated that they would have to do some measuring and think about it.

After some deliberation, they rented Mr. Schiebout's old insurance office. With some minor repairs and some renovation they soon opened the doors of their new store. Business was slow when they first opened, but after doing some advertising in newspapers and at shows, their business soon picked up. Proof sets, silver bullion, the new (1986 and 1987) silver dollars, and bulk (pre-1964) silver were the store's major sellers in its early stages.

by Verlin E. Frederick

ULRICH'S MEAT MARKET

B70



John Ulrich hired Arie Schilder to work in his Meat Market.

Arie Schilder

Arie Schilder began his career in the meat business as a young boy in The Netherlands. He delivered meat for a meat shop in Appeldorn. At the age of 13 he graduated from a school for butchers and worked as an apprentice in a meat shop in Kampen. In

Left to right: Les Claussen, Arie Schilder and John VerHeul when taking over the meat shop at 715 Franklin St.

Arie Schilder widely known as the "Bologna King".

Aug. of 1913, he came to the United States, and Pella, Ia. He began his work in Pella in the Holland Meat Market, and after a few years began work for John Ulrich, Sr., in the Ulrich Meat Market. He began a partnership with Luke Vander Linden, Ulrich's son-in-law, whose interest he bought after several years in 1936. Arie continued the business as sole owner until Jan. 1, 1947, when he sold it because of ill health. His assistants, John Ver Heul and Lester Claussen, bought the market and Arie continued to work part time until shortly before his death on June 17, 1948.

Since John Ulrich, Sr., began the business it has always carried the name "Ulrich's Meat Market."

Arie was known widely as the "Bologna King" and was instrumental in making Pella Bologna and Ulrich's Meat Market famous, having as his customers many famous people including Admiral Richard E. Byrd and President Ronald Reagan.

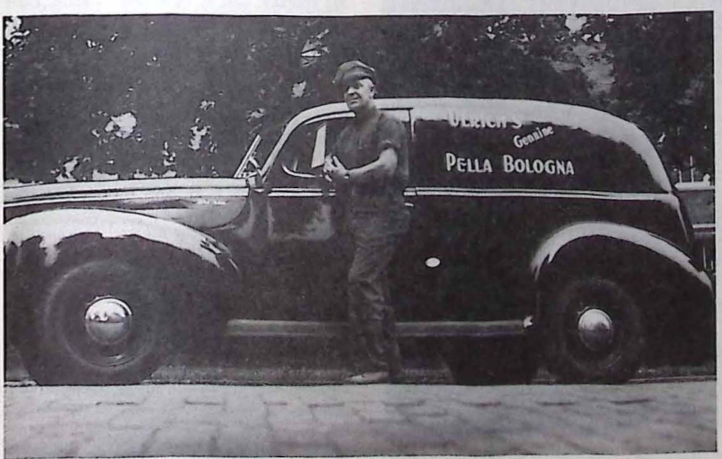
Arie had been a director of the Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Pella Historical Society. It was he who took over the most unpleasant task of raising money for the projects of the Chamber and for Tulip Time. He was known statewide for his interest in sports, and was an avid supporter of the Central College and Pella High School teams. He was the donor of the "Schilder Blanket," a trophy given each year to the most valuable player on the Central College football team. It has continued to be given each year as a memorial in his name through a fund set up by John Ver Heul and Lester Claussen.

by Mrs. C.D. Zylstra

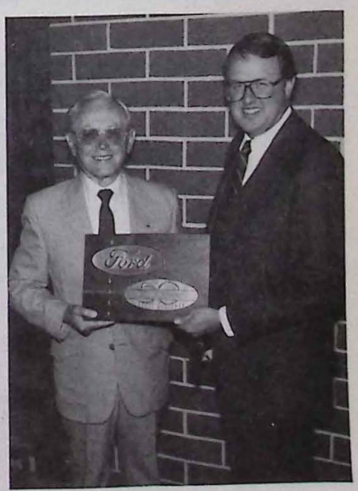
ULRICH MOTOR COMPANY

B71

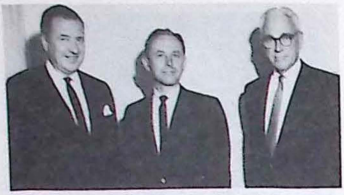
May, 1935, Pella's First Tulip Time, was also the opening of a new Ford dealership, Ulrich Motor Company. A loan from the Pella National Bank for $2,500 to John Ulrich, owner of the Right Price Store, provided the capital needed. Marion (Sonny) Van Baale, Ulrich's partner, was dealer



Ulrich's Delivery 1940's, Pete Meyer was the delivery man for out of town sales.



May 1985, "50 years" Rudy Ulrich and Jim Ludlow, Ford District Manager.



1962 National Ford Dealer Council. Henry Ford II, Rudy Ulrich and John Dykstra, Pres. of Ford Motor Co.

principal and manager. Fred Veenstra was head mechanic, Elvon Hollebrands was in parts, Leo Vander Kolk in service, Dirk Miller in sales, and Rudy Ulrich, working part time while attending Central College.

Early 1937, Rudy left school to work full time and mid-year saw Van Baale leave the company, saying he felt the business was broke.

Prior to 1940 three employees came to Ulrich Motor from Attica, Ia. Walter (Dutch) Neifert took over shop foreman duties. He was followed by Kirk Fuller and Dale Coop. Neifert left during World War II to work in the Los Angeles area. Fuller and Coop are still Pella residents. Fuller operated his own body shop, Dale Coop continued with Ulrich Motor Company until retirement in 1981 after 44 years, at which time he was a stockholder in the company.

In 1939 Ulrich Motor Company acquired the Ford tractor and implement franchise. The next years, through World War II, tractor and machinery sales and related service sales kept the doors open.

John M. Harvey came to Pella and Ulrich Motor from Bussey. As salesman, he saw car and truck sales decline but found a home as a well liked Ford tractor sales and service person. John, a key employee for many years, worked until his health forced his retirement. During the same years, employees at Ulrich Motor were John Harvey, Phil De Vries, and Earl Klein. Their experiences and stories would fill a best-selling book.

Ralph Vander Waal, still active in sales today, and a stockholder in Ulrich Motor Company, was first employed in 1948 as accountant. Ralph changed to sales after a short while and today it is safe to say he has sold more cars and trucks at retail than anyone in Pella.

In 1948 Ulrich Motor Company became an Iowa corporation. John Ulrich was President and Rudy Ulrich, continuing as manager of the business, was Vice President and Treasurer. Velma Ulrich (Pat) was secretary.

In 1958 Howard Duinink joined the company. His duties were in the parts department and later the service department. Howard became a stockholder and is still with, and a member of, Ulrich Motor's management today.

In the fifties George Wassenaar, Glen Nihart, and Stan Vroom were salesmen for Ulrich. Wassenaar left to employment with Vermeer Manufacturing and is still there, Nihart left Pella for Buffalo, N.Y., and Stan Vroom is still on the sales force.

In 1962 Rudy Ulrich was elected to represent the Ford Dealers of the Central Region and the Des Moines District at the National Ford Dealer's Council, an honor which only a very few Iowa dealers have enjoyed. Rudy was chosen as chairman in his zone, his Des Moines district, and as Central Regional Representative to the National Council.

In 1968 Rudy faced the problem that downtown 801 Broadway, now the site of the Pella National Bank, was inadequate for the operation of an automobile dealership. Land was acquired on Highway 163 West of Pella and a new facility was constructed and opened in Mar., 1969. John Ulrich, who had previously sold his interest to his son Rudy, lived to see the grand opening. He died in Sept., 1969.

Charles Vander Waal, Ralph's nephew, started with Ulrich Motor in 1967. Hired as a bookkeeper, he soon was advanced to the position of Business Manager. He succeeded Bea Smith who had held the job since 1955.

1985 was the 50th year of Ulrich Motor, and the continuous employment of Rudy Ulrich. Open house in May celebrated the occasion.

In July, 1985, Ulrich Motor Corporation agreed to purchase on contract the stock ownership of Rudy Ulrich. In the resulting transaction, Charles Vander Waal became majority stockholder and President of the new corporation. Ralph Vander Waal was Vice President, and Howard Duinink retained his shares in the business. The business continues uninterrupted under dealer-manager Chuck Vander Waal. Other employees with many years of continuous service include Arvin Kelderman, since 1962; Bruce M. Vos, since 1973; Carleton Van Steenis, since 1974; Margaret Bonnema, since 1975; and Merlin Dean Hartson, since 1981.

by Rudy Ulrich

1958 or '59: Left to Right: Rudy Ulrich, Ralph Vander Waal, Glen Nihart, Lee Hoksbergen, and Dale Coop behind the parts counter.

VAN DEN BERG'S

B72

An earlier era in the Van Den Berg Electric Store, 624 Franklin. Left to right: Mr. Wielard, Larry Renaud, Marv Tysseling, Gary Van Vark, Bill Van Den Berg, Gerrit Van Den Berg, and Emma Van Den Berg.

Located across from the Klokkenspel at 624 Franklin St., Van Den Berg's is a favorite stopping place of tourists and Pella residents alike. Current owners, Wayne and Darlene Klein purchased the store from Wayne's uncle and aunt, G.H. and Emma Van Den Berg on Sept. 1, 1966.

G.H. Van Den Berg started the store in 1920 as Van Den Berg Electric in partnership with H.S. Keables. The business was first located in what was known as the Van Stight building, across the street from Slob's grocery, where the current Medicap Pharmacy is located.

It was but a few short months until the business moved to the present location in a building belonging to J.D. Gaass, which had previously been occupied by a dry cleaning establishment operated by Will Van Rees. The Oct. 30, 1930, *Pella Chronicle* stated, "The original stock consisted of a washing

machine, a Delco light plant, a vacuum cleaner and a few light bulbs. It had all the earmarks of a village store and moving the stock from the old location to the new was little more than a wheelbarrow task."

The same article goes on to state, "Those were the days when the use of electrical appliances in business houses and in homes was in its infancy. Delco light plants were all the rage and the firm specialized in the display and sale of this article."

By 1930 the business had grown from a shop that sold mainly Delco light plants and their accessories to one of the most modern, up-to-date and attractive electric supply establishments in central Iowa.

Stock in 1930 consisted of Frigidaires of the latest type, electric stoves, electric cleaners, and many other household labor-saving devices. It is interesting to note that the 1930 *Pella Chronicle* article explained how the newly introduced, low-priced three cubic foot model Frigidaire was designed to hold a day's supply of perishable food for a family of five or six people. The article explains, "Tests conducted to determine exactly what could be stored in a cabinet of this size revealed the following results: five quarts of milk, one pint of cream, one pound of butter, two dozen eggs, one pound of bacon, a five-pound roast, one pound of cheese, two bunches of celery, two heads of lettuce, one jar of mayonnaise, and one bottle of chili sauce. In addition, there was space enough left for two small cantaloupes, or two quarts of berries, or a small amount of left-overs."

By the time the Kleins purchased the store in 1966, the inventory had expanded to include Dutch Boy paints and wallpaper and continued to specialize in small appliances, electrical fixtures, electrical supplies, and repairs. They no longer carried Frigidaires or stoves. Viewing the 300 or so wallpaper books now in stock, it is hard to imagine that the venture into this field began with just four books. The Kleins recall selling wallpaper for less than 50¢ per single roll; an entire room could be papered for around $5.

During the late 1970's Van Den Berg Appliance and Paint began phasing out their small appliances, shifting to more gift items. At this time also they changed the name of the business simply to Van Den Berg's.

Today the store specializes in custom-mixed Dutch Boy paints. They offer the largest wallpaper selection in Pella. They continue to stock a complete inventory of electrical supplies and fixtures. The gift business has expanded year after year. The store specializes in fine collectible items such as Precious Moments, Cairn Collectibles by Tom Clark, Chilmark pewter, Norman Rockwell figurines, Raikes and Gorham bears, Swarovski crystal, porcelain plates, and dolls of all varieties.

by Kris Switzer

VANDER LINDEN REXALL DRUG STORE

B73

Bernie Vander Linden, Vander Linden Drug.

Left to Right: Kenny Vander Linden, Wayne Wildman, and unidentified.

Bernie Vander Linden receiving Rexall Honor Store Award.

Third Generation Pharmacy Notes 75 Years in Business

One of Pella's oldest family businesses reached an historic milestone in 1987. Vander Linden Rexall Drug Store, Inc. is celebrating its 75th anniversary. The third generation pharmacy has been in continuous service to Pella and the surrounding area since 1912.

The late B.F. (Bernie) Vander Linden first opened the drugstore in 1912 in the Langerak Drugstore two doors south of its present location. He later purchased the Keables drugstore in 1916, the same location the drugstore has occupied for 71 years. Keables, owner of Pella's first drugstore, was a physician and druggist.

Founder Bernie Vander Linden was one of three brother pharmacists. Roy Vander Linden was in business with Bernie in the early 1920's. He later owned and operated a drugstore in Monroe for 14 years before moving to California. Another brother, Edward Vander Linden, was a pharmacist in Des Moines with Elmer King, later to be the famous King's Pharmacy.

A spectacular fire destroyed the Vander Linden drugstore in 1930, fueled by large amounts of wallpaper, paints, and chemicals that were commonly stocked by drugstores of that era. It was one of Pella's largest fires, burning building and contents completely to

Early photograph (1910) of Vander Linden's Drug Store, B.F. Vander Linden is behind cash register. Others are not identified.

the ground and basement. The building, which was owned by the Robert Scholte family, was rebuilt the following year.

"I remember my dad telling of the rough times then," said Ken Vander Linden. "Not only the fire, but the Depression was also being felt around the nation. Dad supported the family by painting houses, barns, and outbuildings until he could resume his drugstore business. I'm sure it was a struggle but I don't ever remember a discouraging word. Dad was always a positive thinker and a positive doer."

The family business was always just that . . . family! Betty Vander Linden clerked and did bookwork; sister Bernace (Mrs. Michael Cherkala of Cleveland, Ohio) waited on customers; brother Howard Vander Linden cleaned, and everyone took turns at the soda fountain.

The old soda fountain at Vander Linden's was a focal point of the drugstore in the founding days. The ice house behind the drugstore was filled with handcut ice, hewn from the frozen waters of Lake Prairie, the ponds and rivers around Pella. Covered with sawdust, the ice lasted many months and was used in making ice cream, especially the original Dutch chocolate so famous in Pella. "Although we have searched high and low, we have never been able to find the original recipe," said Ken Vander Linden. "I'm sure, like so many good things and recipes of the old days, it was in their heads. They just knew how to do it right each time."

"My dad always had a twinkle in his eyes and spoke most fondly of Pella's early days, especially of Saturday night activities," reflected Ken. The aromas of ice cream, sodas, and malts were all around; overhead fans moved the air. The store fixtures were on casters in those days and every Saturday night, the showcases would be moved to the sides to accommodate the patrons. After the band concert in the park some band members would come to the drugstore and play an extra session of music for listening and dancing while the customers delighted in all the ice cream concoctions. About 140 people could be attended to and closing time was midnight.

In the late 1930's Vander Linden's added a mobile popcorn stand to their operation. The popper was used for special events and was out front every Saturday night for vendors to hustle their hot-buttered popcorn to concert-goers in the park. Wages were one cent for every bag sold. Bernie's eldest son, Howard, started the popcorn stand business, working it until he went to service when Ken "inherited" it. "We wore out three units in all those years," Ken recalls. "But it was really fun and exciting, especially the pay at the end of the night!"

Howard Vander Linden began work with Rexall Drug Company in 1947 as a $60 a week trainee, then rose to become president of the company, a position he held for 14 years until his retirement in 1983.

Current co-owner Ken Vander Linden is a graduate of Central College and formerly worked for the Rexall Drug Store as merchandising supervisor. Following a two-year stint in the army during the Korean War, Ken graduated in 1956 from the Drake University College of Pharmacy. He joined his father in business in 1956 and became sole owner in 1957.

Ken's son, Tom Vander Linden, a third-generation pharmacist, also attended Central College and Drake's College of Pharmacy, becoming a full-time pharmacist upon his graduation in 1980. Tom became a co-owner of the store in 1986 and took on its full-time management.

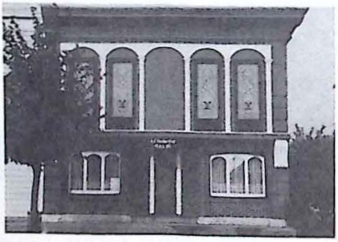
In reflecting on his past 31 years in the drugstore Ken Vander Linden said, "It has been and continues to be a fascinating experience and thoroughly enjoyable. I can't think of a better profession that gives one so much personal contact and personal pride in dealing with people and in the healing/health process. It's truly gratifying to see generation after generation come through our doors and do business with them – young and old alike – and realize that we have been here 75 years because of customer loyalty and customer satisfaction."

The Vander Linden drugstore has been remodeled, updated, and modernized several times, always trying to keep abreast of the customer's needs and wants. Vander Linden has won the "Honor Store" award of the Rexall Corporation several times and has been the number one independent Rexall store in Iowa for many years. The store was one of the first in Pella to add a Dutch front motif to its decor.

by Ken Vander Linden

A.L. VANDER PEUT, D.D.S., P.C.

B74



Dr. Vander Peut's office at 839 Broadway in Pella.

Dr. Vander Peut and staff practice general dentistry at 839 Broadway in Pella. He graduated from the University of Iowa, College of Dentistry, Iowa City, Ia., in 1975, with undergraduate education from Central College in Pella and Iowa State University in Ames.

From June 15, 1975, until Mar. 1, 1976, Dr. Vander Peut was an associate of David P. Ervin, D.D.S. at 837 Broadway and 935 Main in Pella. On Apr. 1, 1976, Dr. Vander Peut purchased the dental practice of Dr. James Mick at 835 Broadway, renting the space from Pella Products who had office and warehouse space on the second floor. On Aug. 1, 1984, Dr. Vander Peut purchased the property at 839 Broadway and remodeled the building into a three operatory dental office. Unique to the facade of the building are four large panels painted in Hindeloopen style in 1978 by a local Hindeloopen artist, Sallie De Reus. The newly remodeled offices were occupied on Nov. 1, 1984.

Those currently employed are: Judy Den Adel, receptionist for 11 years; Connie Peters, Registered Dental Hygienist for 11 years; Sharon Petersma, chairside dental assistant for seven years; and Susan Rozenboom, full-time and now part-time assistant for 11 years. Dr. Vander Peut treats patients primarily at 839 Broadway but also does treatment at the Pella Community Hospital where he is a staff member.

Left to Right: Sharon Petersma, Judy Den Adel, Dr. Vander Peut, Connie Peters, and Sue Rozenboom.

Dr. Vander Peut has made two trips to foreign countries to do treatment for socially and economically disadvantaged people. In Jan. of 1983, he and his wife Gloria traveled to Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, to treat preschool children in the welfare system there (DIF). Treatment was done for ten days under the auspices of Partners of the Americas of whom Iowa and Yucatan are sister states. In Mar., 1985, Dr. Vander Peut traveled with ten others from this area on a medical-agricultural mission to Pignon, Haiti, under the auspices of the Christian Mission of Pignon based in Little Rock, Ark.

Dr. Vander Peut is a member of the American Dental Association, the Iowa Dental Association, the Des Moines District Dental Association, and the Marion County Dental Study Club.

by Al Vander Peut

VANDER PLOEG BAKERY

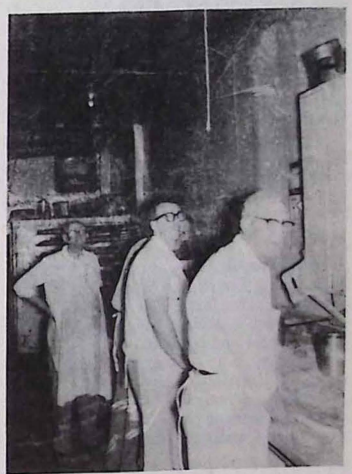
B75

The Pella Bakery, the predecessor to Vander Ploeg's Bakery, was opened by E.H. Van Spanckeren in the early days of Pella History. Then John Vander Ploeg came over from Holland in the year 1881, at the age of 17 years.

Mr. Vander Ploeg worked for a few months on the farm, but tilling the soil was not his chosen calling, as he had learned the bakery

Vander Ploeg Bakery, late 1940's at 711 Franklin St.

E.H. Van Spanckeren opened the predecessor of Vander Ploeg's Bakery in the early days of Pella at 711 Franklin. (PQO)



1958 Tulip Time with two generations of Vander Ploegs. Left to Right: Diller, partially hidden is John R. (Bud), Mark, and Nick. (PQO)

trade in his native land.

The bakery which now bears the Vander Ploeg name was then owned and operated by G. Van Vliet and J.S. Rhynsburger, and the business was conducted under the name of G. Van Vliet and Company. In this business, in which a bakery, grocery, and lunch room were combined, John Vander Ploeg obtained employment.

Everything was done by hand, and the capacity was 100 loaves of bread a day. In 1890 John Vander Ploeg acquired a third interest in the business, and three years later he purchased Mr. Van Vliet's interest. The Vander Ploeg – Rhynsburger partnership continued for 15 years, when Mr. Rhynsburger retired. The old building, which was inadequate for the business, was torn down in 1900, and the present building was constructed.

After John Vander Ploeg became the sole owner of the business, he installed new equipment, ending the process of making everything by hand. Even though the new equipment was small and less efficient by today's standards, it was the beginning of a very modern and efficient bakery operation.

The bakery continued to flourish as a family business. In 1910 Peter Vander Ploeg joined his father as a partner in the business. They continued in the partnership until Peter's untimely death in 1918. In 1920 Nick Vander Ploeg bought a half interest in the business, and the remaining interest was purchased by Diller Vander Ploeg in 1924. At that time John retired, but he continued to maintain a lively interest in the business until his death in 1946.

Many changes took place in the years between 1925 and World War II. The lunchroom, which had always been a very popular place, was eliminated in the early 1930s. This was done so that new bakery equipment could be added. In 1939 the retail portion of the business was remodeled, and the sale of groceries was eliminated. World War II brought an end to home deliveries.

After World War II, the business concentrated on its wholesale business. Pella cookies and Pella donuts were distributed throughout the state. John R., (Bud) Vander Ploeg (son of Nick Vander Ploeg), and Mark O. Vander Ploeg (son of Diller Vander Ploeg), joined the business in 1949 and 1950, after their graduation from Central College. They purchased their fathers' interest in the business in 1960 and continued to operate the Vander Ploeg Bakery until 1980. It was then sold to Gerrit and Marcie Vander Beek, ending three generations of Vander Ploeg ownership. The Vander Beeks continue to operate the bakery on the south side of the square in Pella.

by Mark O. Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG BAKERY

B76

Vander Beek's

Just one month before the doors of Vander Ploeg Bakery were to be closed forever, Gerrit Vander Beek purchased the business. This was Feb. 2, 1980.

Gerrit Vander Beek was born in The Netherlands and came to America with his parents in 1949.

On July 1, 1985, Dan Vander Beek, 19, became a partner with his father by purchasing one-half of the business. In Mar., 1987, two mobile catering trucks were purchased to serve the employees of Pella's factories, featuring sandwiches and coffee time.

In the future the Vander Beeks hope to modernize their equipment. They are still using a slate two-deck carrousel type oven installed in the early 1930's, the only one of its kind still in use in the state of Iowa.

The Vander Beeks have added many new items in the product line plus continue using all the famous old Dutch recipes handed down through the years. They feature a variety of breads such as rye, sourdough, and whole-grain breads which have taken the place of the plain white sliced loaf.

Gerrit is an active member of the Pella Lions Club and is a member of the Central Club board.

by Gerrit Vander Beek

VANDER STREEK ACRES

B77

Vander Streek Acres, owned by Lloyd and Nola Vander Streek, is a producer of Christmas trees. The farm also contains virgin timber which is utilized for nature study by local teachers and students.

Purchased in 1971, the farm had a small stand of Christmas trees. Today it is a plantation containing basically Scotch, white, and Norway pines. It is both a choose-and-cut and wholesale operation.

by Nola Vander Street

VAN GORP HATCHERY

B78

In 1933 John and Cora Van Gorp started their hatchery on their farm which was located three and one-half miles northeast of Pella. They operated out of a small office in the Goodyear Tire Store in Pella, which was owned by Marion Van Gorp, John's brother. The office was open only on Saturdays to take orders. The customers would pick up their chickens at the Van Gorp farm.

The original hatchery was in a building measuring 20 feet by 20 feet. It was later moved to town and is now the office at the present Van Gorp Hatchery.

John and Cora Van Gorp, Van Gorp Hatchery, 220 New Sharon Road.

The business moved to its present location; the corner of Hazel St. and the New Sharon Road in 1938. The Van Gorp's purchased the Valkenburg Gardens. Mr. Valkenburg was a vegetable farmer who farmed three acres of land.

The hatchery was a family operation run by John, Cora, and their son, Cornie.

While on the farm, they had their own breeding stock. They started with two incubators of 10,080 chicks each. The capacity at the present time is 90,000 and 100,000 chicks every three weeks of the hatching season. In the beginning the hatching season lasted from Apr. to Memorial Day. It now lasts from Jan. to Nov.

Cornie and Helen Van Gorp became sole owners in 1959. They were both employed full time until 1986.

Van Gorp Hatchery is a distributor of fowl (ducks, geese, turkeys, pheasants, and guineas) to 140 outlets.

Other phases of the business were selling hatching eggs throughout the midwest and being a distributor of Pioneer Seed Corn for 33 years.

In 1960 Van Gorp purchased equipment owned by the Shinn Hatchery of Pella which had gone out of business.

In 1982 the business was sold to Wayne Vander Werff. As well as carrying on the hatching business, he is a distributor of Garst Seed Corn. Vander Werff had been employed at Van Gorp Hatchery for 26 years before purchasing the business.

by Mari Savery

VAN GORP INSURORS, LTD.

B79

Donald J. Van Gorp purchased a small one-room building located at 911 Broadway from Dick Lautenbach Aug. 10, 1956, when Dick decided to move to Colo. The former Lautenbach Insurance was then changed to Van Gorp Insurance. Don, who had previously worked primarily with life insurance, offered all lines of insurance along with Western Union Services. Don added real estate services in 1957.

Joyce G. Van Gorp was employed full time, and in the summer of 1957 Evalena Vanderzyl was employed part time.

In 1960 Don Van Gorp purchased the building at 729 Main St. which was remodeled for the Van Gorp Insurance/Real Estate and Western Union Offices. During the next ten years the business had grown enough that another move was made to larger offices at 723 Main St. in 1971.

Don's son, Dennis J. Van Gorp, joined the staff in Mar., 1971, and purchased the insurance business from his father in Sept., 1972.

Don Van Gorp continued his real estate services at 723 Main St. for five years as Van Gorp Agency, Inc., and then moved the real estate to a new office at 500 Oskaloosa St., Pella.

Van Gorp Insurance was incorporated in 1980, and at that time the name was changed to Van Gorp Insurors Ltd. In June, 1982, Dennis J. Van Gorp expanded his insurance business to a branch office at 112 E. Washington St., Monroe. Ia.

The business was founded for a livelihood; it has grown; and our outlook for the future is optimistic!

At the present time our entire staff of insurance agents at the Pella office includes Dennis J. Van Gorp, Nadia Van Gorp, Joyce Van Gorp, Dennis M. Martin, Elaine Van Wyk, and Evalena Vanderzyl. Roberta Klein, formerly at the Pella office, transferred to the Monroe office.

by Dennis J. Van Gorp

VAN HAAFTEN PLUMBING

B80

Van Haaften Plumbing and Heating of 1101 Washington St., Pella, was founded in 1949 by Henry D. Van Haaften. With previous experience in plumbing and mechanical work, he started his own business, using his garage for a shop, with very little capital and a small inventory.

The business gradually expanded and the present shop and warehouse were added at the same location.

Through the years sales and services of residential and commercial plumbing, heating, cooling, and refrigeration were provided, serving mainly the Pella area. Some of the past long -term employees of the business were: Wilbur Schut, Lynn Moore, Ray Singleton (25 years), Alvin Van Zee, Irwin Van Zee, Irvin Van Rheenen, David Van Haaften, and John Van Haaften.

Present full-time employees are Larry Van Weelden, Calvin Van Haaften, and Kevin Van Haaften.

by Mrs. Henry Van Haaften

VAN HALL REALTY, INC.

B81

Van Hall Realty 1987, located on the southwest corner of Franklin and East First St.

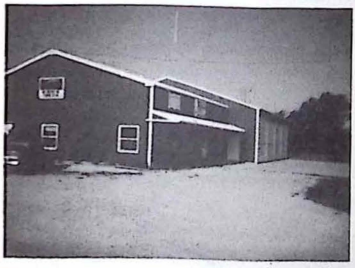
Darrell and Henry Van Hall purchased Van Hemert Realty Inc. and named the business Van Hall Realty on Feb. 1, 1987. Darrell Van Hall is president of the firm as well as being owner of Van Hall Builders. He conducts both businesses from the same office at 601 Franklin St. in Pella.

Van Hall Realty Inc., along with their many sales associates, are optimistic about the future of real estate sales in the Pella area because of all the job opportunities in this area. They feel that home building and remodeling go hand in hand with real estate sales.

by Darrell Van Hall

VAN RHEENEN, INC.

B82



Van Rheenen Inc. showroom and bath boutique on Highway 163 West.

Van Rheenen, Inc. was founded by Irvin Van Rheenen in Apr. 1969. He had graduated from Omaha Technical Institute and worked at a local business. The first business began at 310 Washington St. in a warehouse area where they began plumbing, heating, and cooling work.

Steve Van Weelden has worked for Van Rheenen for 16 years.

Their clientele consists of residential projects in plumbing, heating, and air conditioning. Their trade area has grown through the years and in recent years they have built a new shop west of Pella on Highway 163 with a showroom and bath boutique.

They expect to see more new home construction with more sales of high efficiency equipment which they sell and maintain.

by Irvin Van Rheenen

VAN SITTERT'S DRY GOODS

B83

Bill Van Sittert, owner of Van Sittert's Dry Goods on the southwest corner of Main and Franklin. 1930's photo.

Vande Lune Fabric and Bernina Sewing Center

W.D. Van Sittert opened his exclusive Dry Goods Store in Oct., 1934. He had purchased the store from H.H. Geelhoed, who had run the store for several years prior to this time. Van Sittert had worked for Mr. Geelhoed for some time before becoming the owner.

In 1935, Van Sitterts held a dress making contest. Prizes consisted of a dresser set, cheese or sandwich board, and a make-up mirror or trinket box.

The building was built of wood with a tin exterior until the 1950's when a brick facing was applied.

In 1970 the business was sold to Dan E. and Marie Dieleman. They carried on the business as Van Sitterts had done, offering fabric, gloves, scarfs, bedding, etc.

In Jan., 1972, Linda Vande Lune purchased the business. Vande Lune remodeled the store and sold only fabric and notions. In 1975 she added Bernine sewing machines and the store became known as Vande Lune Fabric and Bernina Sewing Center.

In 1980 Vande Lune combined the original store and a small building to the immediate west (formerly Kroes Barber Shop) making it the area for the sewing machines.

by Mari Savery

ROBERT F. VAN VARK CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

B84

The Robert F. Van Vark Construction Company really had its beginning back in 1950 when Bob was going to college, working at Wormhoudt's Furniture Store, and building his own first house.

One day as Bob was working at the house, Professor Leu from the college, from whom Bob was taking a class, stopped to look at what Bob was doing. In the course of the conversation, Professor Leu said he was going to build a new house and wanted Bob to build it. Bob told him he didn't really feel capable of doing that, but that he would get him a builder to do it. Bob went to Mart De Jong (Bats) and told him about Professor Leu, and asked if he would build the house, and if he, Bob, could have a job with Mart's construction crew to build it. That plan worked out to the satisfaction of all. So in Aug. of 1950 Bob started working with De Jong Construction.

Bob worked with Mart until the Summer of 1954 when he and two co-workers, Dale Randol and Duane Busby, decided to go into business for themselves. Their company became known as the Pella Home Builders. These three worked together for a little over four years. In Oct. of 1958 Duane left the company, and Bob and Dale stayed partners but formed a new company called Van Vark and Randol Construction. Bob and Dale started out building primarily family residences, but in Mar. 1960 they built an apartment house on University Street — the first of many apartments which they were to build together.

That partnership lasted until the Spring of 1968 when Dale decided to quit the construction business. Bob bought out Dale's half of the business, and later he took over all the apartments. When Bob took over the business by himself, he renamed it the Robert F. Van Vark Construction Company.

Today Bob still owns and operates his company and employs three full time workers. He finds real satisfaction in building single, family residences, duplexes, apartments, and commercial buildings. More recently, through the Pella Historical Society, Bob had become involved in remodeling many of the older homes in Pella and duplicating Dutch fronts on store buildings.

by Dottie Van Vark

VAN WEELDEN CONSTRUCTION, INC.

B85

Van Weelden Construction, Inc. started business under the name of Pella Block and Tile Co., manufacturing concrete blocks, in 1947. Henry and Arthur Van Weelden purchased the business from Bob Wisgerhof. It was located at the corner of East First and Franklin Streets. In 1948 Henry bought out Arthur, and Henry's wife Betty started working in the business. They added a line

of concrete field tile to their manufacturing items. Henry went into concrete construction and masonry work in 1949, and during the next three years he phased out the manufacturing business.

Henry Van Weelden and Carl Vander Schaaf started a ready-mix business in New Sharon, Ia., in 1959, in conjunction with the concrete construction business of Pella Block and Tile Co. Carl Vander Schaaf managed the ready-mix plant in New Sharon and Henry managed Pella Block and Tile Co. In 1962 Henry and Carl sold the ready-mix plant to Manatt's Inc. of Brooklyn, Ia.

In 1969 Henry moved Pella Block and Tile Co. one mile north of Pella on T-14, the present location of Van Weelden Construction Inc. During this time Henry had started into the contracting business doing general contracting for commercial buildings and started moving homes to new locations in Pella. Some of the earlier construction completed were: Pella Super Value; additions to Boat Furniture and Lees Variety; masonry work on Vermeer's west of Pella; and Calvary Chistian Reformed Church.

In 1976 Henry changed the name from Pella Block and Tile Co. to Van Weelden Construction Co. and continued in general contracting and erection of steel commercial buildings. Henry started with a Cuckler building dealership and later changed to Mitchell buildings, now known as Ceco buildings.

In Jan. of 1978, Henry incorporated Van Weelden Construction Inc. The officers at the time of the incorporation were: Henry W. Van Weelden, President; Betty J. Van Weelden, Vice President-Secretary; Randol S. Van Weelden, Treasurer; Karen D. Van Weelden, Assistant Treasurer.

During the years from 1975 through 1986 contracting was done in a 60-mile radius around Pella, constructing schools, churches, banks, apartments, and various commercial buildings. Work was contracted for the City of Pella, Continental Telephone Co., Central College, Vermeer Manufacturing, Pella Community Schools, Pella Christian Schools, Oskaloosa Christian Grade School, Peoria Christian Grade School, Christian Opportunity Center, and various business additions in Pella and surrounding areas.

Henry was injured on Oct. 30, 1980, while working on a uniloader at the office site of Van Weelden Construction, Inc. He died of the injuries Nov. 21, 1980, in Des Moines, Ia. After Henry's death the business continued to operate with the following officers: Randol S. Van Weelden, President; Donald J. Ver Meer, Vice President; Betty J. Van Weelden, Secretary/Treasurer; Karen D. Van Weelden, Assistant Treasurer.

Van Weelden Construction is located one mile north of Pella on T-14. They are entering their 40th year of business in 1987. There are three generations employed with the company at the present time.

Henry's greatest pride was the construction of all the facilities at Christian Opportunity Center.

by Betty Van Weelden

VAN ZEE IMPLEMENT COMPANY

B86

Sept., 1983. Van Zee Implement Company., 1205 Washington, as it looked during remodeling by Peters Realty for "The Pellican" restaurant.

Van Zee Implement Company building in 1967, looking west on Highway 163 at 1205 Washington St.

Jill Van Zee at three years standing by the wheel of a large tractor sold to Gordon Robbins in 1971.

Van Zee Implement Company began in 1951 when W.A. (Bill) Van Zee and Jake Vander Wal purchased the Oliver Farm Equipment Franchise from White Way Auto Company. Bill retired from farming north of Monroe, Ia., that year and Jake was a tractor mechanic working at White Way Auto Company.

They set up the business in a part of the Old Stacker Factory building on Franklin and East Third St. where Trinity Reformed Church now stands. They sold Oliver tractors, plows, discs, cultivators, pull-type combines, corn pickers, haying machinery, and related farm machinery as well as providing repair parts and service. Roy Vander Kraats was also hired as a tractor mechanic.

In 1953 Bill Van Zee purchased the interest of Jake Vander Wal and moved the business to 1205 Washington St. in a building that was formerly used as the Kaiser-Frazer car dealership owned by Henry Brouwer. It was at this time that Bill's brother Albert joined him for a few years as salesman.

Over the years this building was remodeled and additional adjoining property was purchased as the business and the machinery sold grew in size.

In 1955 Bill's son LeRoy Van Zee was discharged from the Air Force and joined the business as a service man.

During the years from 1955 to 1971, the business grew and some of the employees were Willis Vander Linden, Henry Roorda, Bob Van Essen, Bob Vander Wilt, LeRoy Uitermarkt, Ed Van Gent, Terry Van Steenis, Larry Harsin, Kenneth Loynachan, Darrell Veldhuizen, and Wayne Van Dyke.

During these years Oliver Farm Equipment became White Farm Equipment and other lines were added such as Gehl, Bush-Hog, New Holland, Stan-Hoist, and Krause.

In 1971 Bill Van Zee sold the business to his son LeRoy and Bill became "retired." In 1972 LeRoy's son Doug began working full time as a serviceman and later as Parts and Service Manager. LeRoy and Doug continued to operate the business at 1205 Washington St. until 1983 when the property was sold and the new owners extensively remodeled the existing building and operated a restaurant and lounge called Pellacan's Perch. A few years later it changed operation and was known as "Melodies."

In 1983 Van Zee Implement built new facilities on six acres of land on Highway 163, ¾ mile west of Pella where it continues operation at the present time, offering new and used machinery, parts and repair service to the surrounding area farm customers.

There have been many good years as evidenced by continued growth in sales, inventory and facilities. The 60's were years of Up and Down financially. The 70's will be remembered by all as booming prosperous years but it was the economic depression of the 80's that had its greatest negative impact on the business, being of longer duration than any previous recession.

The present lines sold by Van Zee Implement Company include White Farm Equipment, Ford Tractor, New Holland, Gehl Company, Bush-Hog, Kewanee, and Parker.

The present employees are LeRoy A. Van Zee, Doug Van Zee, Ed De Joode, Bob De Haan, Henry Stursma, and Marvin A. Van Haaften. Bill Van Zee, although retired, spends most of the day there from Apr. 1, to Dec. 1 of each year.

The business now has the third generation in active management and we hope to continue many more years with the possibility of Doug's son Scott (now ten) continuing as the fourth generation in the business.

by Ilda Van Zee

VER DUGHT INSURANCE, INC.

B87

The Ver Dught Agency, Inc. as it is known today had its start over 70 years ago in the Blue Moon Cafe, at that time it was located in the 600 block of Franklin St. The Blue Moon Cafe was a popular spot in the early 1900's; it was not only a good cafe to eat at but was a socializing center. Many of the Pella residents stopped in for a cup of coffee and the local news every day. Dave Ver Dught was the operator of the cafe and seeing all the people stop in he felt this would be a good place to sell a little insurance. In 1917 Mr. Ver Dught sold his first policy and the name Ver Dught has been associated with insurance in the Pella area ever since. Mr. Ver Dught continued to operate the cafe and was involved in several other businesses in the Pella area, and he continued to keep up on his insurance. In 1930 Mr. Ver Dught decided to take his insurance business seriously and a merger was formed with another well known Pella insurance agent, Fred Lautenbach. The new partnership was known as the Lautenbach and Ver Dught Insurance Agency and operated out of a very small office located at 715 Franklin St.

The office of the Lautenbach and Ver Dught Insurance Agency was so small there was only room for one of the partners, one customer, one desk, and one file cabinet. When a customer would come into the office to see either one of the partners the other partner would have to leave since there was not room. (This is the office you see in the picture that Dave Ver Dught and Fred Lautenbach are standing in front of).

Dave Ver Dught passed away in 1933. His son, Verle Ver Dught a well known athlete in high school and Central College, was just finishing up his college career, stepped in to take his father's place in the insurance agency. Thus, there wasn't any reason to change the name and the business continued to operate as the Lautenbach and Ver Dught Agency.

Verle Ver Dught and Fred Lautenbach, partners at the insurance agency.

Present office 610 Union, Ver Dught Agency, Inc.

In the 1930's the depression took its toll on the insurance industry just as it did on so many other people. Business was slow, no one had anything to insure and if they did, they didn't have any money to pay the premium. It was not uncommon for a premium to be paid with livestock, such as a hog, maybe some chickens, or whatever the insured could trade for the premium. The livestock was then sold to the meat market next door to the insurance agency, and that is how the agency survived the great depression. The banks were closed so you didn't have checking accounts; instead the insurance companies would send a company representative around each month to pick up the cash the agency owed to the insurance company. The type of insurance sold in the 30's was mainly fire, lightning and wind for your home and buildings. You could also buy liability insurance for your car at a cost of $13 for an annual premium.

The Lautenbach and Ver Dught Insurance Agency continued to grow. In the 1940's when World War II broke out, Verle was off to enlist in the Navy and Fred kept the agency going throughout the war years. Verle was able to return to the agency after the war and pick up where he had left off prior to his enlistment. In 1949 Mr. Lautenbach passed away and Verle continued the agency under the name of Ver Dught Insurance Agency.

In 1960 the Ver Dught Insurance Agency moved from their little office at 715 Franklin St. to a modern spacious office at 713 Franklin St. The agency had grown considerably and was now serving all the insurance needs of the people in a twenty-mile radius of the Pella area.

Larry D. Klein joined the Ver Dught Insurance Agency in 1972. Larry graduated from Central College and spent four years in the insurance industry as an agency supervisor for the Allied Mutual Insurance Company. Larry incorporated the business in 1975 and basically retained the name, however, it was now operated as the Ver Dught Agency, Inc. In 1980, after nearly 50 years as an insurance agent Mr. Ver Dught retired. Larry continues to operate the Ver Dught Agency, Inc. now located at 610 Union St. in a new office building that we moved into in 1983. In this modern office building you will find a big change from the days of one chair, one desk, and only one file. The office now contains computers, printers and terminals with direct communication lines to the larger computers in the home offices of the insurance companies. The most advanced computer technology is present at the Ver Dught Agency, Inc. With one touch of the computer the insured's file information is brought up on the computer screen. Correspondence and letters are now instantaneously available by the use of the electronic mail system on the computer used by both the companies and the agencies. The Ver Dught Agency, Inc. continues to strive at serving all the insurance needs of the fine people in the Pella area. Mr. Klein's future plans are that someday his sons will join him in the insurance business continuing the fine reputation the Ver Dught

Agency, Inc. has enjoyed over the past 70 years.

by Larry Klein

VERMEER IOWA

B88

Vermeer Sales and Service of Iowa, which is located approximately one-half mile north of Pella on County Rd. T14 was initially established in 1957 as Pella Irrigation Company. The founders of the company were Gary and Ralph Vermeer and Leonard Maasdam. Initially the sole function of the company was to sell and install a newly designed agricultural irrigation system developed by Gary Vermeer and Leonard Maasdam and being manufactured by Vermeer Manufacturing.

In July of 1960 Carl E. Boat was hired as manager of the company, primarily for the purpose of expanding its operation into the sale of other Vermeer products, including tiling trenchers – this activity being carried on essentially in the State of Iowa. This same year (1960) the name was changed to Pella Irrigation and Equipment Company. In Jan. 1961, George A. Wassenaar, who was employed by Ulrich Motor, was hired as the new manager of Pella Irrigation when Carl Boat became associated with Vermeer Manufacturing as assistant sales manager. In 1965 the company purchased the facilities of the Allis Chalmers dealership then owned by Don Vos, located one-half mile north of Pella. In the next few years, the company expanded its operations considerably primarily through the sale of Vermeer manufactured products. In 1968 Marvin Vander Werff, who had been employed by Pella Irrigation as a salesman, became manager of the company, when George Wassenaar left to become assistant sales manager of Vermeer Manufacturing.

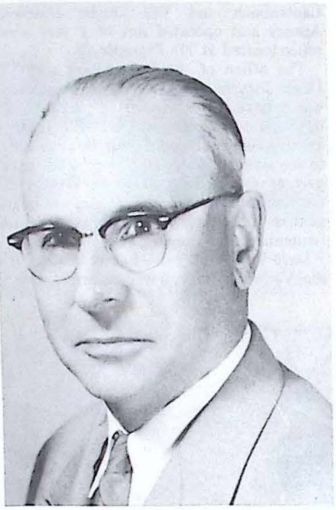
Through the years the company continued to grow, expanding the sales of Vermeer manufactured products. In 1968 the name of the company was changed to Vermeer Sales and Service – Iowa, Inc. Principal owners at that time were Leonard Maasdam, Gary Vermeer, Harry Vermeer, and Carl Boat. Four years later it was decided to erect a totally new facility to meet the increasing needs of the business. Through the remainder of the seventies and into the eighties the company continued to expand, getting additional territory and products. In 1982, Harry Vermeer and Leonard Maasdam elected to sell their ownership interest to the company and at that time Marv Vander Werff purchased a portion of this interest. In 1986 Gary Vermeer elected to sell his ownership interest in the company leaving Marv Vander Werff and Carl Boat as principals.

Currently the company is managed by Marv Vander Werff and employs four sales people: Larry DeBruin; Don Slagter; Alan Buitenwerf; and Rick Boat. There are three people in service and maintenance: Roy Vander Kraats, Gary Mattice, and Jim Jochems, and additionally four part-time people. The activities continue to be that of distributing Vermeer manufactured equipment in the full state of Iowa and northern portion of Missouri.

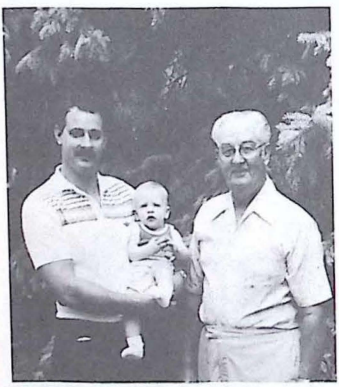
by Carl Boat

VOS AND BOOT ELECTRIC

B89



Frank E. Boot founder and owner of Boot Electric, later known as Vos and Boot Electric.



Left to Right: Gary A. Vos, third generation and present owner of Vos and Boot Electric, David Vos, and Andrew Vos.

Vos and Boot Electric started as Boot Electric in 1937. The company grew out of a need for electricians when the local Rural Electrification Association received their government loan and started building rural lines.

Frank E. Boot, a farmer in the area, started by wiring his own home in anticipation of an electrical hookup. Because of this, neighbors also asked for help with the wiring of their established homes.

As the lines expanded, his services became more necessary. Most of the work was done in the winter time or during the slack times in farming. At this time he carried his supplies with him in the back end of a Model A Ford.

As the work became more demanding, Frank made the decision to leave the farm and to become a full time electrician. Most of the time he worked alone or with part time help, until 1948 when the expanding business demanded permanent extra help. At that time he hired his son-in-law, Andrew Vos.

It was at this time he purchased and fitted the inside of a van so that supplies could be more conveniently carried and handled.

In 1954, because of failing health, he retired and the business assumed the name of Vos and Boot Electric with Andrew Vos as owner.

In 1986 Andrew Vos retired and his son, Gary, the grandson of Frank Boot, assumed ownership. And so the Vos and Boot Electric is now in its third generation.

In the past and today the company has done commercial jobs but has been basically involved with residential wiring. Many homes in and around Pella have taken advantage of their experience.

by Marge Vos

WORMHOUDT FURNITURE STORE

B90

The history of one of Pella's oldest business establishments dates back to 1850 when a furniture factory was started at about the present location of the American Legion Memorial Building. This factory was started by Isaac Overkamp and P. Kruidenier. In 1857 Isaac died and shortly Mr. Kruidenier moved to Des Moines. Mr. G.H. Wormhoudt, who was working in his uncle's factory, together with Mr. G.H. Overkamp, the father of Isaac, purchased the business and eventually turned the factory into a furniture store in 1877. Mr. Overkamp retired in 1880 at which time Mr. Wormhoudt became the sole owner.

G.H. Wormhoudt was the father of seven sons. Cornie, the eldest, began working in the store at the age of 13. He remained in the store and in 1897 was joined by Ed Plette, a young man working as a delivery boy for the Van Spanckeren Grocery. The two junior partners were associated with G.H. Wormhoudt until 1918, when they purchased the business from the elder Wormhoudt.

About that time, in connection with the furniture business, the two also operated a funeral home. Caskets were displayed upstairs in the present store and the embalming was done in the rooms at the back of the store on the first floor. The funeral home was a block north, which today houses four apartments.

Mr. Plette retired in 1936 after having been at Wormhoudt's for 39 years. His daughter, Mrs. Harold Thomasson, lives in Pella.

Cornie's son Gerrit joined his father in the business, but was killed in World War II. His wife Betty, formerly Betty Butts, operated the store for about five years after her husband's death, when she sold the business to Gerald Dieleman and Garrit Van Gorp.

A few years later Garrit left the business, and a few years later Gerald Dieleman decided to move to California. At that time the business was sold to Fred Whalley and

Wormhoudt Furniture Store began in 1850. 836 Main.

Old Kruidenier and Wormhoudt logo used in 1892

the late Jack Cook on Jan. 1, 1957. When Jack passed away in July of 1975, Fred Whalley purchased his partner's share. Tom Whalley, son of Fred, having worked part time when he was in high school, expressed an interest in the business and began working full time Apr. 1, 1978, and took over as President of Wormhoudt Furniture, Inc. on Oct. 1, 1978.

There have been quite a few changes in the building since the turn of the century. An item from the Mar. 15, 1906, Chronicle reads as follows: "An addition to the back section of the Wormhoudt Furniture Store was announced by Mr. G.H. Wormhoudt. It would be 20X40 and two stories high. This will be the largest building of two floors by far in the city."

On Feb. 24, 1966, the building to the south occupied by Jerry and Hunter was purchased and the tavern moved one building south, which was the old Holland Theater.

Also in 1966, the new front was put on in cooperation with the Dutch Front Committee of the Chamber of Commerce.

Aug. of 1972, another expansion took place with the purchase of the Hoeksema Implement buildings, east of the store. Other than interior decorating changes, no other changes have been made in recent years.

by Fred Whalley

WORMHOUDT AND KEMPKES

B91

(The Model Clothiers)

The Wormhoudt and Kempkes clothing store was opened on Sept. 1, 1917. The owners were A.B. (Lon) Wormhoudt and Tunis (Tudor) Kempkes. The location was on the east side of the square, the present location of Wormhoudt and Kempkes.

Lon had worked in his uncle's clothing store and Tudor at the Pella Post office. Lon and Tudor were brothers-in-law as they married sisters, Elisabeth (Bess) and Jeanette De Vries. Tudor and Jeanette were married Aug. 29 so their honeymoon was spent starting the new store.

In 1918, Tudor was drafted into the service and his wife Jeanette helped in the store while he was gone. After the war, Tudor was discharged and returned to the store. The store sold men's and boys' clothing, both dress and work.

Times were not always prosperous. The year 1929 was the stock market crash and the beginning of the depression. In July, 1931, the store burned completely. They rebuilt and opened again the first of the year. The office of the store was the gathering place of many chess games with different people of Pella. It also was there that the Pella Historical Society formed the plans for the first Tulip Time in Pella in 1936. Both Lon and Tudor were very active in civic affairs, the Chamber of Commerce, and in their churches.

Some of the earlier employees were Logan Hendrick, J.B. Van Hemert, Charlie Sipkema, Mart Heerema and Phil De Vries.

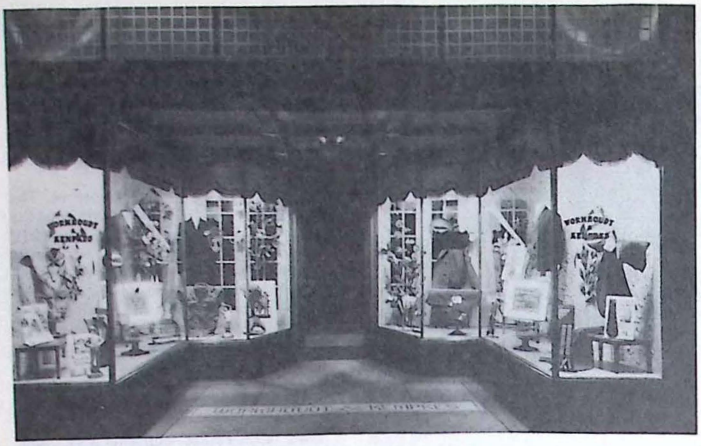
The store went through another war – World War II. Merchandise was difficult to get as manufacturers converted to making garments for the military.

John Ver Meer was discharged from the service in May of 1946, and started working at Wormhoudt and Kempkes. He married Virginia Kempkes, the daughter of Tudor and Jeanette on Aug. 29, the date of the Kempke's wedding anniversary.

Lon passed away in 1954 and Tudor had the store until he passed away in 1965. At that time, John and Virginia purchased the business. Dave Sutphen was a student at Central College and was from Somerville, N.J. Dave started working in the store in 1961. He graduated from Central and married Ardith Pals from Belmond in 1962.

In 1968, the store was remodeled and expanded into the building to the south. The space was doubled and a Dutch Front was put

Left to Right: Harry Grond, long-time employee, John P. VerMeer former owner, Tudor Kempkes, one of original owners and Lon Wormhoudt, one of original owners.



The front of Wormhoudt and Kempkes at 816 Main from 1931-1968, There was a fire in 1968 and a new Dutch Front was added.

on. The additional space made the store much better for displaying and selling merchandise.

In 1976 John sold a percentage of the business to Dave and the balance of it in 1981. Dave continues to operate the store.

by John P. Ver Meer

WHITE WAY AUTO COMPANY

B92

In 1917 Antonie A. Ver Meer and his Uncle Herman Tysseling purchased the White Way Auto Company from John Van Hemert, John Dieleman, and Antonie Boot. After being in business with his uncle for a year, Antonie took as his partner Leonard Wielard. The White Way was originally located at 723 Main Street. In 1920 it was moved to 704 Main, replacing the Schrubring Hotel which was dismantled. The garage remains at that location today.

In Dec. 1919, the company received its first Chevrolet car and has sold and serviced them since that time. The White Way obtained the dealership for Oliver Tractor in 1937, and for Oldsmobile in 1939. The Oliver dealership was later sold to Jake Vander Wal. The garage continues as the Chevrolet-Oldsmobile dealership.

Morris H. Ver Meer, brother of Antonie began working at the White Way in 1923 and Elias Kolenbrander, brother-in-law of Antonie, began his employment there in 1933. In 1942 Leonard Wielard left the White Way and Antonie, Morris, Elias, and Albert Van Heukelom formed a partnership as owners of the garage. In 1950, four employees, Byron Ver Meer and Melvin Ver Meer, sons of Antonie; Marvin C. Ver Meer, son of Morris; and Earl Grandia bought an interest in the business.

The building and lot across the street, just north of the fire station, were purchased in 1954. The property of Henry Ver Meer on Liberty Street was also acquired.

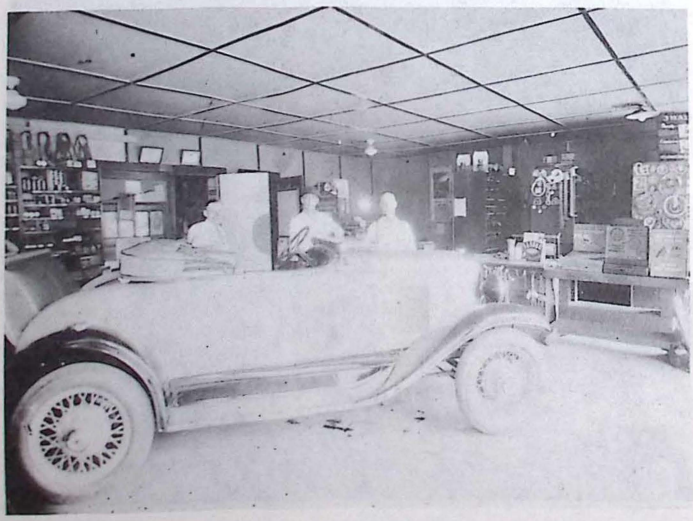
Antonie returned in 1958. Albert Van Heukelom died in 1959. Morris retired in 1965 at which time Byron Ver Meer, Melvin Ver Meer, Marvin C. Ver Meer, and Earl Grandia purchased the business. Elias Kolenbrander retired in 1973.

Employees at the garage through the years included: Lane Rus, Peter Rus, Earl Owens, Gerrit P. Zylstra, Cecil Kennedy, Abraham Dykstra, Jake Vander Wal, Herman Notting, Andrew Ver Schure, Charlie Veen, William Van Dusseldorp, Elmer Van Waardhuizen, Edward De Joode, John Moffet, Douglas Ver Meer, Gary Gezel, Cleve Grimes, Robert Peebler, Clarence Rouwenhorst, Henry Dykstra, Rich Van Kooten, John McConeghey, James Brass, Paul Simmons Jr., Clarence Van Essen, Wm. P. Mepplink, Lee Roose, Afton Roose, Ivan Vos, Don Van Donselaar, Art Nichols.

C.L. Leydens purchased the business, now Leydens Chevrolet-Olds, in 1972. Current employees are: Germent Rus, Jacob Rus, Charles Rus, Louis Ter Louw, Perry Mendel, Wilbur Rozenberg, Melvin Ver Meer, Stuart Ver Meer, Michael Leydens, Jack Thomassen, Sharon Fopma, and Jerry Loynachan.

by Mel Ver Meer

(See photo next page.)



White Way Auto Company, 704 Main. Left to Right: Albert Van Heukelom, A.A. Ver Meer and Lane Wielard.

White Way Auto. Left to Right: A.T. Ver Meer, Lane Rus, Lane Wielard, and A.A. Ver Meer (1917)

YOUR BEAUTY SHOP

B93

Giving a permanent in the earlier years. Picture taken in the Sam Sedrel home at 507 Main. Vera was the beautician.

Vera Sedrel, as a young beautician, set up her business in the Sam Sedrel home at 507 Main St. This was in Oct. 1937, after Vera had attended Beauty School in Omaha, Neb. She borrowed money from Marion Sedrel in Oskaloosa and was able to pay back the loan in a year.

The location of the beauty shop changed later to 613 Franklin St. and was called Vera's Beauty Salon. Some of the first permanents were $3.00 and $5.00. A shampoo was 75¢ and a haircut was 50¢. One of Vera's earliest employees was Berniece De Wit Van Zee and Viola Niementsverdriet Van De Noord.

In Sept. 1971 the shop was sold to Ruth Van Zee Medema, called Ruth's Beauty Shop. At that time shampoo and wave were $3.50 and they were doing much backcombing and "beehive" styling. Permanents were $15.00 to $18.00.

Some special customers on a long-time basis were Mrs. Dr. Fox, Mrs. Ben Hoeksema, Mrs. Dr. Lankelma, Mrs. Hilda Nesbit, Nellie Van Roekel Vander Linden and Marie Blecha.

Ruth Medema continued in the beauty parlor with beauticians Linda DeZwarte and Julia De Haai. Business was good through the years. Prices were raised according to raises in the economy.

Ruth Medema sold the shoap to Linda De Zwarte on Jan. 1985 and changed the name to Horizon.

by Vera Van Gorp

ZYLSTRA'S WELDING

B94

The business of Zylstra's Welding began Jan. 2, 1960, when P. Marvin Zylstra purchased some welding equipment from Harvey Van Royen. A shop was rented from Ed Van Gorp. This was located in the back end of Van's Machine Shop at 612½ Franklin St. In May of 1965, Zylstra's Welding moved to a new building at 1007 Washington St. They moved to the present location, 201 S.E. 14th St., in July, 1975. Two years later, on Nov. 15, 1977, the business became incorporated. Marvin Zylstra has been owner of the business since its founding in 1960. His son, David, has been employed at Zylstra's Welding since 1972.

The business specializes in farm, residential, and commercial repairs. Other services available are portable welding and the installation of trailer hitches. Zylstra's Welding was pleased to do the metalwork that decorates the Klokkenspel and Franklin Place.

by Marvin Zylstra

INDUSTRY

B95

Pella's Industrial Growth

When a person decides to leave his homeland, the government and society of which has become intolerable to him, and emigrate to a new home in a new county, almost all of the living conditions to which he has become accustomed no longer exist. This is exactly what happened to the Hollanders who moved to the U.S. and specifically to Marion Co., Ia. They arrived to find an area of basically raw land, almost completely undeveloped, and were faced with the necessity to exist solely by their own effort and ingenuity and on supplies which they had brought with them. They had brought such money as they had, but supplies which they needed as time went on were 116 miles away by wagon road at Keokuk, Ia., so they were forced to live largely on what they could grow and make for themselves.

This is not intended to be a dissertation on economics, but certain basic requirements are needed before very long if a community is to prosper and grow. Some of these are the production of food and housing and a local governing body to somehow set down the rules by which they would collectively live. These things they could do and did very quickly.

Many of the immigrants bought land and engaged in farming and others had skills such as carpentry, brick and stone masonry, and other basic labor needs. Fortunately they had some support from pioneers who had arrived a few years prior to 1847 and had already established themselves in the area. William Welch and Wellington Nossaman had a sawmill and a mill for grinding corn and also operated a pottery and lime kiln. Medical needs were filled by Dr. James L. Warren, who lived northeast of Pella near the Skunk River.

By 1850 a number of mercantile businesses were in operation and by 1852 a post office was established. That same year a hog slaughtering and packing business was in place.

It is plainly evident that a community cannot long exist on a purely local basis. A certain amount of some commodity must be exported in order to maintain the money supply. The production from the packing plant as well as the surplus farm production had to move out to a market to achieve this goal. The wagon road to Keokuk was inadequate, so other means of transportation were needed. Boat shipment on the Des Moines River was attempted but soon abandoned as impractical. By 1860 the railroad had reached Eddyville, and by 1866 was completed to Des Moines. Now Pella became a major distribution and collection point for Marion, Jasper, and Mahaska Cos., and real progress was possible.

As important as agriculture was in the early days it was not a line of endeavor for everyone. Some became merchants and supplied things many people could not make for themselves. Carpenters and masons found a ready market for their skills, and soon manufacturing also began to take its place in the community. By 1902 there were two feed and cereal grain mills in operation. A canning and pickling works, a broom factory, a brush factory, a tank and trough factory, and a brick and tile yard were also busy at work. The Fisk Bros. brick and tile business led them to manufacture ditching machines to lay this tile. Buerkens Mfg. Co. was making wagons and bob sleds; Pella Stacker Co. was in operation and just beginning to produce their new band cutter and feeder for threshing machines. Also by this time a pottery, a brewery and vinegar works, a woolen mill, a

stone cutting plant, and a cigar factory were in evidence. Many of these factories produced far more than could be used locally, and the surplus could now be exported by rail to a wide variety of markets.

Progressive administrators in the city government proposed a bond issue for improvements to utilities and by 1910 a light plant and a water and sewer systems were a reality. Paved streets came not far behind.

Since all of the elements were now in place — transportation, energy, good markets, and a highly-important industrious labor force — Pella's industrial base continued to grow at a rapid pace. Rolscreen Co. was brought to Pella, Van Gorp Mfg. Co., Vermeer Mfg. Co. & Precision Pulley came into being. All these were started by local entrepreneurs. Men of vision and fortitude made it all happen, and Pella has never stopped growing and prospering. Let us not forget to count our many blessings and express our gratitude for them.

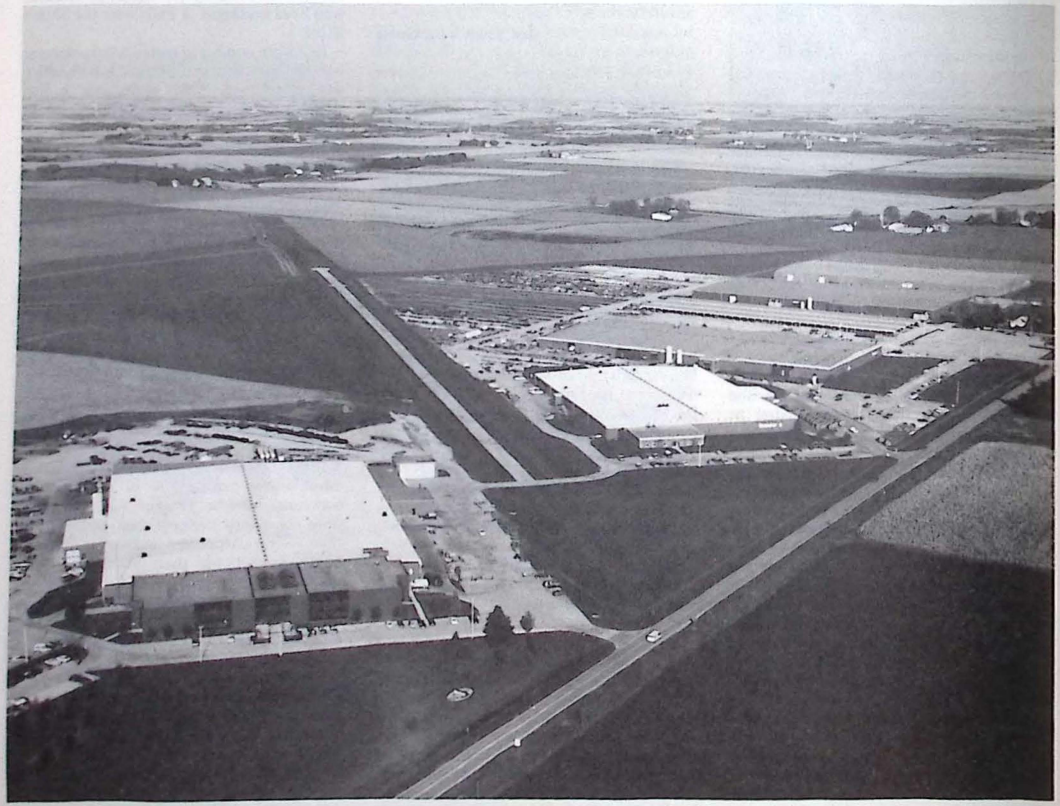
The original building of Vermeer Manufacturing, located west of Pella between the Fifield Road and Highway 163 West.

by Art Tysseling

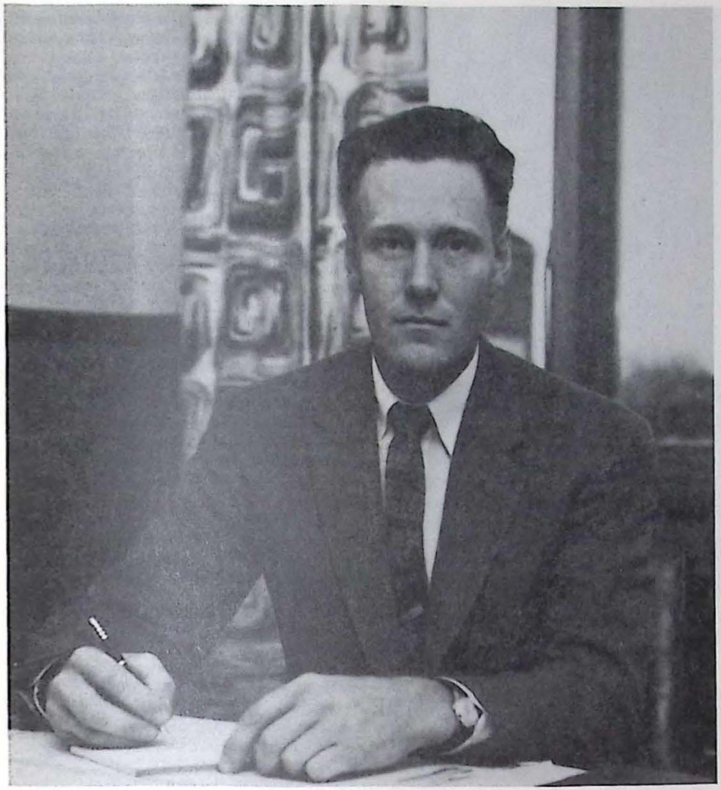
VERMEER MANUFACTURING COMPANY

B96

In 1947, Gary Vermeer, a young farmer with an inventive mind and insight into the future, designed a mechanical wagon hoist for his own use. Farm neighbors observed his wagon hoist in operation and were soon asking for the implement. After Gary had made four hoists, he then had a local machine shop fabricate a number of these hoists to meet the demand. In the spring of 1948, it was quite evident that the unit could be successfully produced and marketed on a larger scale. Consequently, Gary and a cousin, Ralph Vermeer (who died in 1962), founded Vermeer Manufacturing Company in the latter part of that year. Ralph continued to work at Marion County State Bank in the beginning. Shortly thereafter, they began manufacturing the Vermeer mechanical hoist in their newly built factory on the west edge of Pella. However, the introduction of com-



Current plants of Vermeer Manufacturing, located one mile east of Pella on New Sharon Road.



Gary Vermeer, one of the founders of Vermeer Manufacturing.

petitive hydraulic wagon hoists made it obvious that new products must be developed if the young company was to survive.

A second farm implement was designed – a portable power takeoff drive for hammermills and shellers. The Vermeer Pow-R-Drive met with almost immediate success – thousands were sold. Through these early years other small farm equipment items, such as a wagon end gate seeder and wheel cleaner for row crop tractors, were designed and manufactured.

In 1951, Leonard Maasdam came to Gary with the idea of a trencher for farm tiling. Vermeer then developed the Model 12 PTO-driven tiling trencher. This launched Vermeer into the trencher business. This machine is still being offered in Vermeer's equipment line.

In 1955, the original boom-type agricultural sprinkler, designed for use with high clearance crops such as corn, was developed and marketed. Another agricultural product was developed in 1956. Vermeer became one of two organizations to introduce the hay conditioner to the agricultural market.

When clearing land for agricultural purposes, it was usually difficult to remove the tree stumps. In 1957, the Ver Ploegs came to Vermeer with a prototype machine to remove stumps. Vermeer took this concept and developed the first Pow-R-Stump Cutter. The patented Vermeer Stump Cutter was the first practical, low-cost answer to stump removal.

In 1963, experimentation began on the development of a mechanical tree moving machine. A few months later, the Vermeer TM-700 was introduced. This was the first machine designed to dig, transport and replant large trees economically. About four years later the Vermeer Tree Spade was introduced. The first machine, Model TS-44, enjoyed immediate acceptance and more than 400 units were sold the first year. In the 1960's, almost all the sales at Vermeer came from trenchers, stump cutters, sprinklers and tree spades. Vermeer was not selling agricultural equipment.

An idea came to Gary in 1971 which would bring Vermeer back into agricultural equipment. While walking and discussing with a friend concerning the difficulty of finding help in putting up hay, Gary conceived the idea of a large round baler — one which could bale a ton of hay, where the bales would be round so that you could leave them in the field and they would shed water, and moveable by a tractor so you would not need to leave the tractor seat and not need more than one person involved in haying. Thus a new concept in hay harvesting was conceived — the One-Man Hay System! With the introduction in 1972 of its 605 and 706 hay baler models, Vermeer revolutionized haymaking methods. People flocked to see this new machine, and Vermeer had more orders than they could fill. Hay handling tools were developed to transport the giant bales. Approximately 67,000 round balers were produced from 1971 through 1986. In the latter 1970's, a majority of Vermeer's production was devoted to balers.

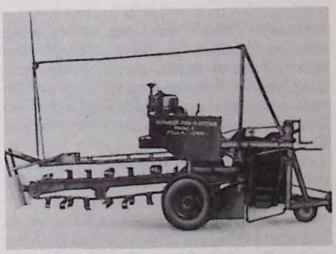
Vermeer continually improved the large round baler with new models: 605A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, and the 605J in 1986. But Vermeer also developed its industrial equipment line with new and improved trenchers, both rubber-tired and track trenchers, new tree spades and stump cutters. This became crucial for Vermeer during the agricultural recession in the mid-1980's. Industrial equipment sales set new records in those years. International sales also increased dramatically in the 1980's.

Today Vermeer is managed by the Office of President including Gary Vermeer, Chairman of the Board and CEO, Robert Vermeer, Executive Vice-President, and Mary Vermeer Andringa, Vice-President.

Vermeer is recognized both nationally and internationally as being a high quality, innovative leader in the production of agricultural and industrial equipment. Over 700 employees work in Vermeer's five modern plants east of Pella, with over 830,000 square feet of manufacturing under roof.

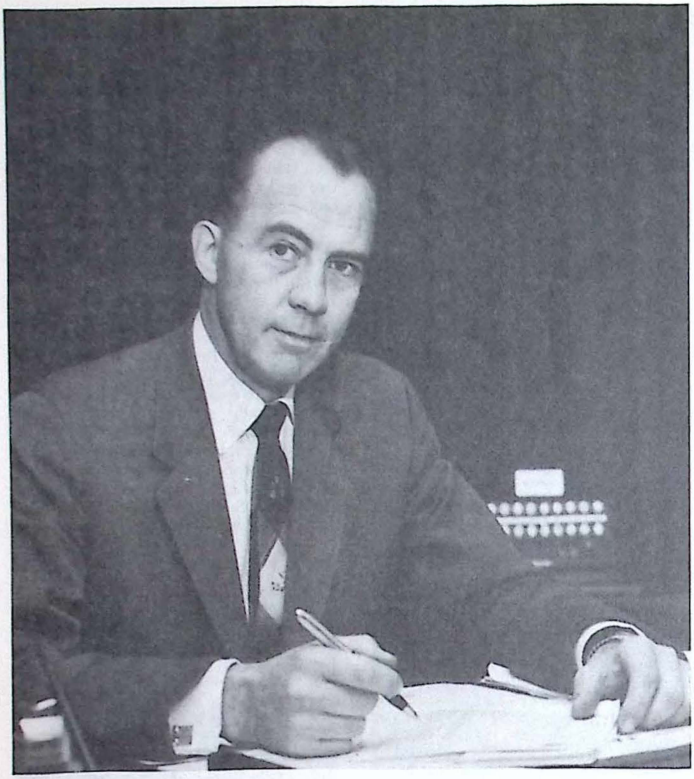
by Stan Vermeer

The first farm wagon hoist made by Gary Vermeer.



Vermeer's first trencher, Pow-R-Ditcher Model 6.

The first round baler made by Vermeer.



Ralph Vermeer, Gary Vermeer's cousin, co-founder of Vermeer Manufacturing. Ralph died in 1962.

VAN GORP CORPORATION

B97

Franklin "Hap" Van Gorp started a job shop on Franklin St. about 1933. He did repairs for coal mines, gravel plants, rock quarries, and the area farmers. Some of his employees were Lawrence De Jong, John Van Zee, Ray Vander Leest, Everett Heyveld and Elmer Van Maaren.

"Hap" was born six miles east of Pella and still lives in Pella on Broadway with his wife Frances.

The job shop business of Van Gorp was so busy that in the year 1950 it was moved to the west edge of Pella in the location now occupied by the corporation. However, in 1950 the business consisted of one Quonset type building with the second Quonset added in 1953. Van Gorp built complete plants to do conveying, storage bins, and related items. Marion Co. once supported a major coal mining operation and Van Gorp was instrumental in supplying mining items. Van Gorp also built and sold aggretators for gravel pits that were used to loosen gravel in the bottom of pits.

In Aug. of 1957, the business was incorporated and Van Gorp Manufacturing was formed. The original stockholders were Franklin Van Gorp, Bill Peters, Lester Ter Louw and Ray Vander Leest. The new company used the two existing steel Quonset buildings and added a tile block building 40 feet by 100 feet. The facility currently covers an area of 91,400 square feet.

Van Gorp had made a few wing pulleys in the mid-1950's. Allen McKay, a Dodge Mfg. salesman told "Hap" he should try to get into the manufacture of pulleys. The first few years were difficult and progress was slow. The first year's volume of $151,000 was less than one-third pulley sales.

Ter Louw and Vander Leest left the corporation to pursue other opportunities and Cliff Vroom became an important stock holder. Prior to incorporation, the firm was primarily a welding and custom fabricating shop. There was a total of about nine employees at that time.

The ground work for national distribution through power transmission distributors was completed in the early 1960's. Van Gorp got a patent on a completely new rubber-lagged wing pulley. They then expanded into conventional drum type conveyor pulleys. The combination of these two items was the beginning of a successful manufacturing operation.

The material handling business in the late 60's exploded with new opportunities that required better engineered and much heavier type conveyor pulleys than had ever been previously conceived. Van Gorp began involving professors from Iowa State University for technical engineering consultation. As the result of this effort, a new type of Double Drum pulley was produced and this proved to be a superior product in the material handling industry, especially in the mine fields. Van Gorp's concentration on product improvement has enabled them to become one of the largest conveyor pulley manufacturers in the country.

In May 1976, the firm was acquired by Emerson Electric Company of St. Louis and Van Gorp's affiliation with Browning Manufacturing division completed the power

Van Gorp Manufacturing as it appears presently. It is located west of Pella on Highway 163.

transmission part of the Emerson Corporate business. This affiliation has entered into a new organizational phase which is now called the Emerson Power Transmission Company.

by Gen Van Ekeren

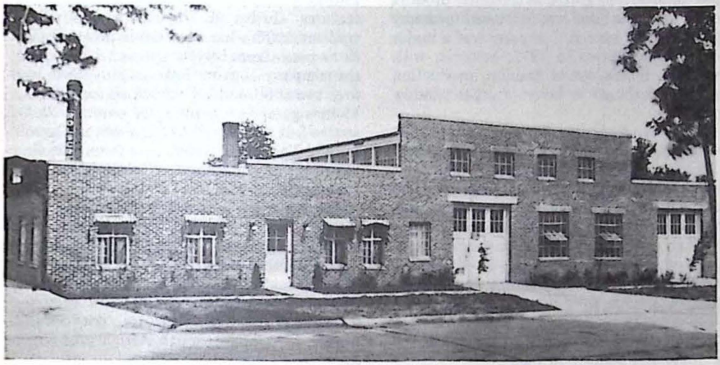
PETE KUYPER AND HIS COMPANY - A HOMETOWN SUCCESS STORY

B98

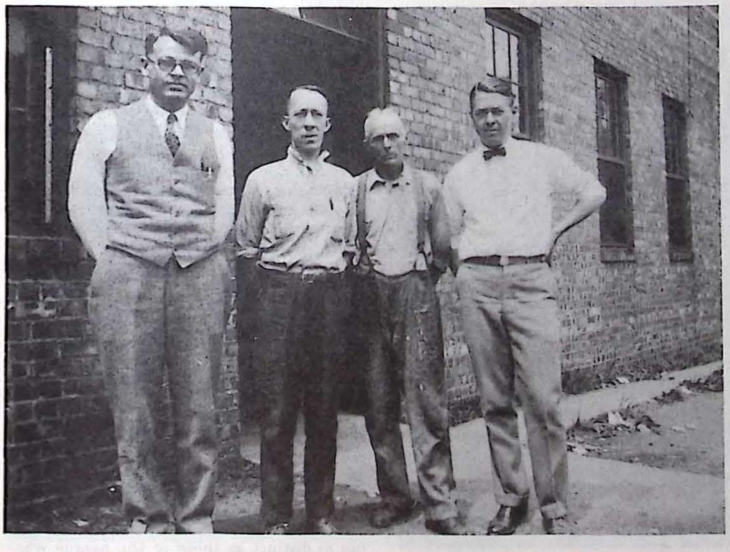
As his car idled at the curb, the driver looked skeptically at the modest building set far back on a Des Moines industrial lot adjacent to the interurban tracks. He hesitated, then slowly and reluctantly eased the car into gear. "No matter what the ad said, there's not much to see here;" Peter H. Kuyper turned to his wife, "Let's head back to Pella."

Two Chicago area salesmen promoting Rolscreen.

Lucile Kuyper thought of the long trip to the capital city, no small undertaking in 1925 on the dusty "Great White Way" marked at intervals with white posts and later to become Iowa Highway 163. "Pete," she said emphatically, "We've come this far; let's at least stop and find out what it's all about." Seeing the logic in his wife's suggestion, Pete put the car into neutral, set the brake and switched off the ignition. Both got out of the car and walked toward the small structure with its crudely-lettered "ROLSCREEN" sign. They were about to initiate a series of events which would work profound change — in the lives of the Kuyper family, the struggling little business and the nearby town of Pella.



The first Rolscreen factory and office building. Now incorporated into the new building.



July 15, 1925. This was the entire factory and sales force of Rolscreen. Left to Right: Founder Pete Kuyper, Harry Dickson, Mr. Bainer, and Bob Robinson.

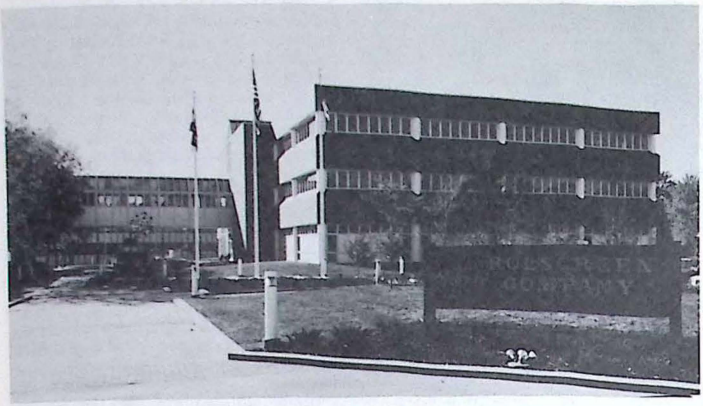
The new venture was incorporated in Des Moines, Ia., on Feb. 6, 1925. Its founding stockholders were E.J. Raymond and L.B. Robison and the firm was organized to produce an improved version of a rolling window screen. The two investors had purchased the rights to the original design when the manufacturer, the Nelson Company of Spencer, Ia., closed its doors. Robison at the time was affiliated with the Des Moines Cooperative Dairy Marketing Association and Raymond was a successful manufacturer of poultry incubators. The gulf between fabricating metal incubator boxes and making metal screen housings was not a wide one; Raymond's foreman, Harry J. Dixson, deftly bridged it by applying ingenuity and incubator shop methods to the production of rolling screens. The fledgling business was set up in an unused garage on the dairy marketing association's property. The new name adopted for both the product and the company seemed an obvious one — Rolscreen.

Pilot production was begun but additional capital was needed almost immediately. An advertisement was placed in *The Des Moines Sunday Register* of Feb. 22, 1925, and Pella businessman Peter H. Kuyper quickly responded. He was invited to Des Moines to discuss the venture with Robison and despite his initial skepticism, Kuyper soon had invested $10,000.00, buying out Raymond's interest. He began full-time work with the company on Apr. 1, 1925, at a salary of $250.00 per month.

Additional investment was required before full production and marketing of the product began in Oct. of 1925 but then success came quickly. Architects and builders of several very large apartment projects in St. Louis and Cincinnati were the first to specify Rolscreens; soon usage extended nationally to residences and other types of buildings. With a short time, production reached several thousand screens per month, putting considerable strain on the limited manufacturing facilities.

In seeking out a larger plant site, Pete Kuyper looked toward his home town of Pella and approached the local chamber of commerce for assistance with moving expenses. The chamber quickly raised the requested $1,000.00 and Pella was chosen as Rolscreen's new home. A building which could accommodate more than thirty employees was erected at the corner of Main and South St. and following the move, production resumed there in Sept. of 1926. In thanking the chamber for its help, Pete Kuyper hoped that "this expenditure . . . will prove to be a good investment and assure you that we will strive to make it so." Even he could not foresee the benefits which would result from this farsighted commitment to the future of Rolscreen and the community.

Pella's newest industry soon was fully staffed with an enthusiastic work force and aggressive management. Despite the onset of



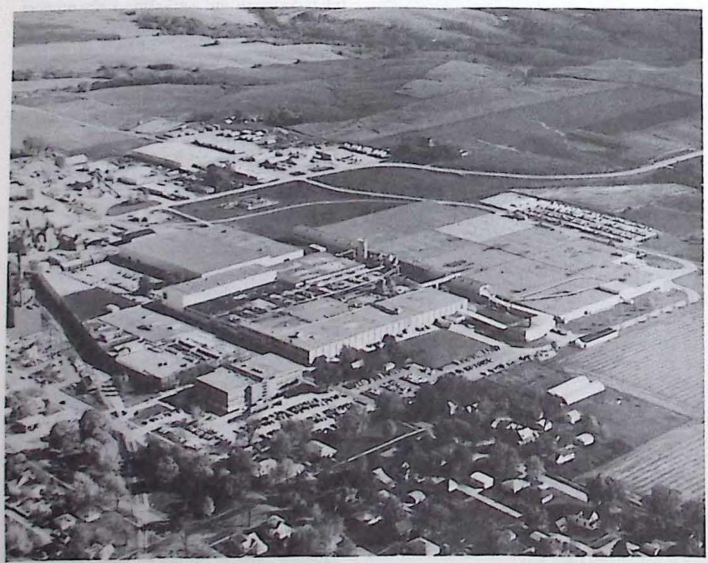
Rolscreen as it appears today, 1987. Entrance at the end of Main Street in the 100 block.

the Great Depression only three years later, Rolscreen Company never lost its initial momentum. There were, of course, periods of anxiety brought on by temporary valleys and plateaus in business activity but the long-term trend in the firm's fortunes ran slowly but steadily upward. Sometime during this period in the early 1930's, L.B. Robison left the company and his shares were purchased by Pete Kuyper who became the sole stockholder.

From the beginning and especially now, in a depressed economy, Pete recognized the danger of relying on a single product. He reasoned that growth could best be sustained with a line of coordinated products, particularly window-related ones that could be sold through the expanding national network of Rolscreen distributors. In 1934, a second item, marketed under the new "Pella" trade name, was introduced: The Pella Venetian Blind was uniquely attractive at the time in that it featured a completely concealed mechanism. Recognized as the finest product of its type, the blind was marketed for many years and Rolscreen Company was a major national producer. In 1957, however, with venetian blinds out of fashion, production was discontinued in favor of other window products.

Rolscreen had entered that market in 1937 with another unique offering, the Pella Casement Window. In a time when most windows were shop-built from lumber-yard parts, it was sold as a factory-assembled unit complete with hardware, Rolscreen and built-in storm panel. Pella's casement incorporated a rigid steel frame lined on the interior with wood for warmth, beauty and insulating value. Output totaled well over one million units by 1971 when facilities were converted to the manufacture of a new series of wood and metal-clad casements.

The sales success of Rolscreen's products made plant expansion necessary beginning in 1935. Additional new construction in 1936 and 1940 resulted in a factory covering more than 123,000 square feet. It was kept at full production during World War II when windows were produced for a number of war plants, most notably ,the vast atomic-energy complex at Oak Ridge, Tenn.



Aerial view of Pella Rolscreen looking Southeast, 1987.

As the war ended and conversion to a civilian economy began, Rolscreen Company was well equipped to participate in the postwar building boom. Its quality-conscious work force, modern plant, and highly-regarded products would provide an excellent base for the coming years of steady, substantial growth.

Production of Pella's three prewar products resumed in 1945. A fourth was added in 1950 — the wood multi-purpose window developed from wartime experience, and the basis for the present line of wood and metal-clad windows. Interior wood folding doors followed in 1952 and sliding glass doors in 1960. In the intervening years, well over a score of other Pella Products have been introduced — with quality and innovative features always distinguishing the Pella trademark. This has resulted in an enthusiastic response from buyers and solid growth for the company — from four employees to well over two thousand . . . from space in a Des Moines garage to a plant of over 1,300,000 square feet plus satellite factories in Carroll, Ia., and The Netherlands . . . from a modest beginning to a position of leadership in its industry.

The company's development was made possible, too, by an excellent sales and service organization. Begun during Rolscreen's earliest years, this network now extends to all of the principal cities of the U.S. and Canada. There is also distribution of Pella Products throughout Western Europe, the Middle East and in Japan, South Africa and South America.

Pete Kuyper had genuine regard for his "family" of employees. He often acknowledged their part in his success and he was attentive to their welfare and needs. With the company's postwar growth, Pete was able to lend greater substance to his concern by offering a broad program of employee benefits. Capstone of the plan is the profit-sharing trust begun in 1952. Fully funded by the company, it has provided liberal pensions to hundreds of long-term employees upon retirement. Concerned as well about the welfare of their community, Pete and Lucile Kuyper contributed very generously for many years to the economic development and quality of life in Pella and the surrounding area and they provided substantial support to Central College.

Pete Kuyper became Chairman of the Board of Rolscreen Company in 1966, staying active in the firm's affairs until his passing in 1981. His place as President was taken by his son-in-law, Paul V. Farver. Mr. Farver was followed in 1976 by Pete's son, H. Stuart Kuyper, who filled the post until his death in 1980 when he was succeeded by J. Wayne Bevis. Pete's daughter, Joan Kuyper Farver, has served as Board Chairman since 1980 and other family members remain involved in the company's management.

Business organizations can have personalities as distinct as those of the people who shape them. If a firm is created by a single, forceful individual, it often will bear that

person's unique stamp and reflect his personal values. Rolscreen is just such a company, largely the creation of Peter H. Kuyper. He breathed vitality into it and imbued it with his own business ethic: Giving customers honest value, providing opportunity for employees, and making the community a better place in which to live and work.

Rolscreen is committed to remaining just such a company. It endorses the wholesome beliefs of the man who inspired and directed its growth. And Rolscreen people strive to perpetuate and practice them daily in the marketplace, in the work place, and in the community.

PRECISION PULLEY, INC.

B99

In October 1977, the talent and energy of six Pella area residents were combined to incorporate Precision Pulley, Inc.

Today, the management team at Precision Pulley includes: Stan Poortinga, President; K.C. Valster, Manufacturing; Dennis Steenhoek, Sales; Joel Vandevoort, Finance; Paul Beyer, Engineering; Herb Blom, Product Management; and Keith Vande Krol, Product Management.

Dedicated to manufacturing and marketing the best flat-belt conveyor pulleys and power transmission products, Precision Pulley products serve the coal, grain, ore, and aggregate industries nationwide; as well as Canada, Europe and South America.

Initially, Precision Pulley began production in a leased, 7,000 square foot facility, which was located five miles east of Knoxville, Iowa.

As sales increased, the need for additional plant and equipment was apparent. In September 1979, Precision Pulley moved from Knoxville, Iowa to Pella, Iowa to begin operations in its newly constructed 22,000 square foot facility.

In January 1982, efforts were directed toward the production and sales of various industrial products including: sheaves, bushings, V-belts, couplings, sprockets, bearings, and take-up frames. The introduction of Precision Industrial Products in 1982 effectively complimented existing production of flat-belt conveyor pulley assemblies and enabled Precision Pulley to more effectively serve its power transmission accounts. In March 1982, a 12,000 square foot facility was acquired to house production and inventory for Precision Industrial Products.

Precision Rubber and Lagging was created in December 1985. To accommodate the additional equipment and related operations created by Precision Rubber and Lagging, a 27,000 square foot production and storage facility was acquired in May 1986.

Currently, as Precision Pulley prepares to celebrate ten years of service to the bulk material handling and power transmission industries, a 21,000 square foot, satellite production facility has been dedicated in Corning, Iowa.

by Dennis Brass

Precision Pulley Inc. (South Pella) incorporated in 1977.

August, 1900. "Father's 63rd Birthday" — Gysbert Steehoek family

Stories in the Family History Section are alphabetized by surname. This sorting was done by computer, and spaces are considered as well as letters. Thus, the reader will find that VAN DER HART and VAN WYK will appear before VANDER BEEK.

FAMILIES

1886, Jan and Christine Van Loon Rietveld family. Standing Back Row: Bertha (Mrs. Jim) De Young, John, Jennie (Mrs. John A.) Vanderwal, Marie (Mrs. Tom) Sels, Gideon: Sitting Middle Row: Lizzie (Mrs. Leonard) Weyers, Jan the father and Christine the mother holding Lois, Delia; Front Row: Katherine and Cora.

ANDRE, DON AND KRISTEN

F1

Kristen Sue Vos Andre, the second of three children of Johanna (Vanden Berg) and Melvin Vos was born July 8, 1952, in Oskaloosa, Ia. She grew up in Pella and attended the public schools there. In her senior year of high school Kris served as an attendant on the Tulip Time royal court of 1970. Kris attended Central College in Pella where her main interest was communications and theater and where she became a member of the Alpha Psi Omega fraternity.

It was at Central that Kris met Donald George Andre. Don was born to George and Alice (Topp) Andre on Apr. 29, 1949, in Paterson, N.J. He was the oldest of four boys in that family. He resided in Wayne, N.J. until attending the Florida Institute of Technology and later Central College in Pella. Don and Kris were married in a home ceremony on Feb. 12, 1972, and moved to Hawthorne, N.J. They returned to Pella in the fall of that year. Don and Kris are active members of First Reformed Church in Pella and parents of two children: Sara Nicole, born Apr. 7, 1974, and Jeffrey Cooper, born Mar. 22, 1978. Kris is currently employed at Central College and enjoys an interest in folk-art painting. Don worked for twelve years at Farmers' Co-op Lumber but left in 1985, to set up a new partnership business, Strawtown Furniture, where he is currently self-employed.

by Kris Andre

ANTHONY, FRED DONALD AND MYRNA JANE

F2

Fred Donald Anthony Jr. was born May 10, 1940, in Des Moines, Ia. to Fred and Darlene (Powell) Anthony.

Myrna Jane (Niklasen) Anthony was born Sept. 28, 1941, in Kimballton, Ia. to Bert and Helen (Turner) Niklasen. Bert's father, Peter M. Niklasen, came to the United States in the early 1900's from southern Denmark.

Fred and Myrna both graduated from Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo. and were married Aug. 2, 1964, at Bethany Lutheran Church, Kimballton, Ia..

Both taught school in the Guthrie Center school system before moving to Pella in Aug., 1969. Fred assumed the position of World History instructor at Pella Community High School and in addition has served as Head Track and Field Coach and Assistant Football Coach. Myrna is presently Assistant Librarian at the Carnegie-Viersen Library. Their three children are: Toni Lyn Anthony, Mark Douglas Anthony, Heather Dawn Anthony.

Toni Lyn Anthony was born Aug. 26, 1966, in Harlan, Ia.; is presently a Junior at Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Mo.

Mark Douglas Anthony was born Feb. 11, 1969, at Harlan, Ia.; is presently a Senior at Pella Community High School.

Heather Dawn Anthony was born Apr. 22, 1974, in Pella, Ia.; is presently a sixth grader at Pella Middle School.

by Myrna J. Anthony

ARKEMA, VERLAN AND KATHLEEN KLYN

F3

The Verlan Arkema Family, picture taken in 1985. Left to right: Sara, Verlan, Kathy (holding Phillip), Joel, and Kendra.

Verlan Arkema was born on May 31, 1953. His parents, John Arkema and Iva Vande Krol Arkema made their home north of Sully, Ia. At that time John was engaged in farming. Verlan was the fourth of five sons: Carl, Ervin, Milo, Verlan, and Wesley. He attended Sully Christian Grade School. In 1969, following the death of John in a farm machinery accident, the family left the farm, and moved to a home in Sully.

Kathleen Klyn, daughter of John Klyn and Lois Hoksbergen Klyn, entered the world on Jan. 12, 1956. The family consisted of five children: Judith, Kathleen, Bonnie, Julie, and Jon. They lived on the farm, their home being north of Pella, Ia. In 1962 they took residence at a farmstead northeast of the tiny village of Peoria, Ia. Kathy attended grades one through eight at the Christian School in Peoria and high school at Pella Christian High School. There she met Verlan and in April of 1974 they were married.

Their first home was in Sully. At that time Verlan was employed as a carpenter. Their first child, Joel, was born in 1974. Two years later, during the bicentennial year of 1976, daughter Sara joined the family. This year also marked a change of occupation for Verlan and, with it, a new residence for the Arkemas. For the span of one year Verlan was employed as a hired hand on a farm northwest of Pella, where the family also lived.

Then the opportunity arose to rent a farm of their own, so they settled on a place southeast of Peoria in 1977. A year later, in 1978, their second daughter, Kendra was born. The 1980's brought a depressed farm economy. To supplement the family income Kathy began part-time work at the Pella Community Hospital in 1983 as a baker-cook in the dietary department.

Early in 1985, another son, Philip, was born to the couple. Six weeks after the birth of Philip, the family once again pulled up roots and moved to their present home just east of Pella. They continue in the occupation of farming and Kathy is now employed at the Marion County State Bank in Pella. Joel, Sara, and Kendra are students at the Peoria Christian Grade School. Kathy is a member of the Peoria School Circle and Verlan serves on the Peoria Christian School Board. The family attends the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

by Kathy Arkema

BAIR, DON AND JODY

F4

Relative newcomers to Pella, Don and Jody Bair moved here in Aug. 1984 from Keswick, Ia. They own a farm at Keswick where they farmed for 35 years. Don is a veteran of the Korean War. They lived at Camp McCoy, Wis. after his tour of duty in Korea and moved to the farm following his discharge.

Don was born Mar. 9, 1928, in South English, Ia. to Harl and Pearl (Linebarger) Bair. Jody was born Jan. 26, 1932, in Webster, Ia. to Ed and Frances (Vogel) Osweiler. Don has no brothers or sisters and Jody came from a family of five boys and five girls.

The Bairs have two children, a daughter-in-law, and grandson. Their son, Capt. Jim Bair of Great Falls, Mont, is a jet fighter pilot (currently flying the F-106), daughter-in-law, Capt. Peg Bair is an A.F. nurse in Great Falls, Mont. Grandson Matt Bair was born Feb. 6, 1986. Daughter, Lisa Bair, is a first grade teacher in Mt. Pleasant, Ia. She graduated from Northeast Missouri State University in 1984.

The Bairs enjoy living in Pella and have made many friends. Don is employed with the Pella Public Schools in the maintenance department and drives a bus. Jody is employed with Central College in the information office. They enjoy many hobbies, including woodworking, sewing, biking and playing cards.

by Jody Bair

BALLENGER, MICHAEL AND TRICIA

F5

Michael (Mike) Earl Ballenger, the youngest son of George Hunter Ballenger (born Apr. 3, 1910, and died Apr. 18, 1968) and Margaret Geraldine (Jerry) Thompson Ballenger (born June 4, 1910) was born Feb. 4, 1952 in Des Moines, Ia. He has one older brother, Jimmie Lloyd Ballenger (born Sept. 10, 1934) and one older sister, Effie Kelene (Kelly) Ballenger Teeter (born Nov. 30, 1950). Mike's father died suddenly on Apr. 18, 1968, at the Pella Community Hospital from diverticulitis. He is buried in the Lynn Cemetery in Redfield, Ia. (Dallas Co.).

Mike lived in Pella for the first 22 years of his life attending the Pella Community Schools until graduating from Pella Commu-

Mike Ballenger Family: Tricia, Mike, Luke and Josh.

nity High School in 1970 and then graduating from Central College in 1974. Upon graduating from Central College he taught and coached in St. Mary's and Waterloo Columbus in Waterloo, Ia.

On June 28, 1975, Mike married Tricia Steward in the First Baptist Church in Pella, Iowa. Tricia, the daughter of Tom and Thyrza Hackert Steward, was born Feb. 8, 1953, in Oskaloosa, Ia. She moved with her family to Pella when she was six years old. Tricia graduated from Pella Community High School in 1971 and Iowa State University in 1975 with a major in Child Development.

Mike and Tricia taught school and lived in Winfield, Ia. from 1975-79. They then moved to Kirksville, Mo. where Mike received a Master of Arts Degree in guidance and counseling from Northeast Missouri State University. From 1980-84 Mike worked as a guidance counselor and coach and Tricia as a Kindergarten teacher in Underwood, Ia.

On Mother's Day, May 10, 1981, a son was born to the couple in Council Bluffs, Ia. and named Joshua (Josh) Jay Ballenger. On Mar. 9, 1984, another son, Lucas (Luke) Joe Ballenger was born to the couple in Council Bluffs, Iowa.

The Ballenger family moved to Centerville, Ia. in 1984 to teach and coach and then back to Pella in 1986 where they live at the present time.

Luke was dedicated in the First Baptist Church in Centerville, Ia. and Josh at the First Baptist Church in Pella where the family presently attends.

The Ballengers enjoy much time together as a family. They like to picnic, walk, play baseball, and basketball, swim, and vacation with other family members.

by Michael Ballenger

BANDSTRA, ANDREW AND JENNIE (DEJONG)

F6

Andrew Bandstra, son of Paulus and Geertje Spoelstra Helmhoudt Bandstra, was born in Kollmerland, Friesland, The Netherlands, on Mar. 30, 1891. He received some schooling in Holland and told how he would walk to school, pole vault across the canal, putting the pole down and then on the way home pole vault across again.

He migrated to America with his family in Mar. 1899, and celebrated his eleventh birthday on the boat. He remembered receiving an orange from a passenger in first class who handed it to him through the gate or fence that separated them. It was the first orange he had ever tasted.

Front, l-r: Gertrude, Bert, Jennie, Andrew, and Andrew; Back, l-r: Paul, Dick, Gerrit, James, Tena, and Nellie.

He lived with his family in Pella, eventually moving to Otley where he helped farm. He married Jennie De Jong who had migrated to America when she was eight and had settled with her parents in Otley. Her parents were Dirk and Nellie Schowenberg De Jong and her birthdate was Nov. 4, 1886, in Spuk, The Netherlands. She worked as a telephone operator before marrying Andrew on Feb. 25, 1909. They farmed around Pella, Eddyville, and Taintor.

Andrew and Jennie became active in the community and churches where they lived. They raised a family of nine children. Gertrude married Leonard Dahm on Feb. 17, 1910. Leonard died Oct. 1, 1961. Nellie married Gysbert Vrough. Nellie was born May 14, 1911. Gysbert died June 30, 1963. The first son, Paul, was born Mar. 13, 1913, and married Mildred Verhey. Paul died July 11, 1982. Dick married Gerdena Van Ryswyk. His date of birth was Apr. 3, 1915. Feb. 27, 1917, was the birthdate of Tena who later married Cornie Dahm. Gerrit was born Apr. 11, 1920, and married Cornelia Van Wyngarden. Bert, born Jan. 25, 1922, married Tressa Van Wyngarden. James married Tena Mae Van Wyngarden. He was born Oct. 14, 1924. The last child, Andrew, was born Dec. 6, 1926. He married Mae Ruth Stuursma and is at present Professor of New Testament at Calvin Seminary, Grand Rapids, Mich.

Andrew and Jennie worked hard at farming, keeping house and raising their children, but they enjoyed visiting with family and friends, organizing reunions and social gatherings for visiting relatives. After retiring in Peoria, Ia. they often assisted their children on their farms, visited relatives in Arizona, California, Minnesota, and Iowa. They were active members in their community, participated in political and religious activities in the Peoria Christian Reformed and Taintor Methodist Churches, and were members of the Larks' Club where they gathered for hearty singing of hymns and Dutch Psalms and socializing.

Andrew continued the tradition of discussing politics, religion, farming and families. He did some barbering in the basement for family and friends and was a salesman for McCurdy seed corn.

They retired to Fairhaven in Pella in 1967. Andrew passed away with cancer on Aug. 15, 1967. Jennie continued the tradition of enjoying family and friends even after she moved to the Pella Nursing Home where she passed away Aug. 1, 1979, her body crippled with arthritis but her mind sharp until the end. Whether it was her relatives, her many friends or neighbors, she welcomed them all.

by Mildred Bandstra

BANDSTRA, PAULUS AND GEERTJE

F7

PaulusBandstra was born in Friesland in 1843, the youngest child of Bote and Antje DeVries. His grandfather, Jan Klaazes, took the name of Bantstra (later changed to Bandstra) in 1811 when Napoleon ruled The Netherlands. The name probably came from Bantpolder in North Friesland where he lived.

Life in Holland was hard. Death was a constant reality in life. Paulus' mother died when he was ten. Within a twelve-year period (1867-1888) he buried eight of his immediate family . . . his father, two wives, and five children. Geertje Spoelstra Helmhoudt, his third wife, had watched her husband, Jap, suffer and die.

However, Paulus and Geertje had five

Front, l-r: Mother Geertje, Peter, and Father Paulus Bandstra; Back, l-r: Kate, Andrew, John, and Bart. This part of the family came to America in 1899.

healthy children: Bote, Tryntje, Johannes, Anne, and Petrus. These children joined Geertje's two boys, Jacob and Klaas Helmhoudt and Paulus' two girls from previous marriages, Boukje and Ymkje. Holland was not a good place for a poor man and woman to raise nine children. Battling extreme poverty was an everyday struggle. The family of 11 lived in a small, two-room house on Wafstermolen Road outside Kollum. Even though they worked hard for a dairy farmer, the children often went to bed hungry.

Facing the bitter struggle against an established caste system was even greater than death or poverty. Their strong-spirited children also encountered demeaning prejudice. When meeting a wealthy person, they were expected to step off the boardwalk into the mud, bow their heads and say, respectfully, "Goed Dag, Mijnheer." Failure to comply would mean their mother and father would lose the poor-paying job they had.

Social inequities and extreme poverty were the primary reasons Paulus and Geertje migrated to America. Geertje's oldest sons, Jacob and Klaas, and Paulus' oldest daughters, Baukje and Ymkje, had come to the Pella area first and sent back money for the rest of the family. Paulus, 56, and Geertje, 55, embarked with the remaining family and made the difficult trip in March 1899. Geertje stood on the ship with tears streaming down her face as she was leaving family and friends in Holland forever.

Life in Pella was not easy. Language was difficult for older people. Paulus and his boys removed dung from the streets around the square in Pella. They also chopped and sold firewood for their first jobs. But in America, hard work was rewarded. Paulus sold a house in 1905 to move to a farm on Coal Hollow Road west of Otley. He never adjusted to the American style of farming, but the boys, especially Bote (Bart) soon took over. Years later, Paulus and Geertje retired to Pella and owned homes.

Religion was an important factor in their lives. Paulus, his wife, and their children joined the Chirstian Reformed Church wherever they lived and farmed. Paulus was elected elder in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella, setting a tradition for his sons and grandsons. Church leadership and participation, interpretation of the Bible, and the exchange of religious views were often topics of discussion, but living the life of a Christian every day was equally important.

The family took advantage of economic prosperity and religious independence in America, but had equal concern for the rights of equality. Paulus was often quoted as saying, "America must never lose its fear of class or it will never be free of class." The rights of every American to pursue his or her own way of life and the respect for each individual are an important heritage of both Paulus and Geertje to their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Economic prosperity, participation in religious activities, maintaining the political rights of all Americans, and raising families were, and are, high priorities for the descendants of Paulus and Geertje and are topics of discussion wherever Bandstras gather.

Paulus and Geertje lived to see their children marry and set up independent farming. Jacob and Klaas Helmhoudt moved from Pella to southeastern Iowa and eventually settled in Tucson and Phoenix, Ariz. Baukje married Jan Van Houten, Ymkje (Emma) married Pete Koster. Johannes (John) born Jan. 17, 1887, died Sept 30, 1967, married Minnie Hulleman and all left Pella, eventually settling around Edgerton and Chandler, Minn. Tryntje (Kate) born Feb. 10, 1884-died Aug. 19, 1955, married Case Van Dyke and farmed near Eddyville and Sully. Bote (Bart) born 1882-died 1955, married Mary Vande Voort, Anne (Andrew) married Jennie De Jong. He was born 1889-died 1967. Petrus (Peter) born 1891-died 1948, married Annie Stuursma. All farmed around the Pella area.

Geertje died on Aug. 2, 1911, in Pella. Paulus died Oct. 1, 1913, in Eddyville at the home of his daughter, Kate. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Although Paulus came to America penniless at the age of 56, at the time of his death, 69, he was the owner of two properties in Pella and left a small "nest egg" for each of his living children. Thank you, America!

(From a family book being written by other members of the Bandstras.)

by Mildred Bandstra

BANDSTRA, PETER AND ANNA (STURSMA)

F8

Peter Bandstra was born May 19, 1891, in Burum Friesland, to Paulus and Geertje Spoelstra Helmhoudt Bandstra. At the age of seven, Pete vaguely remembers the 1899 boat trip to America. During his teenage years Pete worked as a delivery boy for the Van Spankeren Grocery Store in Pella.

On Feb. 19, 1914, he married Anna Stursma, who was born Feb. 21, 1892, the second oldest of the six children born to Willem and Trynje Postma Stursma. Anna was raised near Otley and attended school in Otley and attended the Wheat Grove School.

Pete and Anna rented farms in the Pella area and to their union six children were born: Paul (1914), Tena (1915), William (1917), Gilbert (1918), Raymond (1921), and Gertrude (1925). Days were filled with hard work, but the children always enjoyed their father's good sense of humor. Pete loved to play jokes on April Fool's Day, and always bought firecrackers for each of them on the Fourth of July. Always willing to help with whatever had to be done, Pete was handy with helping to wallpaper, scrub and wax floors. He was also the family barber and would usually whistle while he worked.

Anna was a strong woman. Besides keeping an immaculate house, she cared for flocks of chickens and helped milk the cows. She was content with being at home and prided herself on caring for her family. Many evenings she would stay up late to mend clothes, and she baked bread daily while the family was growing up. Anna loved flowers and enjoyed seeing her family dressed in nice clothes.

The Bandstra family worked hard and in 1937, they were able to buy a farm known as the "Verros" place near Harvey. It gave Pete great satisfaction that the checks no longer had to be split with a landlord. We know that Pete would be proud that the farm is still in the family and is farmed by a grandson today.

Pete and Anna both found happiness in raising and caring for their family, giving the children many childhood joys to remember; a bicycle, piano lessons, a riding horse, and domestic rabbits. Above all, raising the children to be strong, devout Christians was their highest goal. The family attended the First Christian Reformed Church and later attended the Second Christian Reformed Church, where Pete served willingly in different capacities.

With Pete's health failing, they moved to Pella in Feb. 1948. Pete died on Mar. 12, 1948, at the age of 56, due to kidney failure. Anna

found the adjustment to city life difficult, and the loss of Pete left a deep void in her life. Anna died at the Mahaska Hospital due to complications following surgery on Jan. 15, 1953, at the age of 60. She was buried along side Pete at the Oakwood Cemetery.

by Tena Westerkamp

BEAN BROTHERS

F9

Kenneth and William Bean

The chronology of Kenneth Harold Bean and William Lewis Bean is traced back to the seventeen hundreds. The Bean family is of Scotch-Irish descent. They came from Ireland about the year 1760 and landed at Philadelphia. Their parents died there. After the Revolutionary War they moved to York, Pa. and remained there until after the Whisky Insurrection at Pittsburg. Then they came to Westmoreland Co. and eight brothers and one sister settled in the Ligonier Valley, near Hannahtown. They remained there until the Spring of 1800 when they moved to Mercer Co. and settled along the Shenandoah Valley, east and south of Greenville.

At the time of the War of 1812 the Bean family was fairly well represented. There were several of the Beans' family under the direction of General William H. Hamilton in the Tippicanoe Campaign; all the rest that were old enough went to Erie as Minutemen. Each man had to carry three days' provision and a blanket to cover himself while he slept at the root of a tree; also his gun and powder horn. Their orders were to keep the powder dry. They were fed at Erie and were instructed to get home the best way they could.

These soldiers were assisted in the Missionary Field by carrying God's Word in the Heathen Fields. That way there were several representatives working as missionaries.

Kenneth and William's great-grandfather lived in Colby, Kan. Hamilton Davis Bean passed away in 1897, also his wife, Emily Swift Bean, died Apr. 26. Both were buried in Colby.

After the Civil War, in 1868 Grandfather Milton Irwin Bean came to St. Charles, Ia. Milton's parents and his sister-in-law, who was a doctor and surgeon, arrived later.

Hamilton D. Bean was the first Mayor of St. Charles, Ia., when it was incorporated in 1876. Later Hamilton D. Bean and William M. Bean moved to Nebraska and then to Kansas.

The two brothers, Kenneth and William, worked together in close partnership with the farms and all their personal business until they passed away. The brothers died just three months apart, William, Nov. 16, 1979, and Kenneth, Feb. 9, 1980.

by Dorthea Bean

BEAN, KENNETH HAROLD

F10

Kenneth H. Bean

The chronology of Kenneth Harold Bean born Aug. 8, 1900, at St. Charles, Ia.

As a small boy Kenneth moved to Harvey, Ia., with his parents. Kenneth was the son of William Hamilton Bean and Josephine Clements Bean. He had one younger brother, William, and a younger sister, Dorothy Loynachan. His father was a buyer for walnut logs and managed the Excelsior Factory.

Kenneth was graduated from Knoxville High School. While in high school, Andrew Harvey, President of First National Bank, hired him to work part-time in the bank. Kenneth enjoyed this work so much that he was soon elected Assistant Cashier in 1922. He was elected Director and Cashier in July, 1922, then on to Vice President and was elected President at the age of 31.

The First National Bank of Harvey was the first bank in Marion County to open, following the 1933 Bank Holiday, on Mar. 1933. It was the only bank out of 23 in existence in Marion Co. that opened after the Bank Holiday on 100 percent basis without any loss to depositors.

The First National Bank of Harvey was voluntarily liquidated on Aug. 23, 1935, and succeeded by the Marion County State Bank on the same date. Mr. Bean organized the Marion County State Bank which took over the assets and assumed the Deposit Liability of the First National Bank of Harvey. On Sept. 21, 1935, Kenneth moved the First National Bank of Harvey to Pella, Ia. He served as President of the bank for over 30 years. After moving the bank to Pella, a bank office of the Pella Bank was in operation in Harvey until destroyed by fire.

In 1961 the controlling interest was sold to the VerMeers.

Kenneth was civic minded. He helped several boys through college; he was a charter member of Rotary; was Treasurer of the School Board; was a member of the Chamber of Commerce. Also he was a Shriner and was always helping the Shriners Hospital for Crippled Children. He was a 50-year-Shrine Patrol. He was elected Treasurer of the Iowa Bankers Association and later elected Chairman of the Federal Legislative Committee of the Iowa Bankers Association.

Kenneth married Dorotha Urfer of Des Moines, Ia., on Jan. 24, 1925, the daughter of Charles William Urfer (Swiss descent) and Celia Sanders Urfer (Irish and German descent) of Des Moines. Dorothea attended Iowa State University for two years and graduated from Drake University with a Bachelor of Science Degree. Dorothea taught school for five years. She is a member of Chapter BU P.E.O., is a member of O.E.S. and was a District Instructor of Eastern Star; Charter Member of the Garden Club and A.A.U.W. Society; also is a member of Women's Federated Club. Kenneth and Dorothea were members of the Second Reformed Church. They have one daughter, Dorothea Jo Stuhler, who has three children: Michael, Lisa, Nancy Jo. They live at Iowa City, Ia.

by Dorothea Bean

BEAN, WILLIAM L.

F11

William Bean's parents lived in Cainesville, Mo. where William was born in 1902. His father and grandfather owned and operated an excelsior plant there. They later moved to Harvey, Ia.

William attended high school in Tracy, Ia. His parents gave him money for train fare, but he and a friend thought it sheer waste to spend the money for a ticket when they could ride the rods and save the money for fun.

After graduation William worked in the walnut log business, later buying a grocery store in Harvey, Ia. In 1934 he married Harriette Pendry, a teacher in the Harvey school.

They had two sons: Harold, born in 1935, and Bill, born in 1938. When the boys were older and in school, their mother told them about her school days and how she rode to school in a covered wagon and paid $600 for her first Model T Ford. Perhaps to this day they think she was born in the "Dark Ages".

William and family moved to Pella, Ia. in 1945 where he joined his brother Kenneth in banking. They sold the bank, and William continued in the insurance business till he retired in 1976.

They moved to Denver, Col. for three winters to be near their sons. While there, in 1979, William passed away, and Harriette (later) moved to Denver.

Harold graduated from Drake University in 1958, majoring in art. In 1958 he joined the service and spent the next six months in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and Fort Ord. Cal. After coming home he worked at the Iowa Des Moines National Bank till 1963. He then moved to Denver to continue his education at the Colorado Institute of Art. After graduation he moved to Chicago, Ill. where he worked in a design studio. Then he moved back to Denver where he has been teaching in the Colorado Institute of Art for the past 11 years.

Bill graduated from Drake University, majoring in economics. He then went to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and served six months

in the service. After returning to Des Moines he was employed by the Central National Bank for the next nine years.

In 1970 he moved to Denver, Col. and has been employed by the United Bank of Denver for the last 17 years.

by Harriette Bean

BEARD, ROBERT

F12

R.R. Beard

Scholte House with observatory built by Robert Beard.

Robert Beard met Mareah Scholte during the period of time she was grieving the loss of her husband, Hendrik Pieter Scholte. Mareah had gone to Detroit with her young daughter, Dora. to visit a friend. The musically-inclined Beard was included in musical activities in which Mareah participated and they became good friends. Beard was also attentive to Dora who became seriously ill and wanted to go home to Pella. Robert Beard helped Mareah in granting the girl's wishes and came to Pella on the train with them.

Dora died at the age twelve and Mareah again was sorrowing. Robert Beard expressed his love for her and proposed marriage. This was thought to be rather an unusual romance as Robert was the age of Mareah's sons, half the age of Mareah. However, they were married on July 2, 1870.

Robert Radford Beard was born in Detroit, Mich., on Oct. 4, 1846. He came to Pella in 1870 and for fifty years was a successful business man. At the time of his death he was president of the Pella National Bank and had business interests in Omaha, Neb.

He was interested in astronomy and had an observatory at his home which was later given to Central College. His interest in sports was evident in the clay tennis courts built to the rear of the Scholte House. He was a member of the Central College Board and was for several years chairman of the Executive Committee.

One of Robert Beard's favorite public services was his work on the Carnegie-Viersen Library Board. He was chairman of the committee that was to disburse the money given by Miss Sebrietje Viersen.

Robert Beard associated himself with the Brethern group but was interested in religion on a much broader scope. He made trips to the Holy Land and, as he was a photographer, took and developed many pictures which were shown and shared with many church groups. He was also interested in doing evangelistic work.

After Mareah's death in September, 1892, Robert Beard remained in Pella. On June 25, 1903, he married Kate Frances Keables, the daughter of Dr. B.F. Keables and his wife, Sarah.

Robert Beard died Oct. 30, 1920, at Mercy Hospital in Des Moines. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. His second wife, Kate, died May 21, 1937.

by Murt Kooi

BEERENDS, LUKAS

F13

Lukas Beerends, the fourth child of Gerrit Jan Berends and Fennigje Gommers, was born in Dalen, Drenthe, Nederland, on Aug. 11, 1842. (Members of his family thought the change in spelling of his surname was made as an error when he came to this country, but there are examples of that spelling in records of Dalen.) When Lukas was 11 years old, he went to live with an aunt who was married to Lambert Overbergen. It is not known why he made this change. At the age of 19 he served in the 8th Military Regiment for more than four years, entering Dec. 11, 1861. He received his *Paspoort* (discharge paper) on Apr. 30, 1866. He came to the U.S. in 1868 with the Overbergens and went directly to Pella. The following year he sent for his parents who settled on a farm in Olivet. The death dates of Gerrit Jan and Fennigje Gommers Berends are not known, but it is presumed that they were buried on the farm in Olivet. Lukas became a naturalized citizen of the United States on Nov. 6, 1888.

Lukas met Deliana Maria Verbeek in Pella. She was a daughter of Magdalena Adriana Vander Leij (Ley) — daughter of Johannes Vander Leij and Magdalena Adriana Vander More — and Ivo Verbeek, a son of Geerke Sonneveld and Hendrik Verbeek. Magdalena Vander Leij and Ivo Verbeek were married May 20, 1843, in Andel, Noord Brabant, where six of their children were born: Magdalena Adriana, 1844; Teunis, 1846; Wilhelmina Johanna, 1848; Deliana Maria, 1850; Johannes, 1852; and Anna Johanna, 1854. They moved to Haarlem-mermeer, Noord Holland, where Johanna Jantje, 1857, and Johannes Elias, 1860, were born. After the death of her husband and three children, Magdalena Adriana Vander Leij Verbeek emigrated with five children to the U.S. in 1867.

Lukas and Deliana Maria Verbeek were married Mar. 14, 1873, and settled on a farm near Pella. Here they raised their family of seven children, moving to Pella in 1906. They bought a home built by Tone Brom on Franklin St. Gerrit Johannes, born Feb. 18, 1874, and died Oct. 5, 1958, turned to trucking when they moved to town. He never married. Ivo Johannes (John), born Aug. 16, 1876, married Niesje Brom Mar. 23, 1901. To

Front Row, l-r: Lukas (father) Louis Teunis, Deliana Maria, Deliana (mother); Middle Row, l-r: Johanna Jennie, Fenneal Christinus; Back Row, l-r: Gerrit Johannes, Ivo Johannes, Leendert Andrew.

this marriage five children were born: Mabel Maria, Tillie, Luella, Esther, and Ernest. Ivo provided for his family working as a blacksmith, cream and egg man for the Farmers Co-op, opening his own cream and egg business for a time, and as custodian of the First Reformed Church, retiring at the age of 80. Niesje died Aug. 16, 1962, and Ivo died a year and a half later, Mar. 30, 1964.

Leendert Andrew was born Nov. 30, 1878. He and Anna De Haan were married July 25, 1924, and had one son, Andrew Isaac. Leendert was a carpenter and later a meat cutter mainly in the Ulrich's Meat Market. Anna died Aug. 16, 1950, and Leendert May 9, 1963.

Fenneal Christinus, born Feb. 13, 1881, worked at the Kuyper Lumber Company until his retirement. He never married but helped to support his parents. He died on Nov. 27, 1862.

Johanna Jennie, born Nov. 26, 1883, was united in marriage to Tim Dykstra on May 1, 1918. They farmed near Pella where their two children Ebern Earl and Della Mae were born. When Tim died Jan. 6, 1942, their son took over the farm and Jennie moved to Pella with her daughter. She lived at 1114 Washington at the time of her death Aug. 9, 1967.

Louis Teunis, born Dec. 9, 1888, was married to Dirkje Van Zomeren Nov. 24, 1916. They also farmed near Pella and raised five children: Donald Marion, Louise Dorothy, Evylen Lenora, Roy Arvin — who died at the age of eight — and Myron Howard. After his farming days were over, Lou and his wife moved to Pella where Dirkje died June 13, 1973. Lou opened a business making canvas tarps. He spent the last years of his life in a nursing home in Prairie City where he died Oct. 27, 1980.

Deliana Maria, their youngest child, was born Feb. 5, 1891. She was joined in marriage to Matthew De Jong Mar. 24, 1920, and raised two daughters, Edna Lucile and Ruth Elva, on a farm near Pella. Upon retiring from their farm they bought a home on Union St. in Pella. Matt died there June 16, 1978. Deliana is still living at the time of this writing (Jan. 13, 1987). She is 95 years old and residing in the Pella Nursing Home.

It was most unusual in this period of time for parents to have all their children live to adulthood. Lukas and Deliana, his wife, both lived well into their 90th year, having spent 60 years (lacking one month) of married life together. Lukas died Feb. 18, 1933, and Deliana Jan. 16, 1941.

by Andrew I. Beerends

BEINTEMA, LEVI AND MARIA ROELOFSZ

F14

One of the daughters of Dr. Joost Roelofsz, Maria, married Levi Beintema. They both had come to Pella with their parents in 1847. The Beintema family came on the *Pieter Floris*, Maria on the *Nagasaki*. Levi was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tjebbe Beintema. Tjebbe died two months after coming here and was buried in 'Strooijstadt' (Oakwood Cemetery today).

Levi and his brother Durk started a pottery on a lot at 515 E. First St. They made earthen jars, milk pans, and grease lamps for the colonists. Levi later was an assessor.

Mrs. Tjebbe M. Beintema (nee Akke Derks Bloembergen) was born Apr. 12, 1795, at Tietjerk, Friesland, in The Netherlands. She died Mar. 21, 1888, at Pella, Ia., at the age of 92 years, 11 mos., 22 days. She is buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

BENES, JOHN AND CATHARINA

F15

A call from the Third Reformed Church brought the Rev. John Benes and his family to Pella, Ia., from Lansing, Ill., in 1965.

The church in Pella was in the midst of celebrating its 100th anniversary when the Rev. Benes passed away suddenly of a heart attack on the eve of June 20, 1968, just one day before his 50th birthday.

John Benes and Catharina Jannetta Kleinjan met at Central College in Pella and were married at Sanborn, Ia., on June 17, 1942. Three children were born to this union: John Allen, 1944; Donald Jay, 1945; and Mary Kathryn, 1952. All are alumni of Central College.

The Rev. Benes graduated from Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich., in 1942 and served churches in South Haven, Mich.; Beechwood in Holland, Mich.; Spring Lake, Mich.; and Grace Reformed in Lansing, Ill., before coming to Third Reformed in Pella, Ia. Their son, John Allen, is also a graduate of Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich. Donald Jay received his masters degree in secondary school administration from the University of Minnesota, Winona.

In 1977 John Allen married Colleen Ruth Van Ee, daughter of Johanna and Wilbur Van Ee in Pella, Ia. They have one daughter, Larissa Lynn, 1981. Al has another daughter, Julie Dawn, 1970, by a previous marriage. Al is an employee of the Vermeer Manufacturing Company in Pella and Colleen is employed at Van Gorp Corporation in Pella.

Donald Jay was married to Joyce Faye Plagge, 1967, in Latimer, Ia. Joyce is also a graduate of Central College. They have two sons born in Kobe, Japan: Kenton Jay, 1978, and Kyle Bradley, 1980. Joyce was an elementary teacher and Donald was Secondary School Principal at the International School in Kobe. Donald taught in the Pella Middle School for two years before leaving for Kuwait where they both had teaching positions in the International School.

Gary Daniel Dingeman and Mary Kathryn were married in Pella, 1971. They have three sons; John Daniel, 1971; Jeromy Scott, 1975; and Jeffrey Jay, 1978. Dan is a graduate of William Penn College in Oskaloosa and is engaged in construction in Pella. Mary is an employee of the U.S. Post Office in Pella.

On Feb. 12, 1983, Catharina Benes married Henry Monster and they have remained living in Pella.

by Catharina Benes-Monster

BETTEN, ANTHONY J.

F16

Rev. A.J. Betten

Vice-President of the Colony

Van Stigt, in his *History of Pella, Iowa and Vicinity 1897*, makes quite a point of the fact that Dominie A.J. Betten, whose story he is writing, was the only one of the leaders of the original colony who is still living.

Betten was one of the young men who, in the beginning of the Separation under the leadership of H.P. Scholte, had been initiated into the ministry. He (Van Stigt) gives a profound and amazing description of Betten's qualifications.

Anthonie Jacob Betten was born in 1813. (A generation later, they spelled that first

name with a y at the end.) In 1834, Anthonie married Jacoba Hemina Van der Hagt in Utrecht, The Netherlands. They had three children while he was preparing for his ordination and two more before they finally immigrated to their new home in America.

The Betten family sailed on the good ship *Nagasaki* which left Rotterdam on Apr. 11, 1847. The children were Jacoba, Jan, Hermanus, Antonia, and Geeritje. (Antonia was four and the baby, Gerritje, one. Antonia became my grandfather, Anthony Jr.)

A rather strange custom was that the wife, Jacoba, made out her last will before their marriage, stating, "I do make and bespeak to my husband, that when I die, leaving child or children procreated by him, that half of my estate, personal as well as real, is to be used by him *until remarrying* (and if not that, during his whole life) . . . " This will was notarized and signed by both parties. It was not until 1854 that the will was translated into English by Henry Hospers, a close friend of the Bettens for the next two generations.

A.J. Betten was ordained in 1842. Van Stigt, historian, said of him, "He has a broad and fundamental knowledge of divine truth. He is a profound researcher of the Scriptures, which no one who is at all acquainted with him will contest. Although considered by some to be lacking in eloquence, he surpasses the majority in profundity of thought. It is irrefutable that both in Holland and in America, he labored with much self-sacrifice in preaching the Gospel."

Upon arriving here in 1847, Betten bought a farm northwest of Pella. In 1849 he returned to town and entered a mercantile business, as many new settlers arrived that year and more businesses were needed. His life was an active one. He preached on Sunday in the school, without remuneration and engaged in business during the week.

He delivered an impressive funeral sermon when two adult children of Jacob Van Vliet died as cholera victims during an epidemic that hit Pella in 1854.

In the year after the colony was established, Dominie Betten's family faced grave tragedy when the mother, Jacoba Hermina, died shortly after giving birth to a daughter in Dec. 1848, leaving a newborn infant and another baby, besides four other small children.

The next year, a second shipload of Hollanders arrived in America including Mr. and Mrs. Cornelus Kuyper. Mrs. Kuyper was the former Adriana Van Pelt. Mr. Kuyper died Aug. 20, 1850. The following year, Mrs. Kuyper married Anthony Betten.

Business flourished in the early 1850's and one of the stores on Franklin Street belonged to A.J. Betten.

In 1855 the Christian Church was looking for a pastor to devote full time to serving the congregation and asked Brother Betten. He accepted and gave up his business venture. (This was at the time of the schism in Scholte's Christian Church and he went ahead and built his own church.)

Anthony J. Better Jr., by 1870, along with Henry Hospers and a small group of second generation Hollanders, had established a new settlement in northwest Iowa called Orange City. Anthony Jr. soon became its mayor.

Anthony Betten Sr. spent the last years of his life also residing in Orange City, making his home with his son in the years following the severe loss of hearing for the elder Betten. Anthony Betten Sr. outlived both of his wives. A.J. Betten Sr. died Dec. 12, 1900.

by Margaret Betten Reitmeier

BEVAN FAMILY

F17

David M. Bevan and Phillip H. Bevan

It is beyond our powers to unfold events that led our parents to gravitate to Pella, Ia., the place of Phillip and his younger brother Godfrey's birth. The older brother David was born in the town of Maple, Ia..

Our parents, Godfrey H. Bevan and Edith Lillian Morgan Bevan, were born and reared in the country of Wales, Great Britain.

Our father first left Wales at the age of 19 and, in the company of several other venturesome Welsh lads, first made his way to Canada and eventually to Illinois. Having worked in the coal mines in Wales, it was natural that the mine fields in Illinois became an attraction to them, as they had a wealth of experience to draw on.

It was about 1908-09 that Father became interested in coal veins in and around Pella and Harvey, Ia.. He returned to Wales in 1908, having left his future wife, our Mother, with the promise to return, get married, and bring her back to America.

The marriage was consummated somewhere around 1909 and shortly thereafter our father again returned to America, alone, to re-establish himself once again before bringing his wife to America. He did not return to Wales to "fetch" her, but rather sent for her to make the trip by water on her own with a promise to meet her at the dock in New York.

In the several months they were apart, their first child was born. Their respective families couldn't bear to think of our mother giving birth to a child in a wild, dangerous country without their being in attendance. That, in retrospect, turned out to be a most unfortunate delay. Our sister, who was named Gladys Mae Bevan, was born about two months prior to our mother's setting sail for America. With joy and anticipation our father was waiting on the docks, quite likely on Bedloe's Island where the Statue of Liberty stood tall and proud. As our mother walked down the gang plank with a few bundles in her arms, she had to break the sad news to Father that Gladys Mae had become ill shortly after leaving Great Britain and, with limited medical facilities aboard ship, our sister perished and had been buried at sea.

Life does go on and in the new world, a new country, a new Bevan family was soon a reality — David Morgan, born in 1912; Phillip Hector, born in 1914; and Godfrey Herbert Jr. born in 1915 and passed away in 1951.

Tragedy again overtook our family when Father developed pernicious anemia, succumbed in 1923, and was laid to rest in the Graceland Cemetery in Pella. Mother joined him in 1967.

Pella provided everything a growing youngster could hope for. Mother realized it was the place for her and her three boys to stay.

David married Darlene Vinson in 1937 — to that marriage one daughter was born — Linda Sue.

Phillip married Jean Silvers in 1942 — to that marriage two sons were born: Kent Morgan and Larry Phillip.

We three brothers were first generation Americans, and now the second generation have the baton firmly gripped in their hands: Linda Sue Bevan Bridie, West Des Moines, Ia.; Kent Morgan Bevan, Kansas City, Mo.; and Larry Phillip Bevan, Washington, D.C.

by David M. Bevan

BIESHAAR, TEUNIS

F18

Teunis Bieshaar

Jantje Bieshaar

Teunis Bieshaar (1843-1912), son of Mr. and Mrs. Koendert Bieshaar, was born in The Netherlands on Feb. 10, 1843. He came over from Holland to Pella on a boat in 1855 with his parents and two sisters, Jansje and Evertje.

Teunis' wife Jantje (1852-1922) was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Teunis (Van) Veenschoten. She came over on a ship from the Netherlands in 1855 with her parents and seven brothers and sisters: Hendrik, Evert, Jan, Willem, Evertje, Johanna and Catharina. Teunis Veenschoten was one of the first members of the Third Dutch Reformed Church.

Teunis Bieshaar and Jantje (Jennie) (Van) Veenschoten were married in Marion Co. on Nov. 26, 1873, and lived on a farm four miles west of Pella where their nine children were born: Conrad (married Nellie May Erickson), Johanna (Mrs. J.C. De Bruin), Teunis, Jr. (married Winnie Bogaards, died of appendicitis at age 36), Wilhelmina (Minnie, Mrs. Fred Den Burger), Jantje (Jennie, Mrs. John Else), Catharine (Mrs. Ernest Olson), Evertje (Effie, Mrs. Marsh Van Hemert), Henry Ward (married Bertha May Parke), and John (married Meda Walling).

Later the family moved 12 miles east of Pella into Mahaska Co. where they made their home until Teunis' death Nov. 21, 1912. Jennie, who died Oct. 22, 1922, lived in Pella the last three years of her life. Mr. and Mrs. Teunis Bieshaar are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Ia.

by Frances De Bruin

BISHOP, EARL EDWARD

F19

Earl Bishop, Louise Cierley, and Mabel Bishop.

Earl Edward Bishop was born on Apr. 14, 1899, in a mining camp near Mekon, Ia. He died on Oct. 22, 1974. He was one of seven children born to Philip and Tressie (O'Connor) Bishop, whose other children were Charles, Conner (Conrad), Donald, Fred, Philip, and Gertrude Bishop (Visser).

In the year 1920 he was married to Mabel Marie Van Vark. They had two daughters, Louise L. Bishop Cierley and Mildred T. Bishop, and one granddaughter, Karen Lynn Cierley. Earl was known to many by the nickname "Coon Dog". He loved the outdoors, spending much of his time fishing and hunting.

by Louise Cierley

BLOM FAMILY

F20

Hendrik Blom and Johanna Vanendal Blom migrated from Zelhem, Gelderland, Netherlands in 1867 with their two children, Grietje Cornelia and Dirkje. He became a citizen on Oct. 22, 1872. Having no profession nor particular skill he became a handyman for Dominie Scholte. In the winter he tended the fires and carried out the ashes. In the summer he tended Mrs. Scholte's garden and maintained the cinder paths. On the occasion of their 25th wedding anniversary, Dominie Scholte and Mrs. Scholte presented them with a silver tea service, which has become a family treasure and heirloom.

by Margaret Hoeksema

BLOM, DONALD AND ELSIE

F21

Don Blom Family. Front: Bill and Don; Back, L-R: George, Joel, Stella, Elsie, and Burt.

Donald and Elsie Van Wyk Blom live on a farm four miles northeast of Pella. Donald Lee, oldest son of William (1902-1975) and Clara De Bruin (1910-) Blom, was born Feb. 3, 1934. Don attended European III country school and graduated from Pella High School. Elsie Mae, ninth of ten children of Neal (1893-1964) and Hilda Grandia (1897-1976) Van Wyk, was born Dec. 2, 1934, near Sully. The family lived in the Sully and Peoria areas, moving to Pella in 1946. Elsie attended rural and Pella schools and Central College and was a secretary for Gaass Law Office.

Don and Elsie were married Apr. 23, 1954. After living and working in Pella a few years, they moved to their present farm home and Don took over his father's sheep/grain-farm operation. At the present time Don continues to farm and is active in the feeder lamb business. He also drives a bus for Pella Community Schools. Elsie works part-time at Christian Opportunity Center. The family are members of Third Reformed Church.

Don and Elsie have four sons: Joel William (9-20-56) married Stella Gianakos (June 26, 1961) in Cancun, Mex. Feb. 13, 1986, and is a contractor/consultant in Sherman, Conn.; Burton Lee (Oct. 2, 1959) is a draftsman-engineer for Seed and Grain Systems in Truro, Ia.; William Glen (Oct. 13, 1961) is a resident of Minneapolis, Minn.; George Alan (Mar. 30, 1971) is a student at Pella High School.

by Elsie Blom

BLOM, GYSBERT JAMES

F22

Gysbert James Blom was born Feb. 11, 1930, near Killduff, Ia. He was second of six children born to Tunis and Jennie (Roelofsen) Blom. Gysbert, known as "Bud", had three brothers: Carroll Laverne, Marvin Duane, and Floyd Edwin, and two sisters, Evelyn Ver Jean and Donna Lou.

On Feb. 23, 1950, he married Elizabeth Kole at the home of Elizabeth's parents east of Pella, Ia.

They farmed east of Pella since 1950, and as to date are still living there.

They have four children: two boys and two girls. Loren James born Oct. 11, 1951, Terry Gene born Feb. 26, 1953, Judy Elaine was born on her oldest brother's birthday, Oct. 11, 1957, and Marla Maria Kay born Aug. 13, 1961.

Loren married Linda Joy Roorda June 30, 1972, and they have two children: Kristopher James and Lesley Diann. They are residing in Pella. Terry married Lucinda Vander Linden July 31, 1975, and have two children: Travis James and Amy Breanne. They are living on a farm west of Pella. Judy Elaine married Ronald Groenendyk Dec. 4, 1976. They also have two children: Matthew James and Stephanie Elaine. They are living on a farm east of Cedar, Ia. Marla Kay married Sherwin Lee Van Kooten on July 19, 1980, and they have a boy, Jason Lee. They are making their home in Denver, Colo.

by Elizabeth Blom

BLOM, HUIBERT

F23

Huibert Blom was born to Tunis and Gertrude Klop Blom in Holland on Jan. 1, 1861. Tunis and his wife Gertrude had three children: Huibert, Tone and Elizabeth (Mrs. Will Van Zante.) After Gertrude's death, Tunis married Hendrike De Jong and they had six children: John, Gys, Mrs. Tunis Blom (married second cousin), Leonard, Jeantje and Gertrude. (Last three children stayed in Holland, others came to America).

Huibert married Dirkje Van Zante in Holland and they came to America with their

nine children in 1908. The family lived for a while south of Pella and then moved to a farm near Leighton. Huibert contracted tuberculosis and after suffering about three years, died at his farm home on July 29, 1914, at the age of 53, having lived in America only six years.

Dirkje Van Zante was born Apr. 27, 1869, to Jan Vliet (1819 – Oct. 2, 1889) and Hendrike De Kock (July 29, 1832 – Jan. 29, 1900) Van Zante in Holland. After Huibert's death, Dirkje stayed on the farm to raise the children. She died Apr. 25, 1939, from diabetes and was buried beside her husband in Porterville cemetery. Five of the children are also buried in Porterville cemetery.

Children of Dirkje and Huibert Blom, all born in Herwynen, province of Gelderland, The Netherlands, are: Gertrude (1892-1973) married Gerrit Van Aarondonk and had five children: Fred died at three months; Fred (1895-1968) married Denna Younkers — no children; Tunis (1897-1953); Henry (1898-1979); Leonard (1900-1957) married Catherine Colyn — six children; William (1902-1975) married Clara De Bruin — four sons; Hubert (1903-1939); Henrietta (1903-1971); Elizabeth (1905-) married Steve Arkema — five children.

by Elsie Blom

BLOM, KEITH AND KAREN

F24

Virgil Keith Blom was born Apr. 24, 1939, to William Blom (1902-1975), and Clara Johanna De Bruin Blom at Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia. He was the third son in the family. Older brothers are Donald Lee Blom married to Elsie Mae Van Wyk and Herbert Dean Blom married to Kathleen Power. Younger brother is Jerry William Blom who is married to Judy Lee Warden.

Keith was raised on the family farm four miles northeast of Pella, and attended grade school at European #3 until seventh grade. He graduated from Pella Community High School in 1957, where he was given his nickname — "Groucho." On Aug. 28, 1957, Keith was united in marriage with Karen Elaine Vander Wilt at the Little Brown Church at Nashua, Ia. Karen Elaine Vander Wilt was born May 10, 1939, to Raymond Paul Vander Wilt and Ruby Maxine Matthews in a farm house four miles south of Pella known as the Te Lamb farm. She was the second daughter born into the family. Her older sister Dolores Faye Vander Wilt married Dwight W. Young of Monroe and her younger brother Donald Woody Vander Wilt married Doris Kaye Smith of Knoxville. Karen lived most of her childhood at 1100 Lincoln Street, Pella, and attended Lincoln Grade School, Webster Jr. High, and graduated from Pella Community High in 1957.

Keith and Karen are the parents of three children and the grandparents of four. Curtis Alan Blom was born July 28, 1958 and was married to Melanie Witt of Burlington, Ia., on May 24, 1986. Curtis and Melanie have two children. Scott Jesse Blom was born Nov. 29, 1979, and Sarah Elizabeth Blom was born Oct. 8, 1981.

Jill Ann Blom was born Jan. 4, 1960, and married Mark Vandevoort, son of Henry Vandevoort and Bernice Langerak of Pella. Jill and Mark are the parents of Sarah Rae Vandevoort born May 19, 1982, and Matthew Cole Vandevoort born Jan. 4, 1984.

Dana Ellen Blom was born Mar. 11, 1964, and is emgaged to be married on May 23, 1987 to Leslie Dean Sadler, son of Patsy Schreiner Sadler and Dean Sadler of Route 3, Pella.

Keith and Karen lived within the city limits of Pella for one and one-half years. In Feb. 1960, they moved to the former John Vande Kraats' farm, four miles east of Pella, where they still reside.

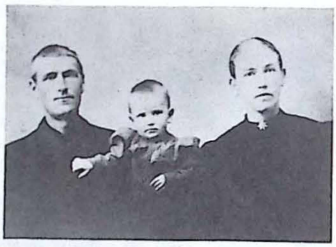
Keith started painting in 1957 for John H. Hoogenakker, and continued to do so for nine years. He then worked for three years as a carpenter for Duane Van Maanen and Delbert Hol. In Apr. 1969, he formed his own painting business and is still self-employed as Blom Painting. Karen joined him as a full-time working partner in June, 1976.

by Keith V. Blom

BLOM, MARIE

F25

Adrianas Van Zante and Neeltje Exelta immigrated to America late in life and are buried in Portergrove Cemetery. Their



Left to Right: Johannes, Henrietta, Neeltje (Van Zee) Blom

Hendrika (Van Den Berg) Blom

daughter Cornelia Maria, who was born and who died in Herwijnen, The Netherlands, married Krijn Van Zee and had nine children: Leendert, Adrianus, Mieke, Neeltje, Engelke, Ditje, Krijn, Cornelia, and Engel. Only Leendert and Neeltje came to America. Krijn was greatly loved by his family and highly respected in the community. While calling on a fellow member of his church Krijn had an accident which broke his leg; he died from an ensuing blood clot. His daughter Neeltje, who was born in Herwijnen, married a native of her town, Johannes Blom, whose parents Teunis and Hendrieka Van Den Berg Blom were also born there. Teunis had four children by his first wife and six with Hendrieka, his second wife: Elizabeth*, Teunis, Huibert*, Antone*, Leendert, Fransje*, Gysbert*, Johannes* August 30, 1874, Jaantje, and Gertrude. Those with the asterisk came to America. Johannes was known for his hospi-

Front, l-r: Henrietta, Nellie, Cornelius, and Frances; Back, l-r: Marie, Frank, Teunis, and Johanna

Wedding picture of Marie (Blom) and William C. De Jong

tality. As a youth he was encountered by a poor man as he was on his way home from church. The man wanted a place to stay for the night. He argued, "If you are a Christian you should let me sleep at your house." Johannes agreed, brought him home, and explained the situation to his father who replied, "Alright, if that's what you believe, then he can sleep with you!"

Neeltje Van Zee and Johannes Blom were married in Herwijnen Oct. 12, 1899. A month later they embarked on a stormy voyage to America which eventually brought them to the area south of Pella where Johannes worked as a farm hand. They raised eight children on farms in the Pella, Eddyville, and Peoria areas: Hendrieka or Henrietta (Andrew Huyser) 1900-1979; Cornelia Maria (Cornelius Vander Hart) 1902; Teunis (Marie Ryken) 1904; Maria or Marie (William C. De Jong) Feb. 2, 1907 - Jan. 10, 1987; Fransje or Frances (Gerrit De Jong) 1909; Neeltje or Nellie (Henry Nibbelink) 1912; Krijn or Frank 1915-1978; Johanna (Lester Pothoven) 1920. Maria recalled that each child kept his or her meager possessions in a cardboard box under the bed. An energetic person, she preferred working out-of-doors in the fields, although she was a hearty worker anywhere. Bill De Jong's early recollection of her was at a Fourth of July picnic at which there were foot races. Marie outran the boys as well as the girls. She attended Wheat Grow and hard Scrabble Schools in the Pella and Eddyville areas, graduating from the eighth grade with marks that placed her high within Mahaska County. As a young adult she did housework and cared for children; did farm chores, helped her brother trap, worked in homes in Pella, and for the Holland Home.

Marie and William C. De Jong, son of Arie and Jane De Jong, were married on his birthday, Aug. 13, 1930, by his brother Richard at 6:00 p.m. in her parents' home using the Dutch language, so that her mother could understand the ceremony. Shortly afterwards Bill and Marie left for Michigan so that he could begin his seminary studies, following in the steps of three older brothers, Richard, jac, and Peter. After Bill completed training at Western Theological Seminary, the couple served churches in Midland Park, N.J.; Steen, Minn.; and Grand Rapids, Mich. They then moved to Iowa where they served churches in Hull, Pella (where Bill was the first pastor of Trinity Reformed), Rock Rapids, and Everly.

Four children were born: John Arlo, on Dec. 30, 1931; Nella Mae, on Jan. 24, 1935; Arnold Jonathan, on Apr. 1, 1937; and Vernon William, on June 21, 1944. Each graduated from Central College. (For information on John's family see William C. De Jong Family.) Nella taught music in New London, Ia., married G.A. Elliott, and raised three daughters: Maria, who works for Cathedral Productions at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in N.Y.; Gayla, an art therapist at Des Moines Lutheran Hospital; and Nancy, a nurse at New York Hospital. Arnold, a manager at Chrysler Corporation in Detroit, married Treva Keuning, who teaches voice. Their son Jonathan, whose wife Cheryl teaches music, is at Iliff Seminary in Denver. Their daughter Laura works in Chicago and attends the Chicago Art Institute. Vernon deals in antiques and his wife, Mary Gosselink, teaches English at the Sharon branch of Pennsylvania State University.

Bill and Marie retired to Pella in 1969 where Bill assisted with the education program and with calling at Third Reformed Church for ten years as well as a guest pastor at various churches in the vicinity. Marie was active in the church and served as a volunteer worker in Pella Community Hospital for seventeen years. Early Jan. 10, 1987, Marie unexpectedly died of a heart attack. (See also William C. De Jong, William De Boer, and Dorothy Muyskens.)

by Joline De Jong

BLOM, MARVIN

F26

Marvin was born on Sept. 28, 1937, at Sully, Ia. He was one os six children born to Tunis and Jennie Blom, formerly of Sully.

On Feb. 16, 1956, Marvin married Jo Ann Memmelaar, daughter of Barney and Carrie Memmelaar of Leighton, Ia. Marvin and Jo Ann had five children:

Vincent Marvin born Nov. 23, 1956, at Newton, Ia. Vincent married Dawn Hixson and had one daughter Karri Lee born July 15, 1975. He then married Linda Van Dyke on June 4, 1982. They have two children: Amy Jo born Apr. 12, 1983, and Lindsey Erin, born May 30, 1985.

Rickie Gene born Dec. 3, 1957, at Oskaloosa, Ia. He is a farmer at home with his parents.

Randie Lee (Sam) born Jan. 7, 1961, at Knoxville, Ia. Sam married Marla Van Wyk and lives at Marshalltown, Ia. with their 2 children: Charryse Nicole born Feb. 19, 1982, and Kristin Danielle born Feb. 2, 1985.

Barbara Jo born May 11, 1965, at Pella. She is married to David Schroeder, living in Des Moines, Ia.

Julie Ann born July 26, 1966, at Pella. She is attending college at St. Paul, Minn.

Marvin worked as a plumber after he graduated from high school at Newton until March of 1957. He and Jo Ann moved to a farm north of Pella where they lived all their married life except for four years at Pleasantville, Ia. where they farmed and then moved back to their present location.

Marvin's favorite hobby was refereeing and umpiring ball games. His favorite was football, but he had to give it all up due to his knee injury. They both enjoy watching Vince's and Rick's pitching games. They both have been chosen as most valuable pitcher in the state tournament. They also went to the national fast-pitch tournament in 1986. Marvin and Jo Ann both drive school buses for Pella Schools and are keeping busy on the farm.

by Jo Ann Blom

BLOM, TEUNIS AND FRANCES

F27

Front, l-r: Teunis and Frances Blom; Back: Anna

Teunis Blom was born to Mr. and Mrs. Arie Blom on Sept. 1, 1860, Xk in Herwijnen, The Netherlands. Fransje (later called Frances) Blom was born Oct. 7, 1866, also in Herwijnen, The Netherlands. Teunis and Frances were married in Herwijnen, having the same family name and very distantly related. Their only child was a daughter born Aug. 29, 1890. She was named Engeltje but went by the name of Anna. The family came to America in 1893 when Anna was three years old. She later often remarked how she wished she had been a little older so she could remember the ocean voyage. They were farmers, first living close to Sully, then on a farm south of Pella, and in 1903 moved to a farm north of Pella on the Sully road a short distance across the Skunk River where they farmed until their retirement.

Anna received some schooling at the Pleasant Grove School south of Pella, and then she went to the Sandridge School north of Pella until she was through the fifth reader. In those days they went by readers, not by grades. She grew to be a beautiful, tall, mature-looking young lady. When at 16 she

started dating Gerrit Vermeer, son of Anthonie and Alida Vermeer, he guessed her to be 20 years of age. They were married Mar. 6, 1913. They lived on a farm two and one-half miles east of Pella known as the "Wheat Grow Farm." This farm was a divided half of the Anthonie Vermeer farm, Gerrit's brother, John, having the other half.An entire set of new buildings had been built on this farm, so the bride could move into a brand new house. Gerrit and Anna had two children: Tunis, named after his Grandfather Blom, was born January 5, 1915, and Ella was born March 29, 1917. When Tunis was a baby, Anna became very ill. A specialist from Des Moines was called in, and she was diagnosed as having appendicitis with gangrene having already set in. Surgery was done on the kitchen table in the farm house. Critical for days, the specialist gave up all hope, but Dr. Bos, the local doctor, never gave up. The Lord spared her life.

Teunis and Frances moved to Pella in 1915, purchasing a new home on the northwest corner of Broadway and Jefferson. Joe Nunnikhoven, a carpenter, had built this house for himself, but when his wife passed away, sold it to the Bloms, the deed dated February ,1915, at a cost of $2,800.00. At this time this was a block from the north edge of Pella. The house was on a double lot, so there was plenty of room for gardening. They raised all kinds of fruits and vegetables, also enjoyed flowers. They brought a small part of the country with them - a small flock of chickens which were kept in a small chicken house and fenced-in yard. Teunis pampered his chickens and was delighted when on a few occasions he would gather as many eggs as he had chickens. There was also a wash house and an outhouse.

It was when they moved to town that Teunis bought his first car, a Model T Ford. Previously he had a hatred for cars, they upset him so much that at time he would drive his horse and buggy down the middle of the road so cars could not pass him. Later he had three more different cars - an Overman, a Dodge, and finally a 1931 two-door, closed Chevrolet.

Tuesdays were set aside to help their daughter Anna on the farm. Frances helped with ironing, mending, and sewing. Teunis did the weekly churning with a large crock and an up and down stomper. That meant karnemelk (buttermilk) pap for dinner. Grandpa, grandma, dad, and mom thought it delicious; Tudor and Ella tolerated it if plenty of raisins or prunes were cooked through it and drizzled heavily with molasses.

Teunis and Frances never learned to speak the English language. There was a streak of stubborness in the Dutch, and some didn't want to learn, thinking America should cater to the Dutch. At first, Sunday morning and afternoon Church services were held in the dutch language; later, in spite of much grumbling by some of the Dutch people, the morning service was in the English language. The Bloms had joined the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella in Dec., 1893, and remained members until their deaths.

Gerrit, Anna, and the children always had Sunday dinner at grandpa and grandma's house. Dinner was often bread, soup, and fruit. A special treat was when new potatoes and peas could be gathered from the garden, served with cod fish which was purchased in small wooden boxes. This was boiled a few minutes in water and was delicious! Another treat in those days was herring in brine purchased in large round wooden kegs. This was often served for supper with bread, broken in chunks in a bowl, with sugar and milk.

Frances became ill in July of 1940; she died July 24, 1940. Teunis' granddaughter, Ella, came to stay with him and care for him until Feb. 1941, when Ella and her brother Tunis were both married in a double wedding. Then Gerrit and Anna moved in with him. He died Mar. 6, 1941. Teunis and Frances are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Neither one had been able to witness the wedding of their grandchildren or ever see their seven great-grandchildren.

by Ella Menninga

BLOM, TUNIS (GYSBERT)

F28

Tunis Blom was born Oct. 14, 1904 near Kellogg, Ia. He was one of six children born to Gysbert and Eelke Blom. He had two brothers: John and Gysbert (Guy), and three sisters: Marie, Dreka, and Artie Elizabeth.

On Jan. 26, 1927, he married Jennie Roelofsen at the home of Jennie's sister, Minnie Vos, north of Sully, Ia. They lived on a farm northwest of Kilduff, Ia. for six years. Here their first two children were born: Evelyn Ver Jean born Feb. 7, 1928, and Gysbert James (Bud) born Feb. 11, 1930. They then moved to the Roelofsen family farm just at the west edge of Sully. Their other four children: Donna Lou, born Aug. 20, 1934; Carroll Laverne (Chuck), born July 1, 1936; Marvin Duane, born Sept. 28, 1937; and Floyd Edwin, born Feb. 15, 1939, were born here.

Tunis was engaged in farming and worked as a salesman. In later years, he drove a school bus. He became widely acquainted through his contacts in selling and with the school children.

He was a championship horse-shoe, checker, and shuffle-board player, winning many trophies. He also is a self-taught clock repairer and at one time had a collection of antique and newer model clocks totaling over 200. He also enjoyed building clocks, from small replicas of school house clocks to large grandfather ones. He was an avid pool player, having built several pool tables, and he enjoyed bowling and fishing.

After their retirement and selling the farm, he and Jennie moved to Fair Haven Retirement Home in Pella, Ia. in Mar. of 1980. Jennie died here on Feb. 3, 1985. Tunis continues to live at Fair Haven.

All of their children are living, most of them in the Pella area: Evelyn married Paul E. Farnham. They live at Gowrie, Ia. and have four children. Bud married Elizabeth Kole. They live at Pella and have four children. Donna married Ivan Kaldenberg. They live at Pella and have four children. Chuck married Beulah Vander Streek. They live at Pella and have no children. Marvin married Joann Memmelaar. They live at Pella and have five children. Floyd married Lavonne Eckholm. They live at Algona. Floyd has three children.

Tunis keeps young by keeping up with the activities of his 22 grandchildren and 29 (at this writing) great-grandchildren.

by Evelyn Farnham

BLOM, WILLIAM

F29

William and Clara Blom

William (Wm. or Bill) Blom, son of Huibert (1861-1914) and Dirkje (1869-1939) Blom, was born at Herwynen in the province of Gelderland, The Netherlands, on Apr. 5, 1902. At the age of five he came to America with his parents, three sisters and five brothers. Bill lived in the Leighton area until his marriage to Clara De Bruin on May 31, 1933, in Chicago, Ill. Clara, daughter of Jacob C. (1870-1959) and Johanna Bieshaar (1876-1966) De Bruin, was born Mar. 17, 1910, in the big white "spite" house on Highway 163 five miles southeast of Pella. Clara attended Black Oak Center school and graduated from Central Academy.

Bill and Clara lived in and around Pella and in 1940 purchased the Vander Ploeg farm four miles northeast of Pella. Bill had a livestock trucking business in partnership with Ben Vos and later became a livestock dealer and farmer, dealing primarily with sheep. After moving to Pella in 1956, he became the sheep buyer for Dubuque Pack.

Bill and Clara are the parents of four sons, all of Pella: Donald Lee (Feb. 3, 1934) married Elsie Mae Van Wyk, has four sons — Joel William, Burton Lee, William Glen and George Alan; Herbert Dean (Apr. 8, 1936) married Kathleen Jane Power and has two children — Christine Lynn and Robert H.; Virgil Keith (Apr. 24, 1939) married Karen Vander Wilt and has three children — Curtis Alan, Jill Ann and Dana Ellen; Jerry William (Jan. 19, 1943) married Judy Warden and has two children, — Grant William and Brenda Lee.

Bill died of cancer on Sept. 20, 1975, and

is buried at Portergrove cemetery. Clara lives in Pella keeping busy with volunteer work.

by Elsie Blom

BOAT, CARL AND DODY

F30

Carl and Dody Boat

Carl Boat was born Apr. 8, 1933. Delores A. Boat (Dody) was born Aug. 2, 1933. Parents of Carl were John Gilbert Boat and Esther Helen Kuyper Boat. Dody's parents were Klaas In't Veld and Ethel Ahrweiler In't Veld.

Carl resided in three homes during his childhood within one and one half blocks of each other; i.e., 409 Broadway, 406 Main Street and 511 Broadway. Carl attended both Lincoln and Webster community grade schools and Pella High School, graduating in 1951. He then attended Iowa State University, graduating in 1955, with a degree in Business Administration. Immediately upon graduation he entered military duty in the Army Artillery at Fort Sill, Okla. for basic officers training course. Following that he was assigned to the occupation forces in Budingen, Germany and remained there for two years. Following this he participated in the Iowa National Guard program for the next nine years, attaining the rank of captain and serving in various command and staff positions in Newton, Marshalltown, Boone and Des Moines. Because of a military requirement of going on active duty that would necessitate an interruption in civilian location, he elected to resign his commission.

Throughout high school Carl was active in most sports, participated in drama and many other extracurricular activities, including a number of vocal groups.

Carl had one brother, Glen S. Boat born in 1936 and one sister Mary L. Boat born in 1940. Glen upon completion of high school went to Drake University and then followed a career in Des Moines, Omaha, California and Denver in the computer industry. Mary, upon completion of high school went to Central College and was married to Preston Steenhoek, who studied law at Iowa University and took up practice in Phoenix, Ariz.

Dody Boat went through the community grade school system and Pella High School. She entered into many extracurricular activities including cheerleading, basketball, drama and scholastic achievement groups. Upon completion of high school she went to Iowa State University where she majored in Home Economics with a minor in Applied Art. Dody and Carl met in grade school and dated off and on through high school, Carl losing her to his best friend for a brief period of time, but then regained "control." Having both gone to Iowa State University, the relationship continued to flourish and they were married in Dec. 1953, while in their junior year of college. Dody completed her curriculum some six months before Carl and went to work for the Iowa State Highway Commission in Ames until Dec. of 1955. In Jan. of 1956 they moved together to Fort Sill, Okla. Upon completion of military training at that facility, Dody returned to her home in Pella until October of that year, while Carl went to Germany to take up his military assignment. Dody joined Carl in Oct. 1956 where they were together until their return to the U.S. in 1958.

Upon return to civilian life Carl joined Vermeer Manufacturing Co. During his education years he worked at Vermeer during the summer, which to a great degree influenced his return. He remains with Vermeer Mfg. through 1987 where he held various positions, primarily in the field of sales and marketing and for a brief period of time as president of the company. In the latter years he became Vice President of International Operations and spent much of his time in establishing two Vermeer Manufacturing sister companies – one in Holland, one in Australia.

Carl was involved in a number of activities in the community – serving on boards of Central College, Pella National Bank, Pella Golf and Country Club, the Community Development Committee, Pella Chamber Transportation Committee and for a number of years on the executive committee of the Iowa Business Association. He was associated with Vermeer Sales and Service – Iowa, Delta Distributing and Pella Implement Company. Carl had an interest in the farming community and worked to improve the land that he owned.

Dody, upon her return from Germany, was a homemaker. She followed, on a hobby basis, a career in interior design, working for Jansen's, Inc. for many years. She also is quite involved in the community and served in various capacities on the Pella Historical Society and Tourism Committees, a special favorite being the Scholte Gardens. She loved to play bridge and racquetball.

Carl and Dody had two sons, Kenrick Steven (Rick) Boat and Steven Jeffrey Boat. Kendrick married Pamela Van Kooten from Peoria and Steve married Diane Wichhart from Otley. Pam and Rick had one son, Brandon, and they live in Pella.

Steve graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Construction Engineering and took up residence in Colorado as a Construction Engineer. He was in the bridge building business and formed his own company, Mesa Structures. Diane also graduated from Iowa State with a degree in business, works for Century 21 and passed her real estate test on the first try.

Carl and Dody lived in what was known as the Dahm apartments in the 1300 block of Main Street and then moved to 1356 East Third Street. After a nine-month period in a little brick house on Franklin Street they built a home at 915 Elm in 1968.

For many years the family vacationed together going to Lake of the Ozarks in the summer and to the Rockies for skiing in the winter.

by Carl E. Boat

BOAT, J. GILBERT AND ESTHER KUYPER

F31

J. Gilbert and Esther Kuyper Boat.

John Gilbert Boat, familiarly known as "Gil", and Esther Kuyper Boat.

His parents were Jacob C. Boat and Linnie De Jong. Her parents were Arie C. Kuyper and Marie Kruidenier. They both lived in Pella until Gil's retirement when they went ot Arizona.

During his lifetime Gil was engaged in manufacturing and was an executive in Rolscreen Company, Buerkens Manufacturing, Pella Canning Company, Pella Foundry and Dowden Manufacturing of Prairie City. From 1946 until his retirement he was with the Pella National Bank, of which he was President for 12 years.

He also played a part in Pella's growth and development, serving on church and community committees and boards. The longest terms he held were on the Pella School Board and the Central College Board. He was fund raiser during the early days of Tulip Time and had a continuing interest in the Historical Society.

Esther was a schoolteacher and homemaker. They were parents of three children —

Carl, Glen and Mary (Steenhoek).

All four of their grandparents emigrated from Holland. Gil's were John Boat and Floris De Jong and Esther's were Hugo Kuyper and Peter Kruidenier.

Hugo Kuyper was a watchmaker and continued that trade when he came to Pella and later had a general merchandise store with his brother. He was Mayor for seven terms and was on the school board for many years. Both he and his wife, Jacoba Betten, came from Charlois.

Peter Kruidenier was a cabinet maker and had a furniture business in Pella. He also came from Charlois and his wife, Jetje Welle was from South Holland. Esther's paternal and maternal great-grandmothers were sisters with the name of Van Pelt. One was Peter Kruidenier's mother and the other the mother of Jacoba Betten Kuyper.

The Kruideniers had a stormy trip to America on the *Richard Anderson*, 1855. Young Peter said to his father Daniel "Father, are we going to drown?" He had reason to be fearful about the seaworthiness of the ship because, on its next voyage, the *Richard Anderson* was lost and never heard from again, They took along 17 chests, large, small, some of wood and some of metal. There were tin boxes of Holland rusks and toasted bread, a 20-gallon keg of buttermilk and a keg of butter. There were also oranges, lemons and eggs. The provisions gave out before the end of the journey so they had to eat the sailors' hardtack. In addition to food and clothing there were bolts of cloth, six rush bottom chairs, grandfather clock, handmade brass-trimmed carpenter tools, a draftman's set, bone-handled knives and forks of steel, books, gold trinkets, fine china and Delft.

After a long, six-weeks trip, they arrived in New York. They had expected their brother-in-law, Anthony Betten, to meet them there. He was on a buying trip for his store in Pella. A child of his had died and he had to return home before the arrival of the ship. When Daniel Kruidenier saw how the goods of other immigrants was damaged by inspectors, he decided to escape similar treatment by slipping a ten-dollar gold piece to the inspector and the china packed between feather beds got to its destination with not a piece nicked or broken.

If Anthony Betten left a message, it was not received. After waiting two weeks, they decided to continue their journey. It was difficult because they did not know a word of English. They travelled by day coach, box cars, and canal boat. After staying two days in Chicago, they took a train to Burlington. They were there for two weeks, until the roads became passable for the covered wagons to take them to Pella, a trip that took them a week.

They reached the Iowa Prairie in bitter cold November and had to live for a while in a sod hut with little or no furniture. They later lived in west Pella where they had the show place of the town. All sorts of trees, fruits, vegetables and flowers were cultivated on their grounds.

Two of the Kruidenier boys, Leendert and Dirk, bought a General Store. On Saturday nights they would carry their money home in a clothes basket. They had a good trade and sometimes as much as $4000.00 was kept at the house.

Of the nine Kruidenier children, only two of them — Peter and his sister Mary (DeVries) stayed in Pella the rest of their lives.

by J.G. Boat

BOATSMA FAMILY
F32

"Carrie" deBooy Bootsma.

Jack W. Boatsma.

William H. Bootsma.

(Originally Bootsma)

Apparently all the Boatsma families with Pella connections shared as common ancestors Doaitsen Teunis Bootsma and his first wife, Jeltsje Jehannes Twerda, from the Wommels and Kubbard area of Friesland. They had 11 children, several of whom came to America. The eldest, Teunis, born in 1834, came to Pella in 1869. His much younger brother Hille (1853-1924) came about a year later.

Hille married Anna Vander Linden (1854-1920). Their children were: Dora, Helene Van Gorp, Bess Van Zante, John, and Henry.

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Direct descendants of Teunis and Froujke Bootsma now in the Pella area include the daughter of Tunnie and Henry Boland, Wilma, Mrs. Geo. Lankelma; and her daughter Dolores, Mrs. Robert Menning; plus the Boland's granddaughter, Marcia McWilliams Simeons, and her son Steve. The only Boatsma now listed in the Pella Directory is Jack, The son of William H. and Carolina DeBooy Bootsma. (The name is now spelled with an "a" instead of the double "o" to get the correct pronounciation.)

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Carl, Glen and Mary (Steenhoek).

All four of their grandparents emigrated from Holland. Gil's were John Boat and Floris De Jong and Esther's were Hugo Kuyper and Peter Kruidenier.

Hugo Kuyper was a watchmaker and continued that trade when he came to Pella and later had a general merchandise store with his brother. He was Mayor for seven terms and was on the school board for many years. Both he and his wife, Jacoba Betten, came from Charlois.

Peter Kruidenier was a cabinet maker and had a furniture business in Pella. He also came from Charlois and his wife, Jetje Welle was from South Holland. Esther's paternal and maternal great-grandmothers were sisters with the name of Van Pelt. One was Peter Kruidenier's mother and the other the mother of Jacoba Betten Kuyper.

The Kruideniers had a stormy trip to America on the *Richard Anderson*, 1855. Young Peter said to his father Daniel "Father, are we going to drown?" He had reason to be fearful about the seaworthiness of the ship because, on its next voyage, the *Richard Anderson* was lost and never heard from again, They took along 17 chests, large, small, some of wood and some of metal. There were tin boxes of Holland rusks and toasted bread, a 20-gallon keg of buttermilk and a keg of butter. There were also oranges, lemons and eggs. The provisions gave out before the end of the journey so they had to eat the sailors' hardtack. In addition to food and clothing there were bolts of cloth, six rush bottom chairs, grandfather clock, handmade brass-trimmed carpenter tools, a draftman's set, bone-handled knives and forks of steel, books, gold trinkets, fine china and Delft.

After a long, six-weeks trip, they arrived in New York. They had expected their brother-in-law, Anthony Betten, to meet them there. He was on a buying trip for his store in Pella. A child of his had died and he had to return home before the arrival of the ship. When Daniel Kruidenier saw how the goods of other immigrants was damaged by inspectors, he decided to escape similar treatment by slipping a ten-dollar gold piece to the inspector and the china packed between feather beds got to its destination with not a piece nicked or broken.

If Anthony Betten left a message, it was not received. After waiting two weeks, they decided to continue their journey. It was difficult because they did not know a word of English. They travelled by day coach, box cars, and canal boat. After staying two days in Chicago, they took a train to Burlington. They were there for two weeks, until the roads became passable for the covered wagons to take them to Pella, a trip that took them a week.

They reached the Iowa Prairie in bitter cold November and had to live for a while in a sod hut with little or no furniture. They later lived in west Pella where they had the show place of the town. All sorts of trees, fruits, vegetables and flowers were cultivated on their grounds.

Two of the Kruidenier boys, Leendert and Dirk, bought a General Store. On Saturday nights they would carry their money home in a clothes basket. They had a good trade and sometimes as much as $4000.00 was kept at the house.

Of the nine Kruidenier children, only two of them — Peter and his sister Mary (DeVries) stayed in Pella the rest of their lives.

by J.G. Boat

BOATSMA FAMILY

F32

"Carrie" deBooy Bootsma.

Jack W. Boatsma.

William H. Bootsma.

(Originally Bootsma)

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Apr. 1917. He left his wife Carrie and their only child Jack, then just over four years old.

Growing up in Newton, Jack continued to use the name "Boatsma," although his mother married Herman Welle in 1920. After high school he played the saxophone in dance bands to help pay his way through college. The first two years he attended Cornell at Mt. Vernon, Ia., and it was there he met Zelda Green who would become his wife several years later. To take advantage of the business administration and business law courses at Northwestern University in Chicago, Jack took his last years there, graduating with a double major in 1934. With the depression still going strong he was fortunate to have a job lined up by graduation day. He came to Pella to work at the Rolscreen Company.

About 14 years later he left his position as sales manager there to go into business with Bert Boat in what became the Boat and Boatsma Furniture Store. A severe heart attack forced Jack to sell out in 1964, and after a long period of recuperation, he went into the securities business. Operating first from his home, he later worked out of the Des Moines office of Dain Bosworth, Inc. He retired in 1980.

In 1936 Jack married Zelda Rachael Green of Amboy, Ill. (See Zelda Boatsma history.) The two were very active in the Second Reformed Church, Tulip Time, and other community events. Jack was a founding member of the Pella Junior Chamber of Commerce, served as its president and was later president of the Pella Chamber of Commerce. He has been a Central College Trustee for over 25 years, serving as board chairman for seven years. Zelda died of cancer a few weeks before her 60th birthday, which was six weeks after the death of Jack's mother Carrie Bootsma Welle who was then 96.

Beverly Boatsma, Jack and Zelda's only child, married Don Muyskens, son of the Rev. "Connie" and Jean Muyskens. They live in Des Moines, where Don is an attorney. Their children are Scott, Carol and Steve.

In 1974 Jack married Beth Firman Murphy, widow of Merrill Murphy, of Newton. Jack and Beth had known each other in church and school. (See Beth Boatsma history.) Legal residents of Florida, they still maintain a home in Pella.

by Jack Boatsma

BOATSMA, BETH

F33

The second of the five children of Albert and Arlette Miles Firman, Beth Louise Firman was born Aug. 1, 1914 in Springdale, Ark. Her next younger brother, Herbert (1917-1971) also was born there, but the other three children were born in Iowa. They were Margaret (Mrs. Orville Knapp) (1912-1972), Lloyd (1919-1979) and Isobel, born July 14, 1926. Isobel, now Mrs. Carlos Walker, presently lives in Chile, S.A.

Beth's paternal grandparents, Fredefick and Margaret Wadsworth Firman were born in England and still lived there when their first son, Arthur, was born. However, before the birth of their second son, Albert, they had come to America and settled on a farm near Newton, Ia.

Beth Boatsma.

In Newton, on Dec. 10, 1910, Albert Firman (1884-1958) married Arlette Miles (1887-1956) the eldest daughter of Edward Judson (E.J.) and Bertha Frisbie Miles. Eight of the Miles children grew to adulthood and — perhaps due to their Welsh background — they were a very musical group. The father, E.J. Miles, made and sold bicycles and later established the first Ford dealership in Jasper Co., Ia. A natural inventor, he formed the Miles Mfg. Co. to produce tools and equipment for auto repairs. He also developed an "Instant Photo" booth for use at fairs, etc.

From the time she was five years old, Beth and her family lived in Newton where her father had a Radiator Sales and Repair business. Brought up by parents who loved to read, all the Firman children became avid readers and that is still Beth's favorite pastime.

Graduating from Newton High School in 1932, she worked in the Purchasing Dep't. of the Maytag Co. until the Spring of 1936 when she married Merrill E. Murphy, the son of Bower and Edith Blackwood Murphy.

After about a year of trying to keep occupied as a housewife in their little apartment, Beth jumped at the chance to work temporarily in the Sales Dep't. of the Newton Mfg. Co., manufacturers and jobbers of advertising specialties and promotional gifts. her "temporary" job stretched into 37 years and changed from typing form letters to editing a twice-weekly publication for the growing sales force, preparing news releases, designing circulars and several booklets about the company, etc.

In high school, Beth played violin with the orchestra one year, but gave that up to concentrate on glee club and chorus. At the same time she began singing in the United Presbyterian Church choir where a generation earlier her mother Arlette Miles and six other members of the Miles family sang, causing some to refer to the choir as "7 Miles Long."

In school and later, Beth was active in sports, particularly basketball and tennis. She also served two terms on the Board of the Newton Y.W.C.A.

Her husband, Merrill Murphy (1910-1971) was Vice Pres.-Sales Mgr. of the Dun-Lap Mfg. Co. in Newton when stricken by the cancer that caused his death. During their 35 years together, music was important to both of them. In addition to the church choir, they sang with a Newton Choral group known as The Song Stylists and in a "Barber Shop" quartette with Helen & Rich Wormely.

Shortly after her 60th birthday, Beth married Jack Boatsma of Pella. (See the Boatsma Family story.) Jack was born and raised in Newton, and the two had been acquainted through school and church. Jack's first wife, Zelda, had also died of cancer, so he and Beth had much in common besides growing up in the same town.

Having no children of her own, Beth considered it quite a bonus when, in marrying Jack, she acquired not only a husband, but a daughter and son-in-law (Beverly & Don Muyskens) and 2 grandchildren — Scott and Carol. The third grandchild, Steve, was born the year after Jack and Beth were married.

Since 1983 the Boatsmas have been legal residents of Florida and live in their Lake Placid home six or seven months each year. They still maintain a home in Pella, however, and spend a good deal of time here.

by Jack Boatsma

BOATSMA, ZELDA (GREEN)

F34

Zelda Green Boatsma.

Zelda Raechel Green and Jack Wm. Boatsma were united in marriage Oct. 20, 1936, at the farm home of her parents, near Amboy, Ill. Zelda was the youngest of the three daughters of Norman Howard and Grace Catherine McCracken Green. Her father's parents were Caleb and Celestia Coy Green. Zelda's mother was the daughter of Frank

and Delila Jane Wheatly McCracken.

When Zelda was very young her father, Norman Green, died, and Mrs. Green later married Charles Buckingham. The family made their home on the Green farm which, with the Buckingham property, resulted in a sizeable amount of land to be farmed.

The Green's oldest daughter, Edna, died when in her teens. The middle daughter, Doris, married Herbert Barton, and they had three children: Robert and Douglas (now both attorneys); and Betty, Mrs. Jim Souby. Widowed a number of years ago, Doris Barton makes her home in Denver, Colo.

After completing high school at Amboy, Ill., Zelda attended Cornell College at Mt. Vernon, Ia. It was there that she met her future husband, Jack Boatsma, from Newton, Ia., and although he went to Northwestern University (Chicago) for his last two years, they kept in touch.

Graduating from Cornell in 1934 with a degree in Mathematics, Zelda taught high school math at Oregon, Ill., for two years. In the fall of '36 after she and Jack Boatsma were married, they came to live in Pella, Ia., where he had been working since he graduated from Northwestern.

Zelda soon began to feel at home in Pella as she became very active in Tulip Time and other community affairs. During the time Jack was Chairman of the Central College Board of Trustees, she did a good deal of entertaining for the College. She was deeply involved with the women's organizations of the Reformed Church of America, both nationally and at Pella's Second Reformed Church. She also was active in PEO and T.T.T.

Zelda and Jack had one daughter, Beverly Ann, born Apr. 24, 1942. Following her graduation form Pella High School, Beverly attended the State University of Iowa at Ames, where she studied to become a dietitian. After her marriage to Don Muyskens, son of the Rev. "Connie" and Jean Muyskens, she served as assistant dietitian at the Pensacola, Fla. Naval Air Base while, Don was in service. Later when Don studied law at Drake University, she worked at Better Homes and Gardens in connection with recipe testing and the editing of cook books.

Beverly, Don and their three children, Scott, Carol, and Steve live in Des Moines where Don is an attorney.

Zelda and Jack's first home was a little bungalow on South Street in Pella, in an area now occupied by a part of the Pella Rolscreen complex. In the mid-40's they bought the large "Fowler" home on Main Street where both Zelda and Jack greatly enjoyed working with the many flowers and plants in their big yard.

They were living there when Jack had to leave the furniture business because of a severe heart attack. After his recovery, they "re-claimed" a basement recreation room they had fixed up for Beverly and changed it into a office for Jack, from which to conduct his newly-established securities business.

The were still in the same big house she loved so much when Zelda died in 1973, following her second bout with cancer.

by Jack Boatsma

BOERTJE, DONALD AND HELEN (VAN ZANTE)

F35

Donald and Helen Boertje live on a farm five miles south of Pella. The farm is adjacent to the one where Helen grew up. She rode her pony past it every day on her way to North Porterville School.

Don attended country schools near Prairie City. Following graduation from Prairie City High School in 1943, he enlisted in the Air Force where he served until 1946. Later he was recalled during the Korean conflict when he served another two years.

Don has held a variety of jobs including salesman, upholsterer, merchanic, trucker, and factory worker. Like many farm boys his first job was that of "farm hand." Wouldn't his father be surprised to see Don farming again!

Helen Boertje was born Feb. 13, 1933, the only daughter of Gradus and Reda (Martin) Van Zante. Her parents met when her mother came to teach at the same rural school Helen attended. Helen graduated from Central College in 1954 with a major in English. Like Don she has held a variety of jobs including sales, librarian, journalism, and teaching. For the past 20 years she has taught biology at Pella Community High School. She frequently demonstrates her hobby of rug braiding at historical festivals and craft shows.

Don and Helen were married May 27, 1955. On their 30th anniversary, May 27, 1985, their oldest daughter Carlyn (Nov. 17, 1959) was married to Ken Wei. Ken was born in Canton, China, July 12, 1957.

Carlyn graduated from Central College in 1982 with a B.A. in art and did her graduate work in English as a Second Language at Iowa State University. Carlyn and Ken are employed in San Francisco where he is working toward his degree in hotel and restaurant management.

Roger Boertje was born Jan. 11, 1961. He graduated from Pella Community High School in 1980. On Jan. 5, 1984, he married Rhonda Beyer (Feb. 11, 1965), the duaghter of Stan and Darlene (Monster) Beyer of rural Pella. Their daughter Cassandra Kay was born Dec. 10, 1984.

Both his wife and his mother breathed a sigh of relief when Roger found family life more compelling than his hobby, motocross racing. The family was proud when he placed third in the state in 125A stadium style during his last racing season, 1983. Roger is employed by Red Rock Rubber. He and his family live at Rt. 3, Knoxville.

by Helen Boertje

BOERTJE, JOHN

F36

John Boertje was born on Apr. 8, 1897, near Pella, Ia., to Gerrit Boertje and Herberdina Brand Boertje. Herberdina's mother's maiden name was Moekhoek. John's parents came from Holland in 1893 and settled near Pella. His brothers were Roger and Paul. His sisters were Jeanette (Mrs. Jacob S. De Vries), Adriana (Mrs. Isaac Slings) and Gertrude (Mrs. Henry Ripke).

John married Barbara Van Ryswyk at Prairie City, Ia., on Feb. 5, 1924. They had a double wedding with Barbara's younger sister Josie and her fiancee Bert Steenhoek. The minister was brought in by bobsled. John tried to ride in by horseback but because of the deep snow ended up walking most of the

Carlyn Boertje's wedding, May 27, 1985. Left to Right: Rhonda Boertje, Roger Boertje (holding Cassie), Carlyn (Boertje) Wei, Ken Wei, Don Boertje, Reda Van Zante (Helen's mother), and Helen Boertje.

The wedding picture of John and Barbara Boertje on February 5, 1924

The Virgil Boertje Family. Front, L-R: Bruce and Barbara; Back, L-R: Virgil and Shirley

way.

John and Barbara farmed in the Monroe and Prairie City area until moving to Pella in 1947. John died that same year on October 3.

Barbara Van Ryswyk Boertje was born on Aug. 2, 1900, to Dirk Jan Van Ryswyk (born in 1861 in The Netherlands) and Evalena Bierma (born in 1865 in The Netherlands) and came to Pella at the age of three. Barbara's parents were active in the organization of the Prairie City Christian Reformed Church (Sept. 1904). Barbara's grandfather was Hessel Jans Bierma (born 1823, Holwerd, The Netherlands). Her grandmother was A. Jetske Kornelis Jaarsma (born 1824, Holwerd, The Netherlands.)

Barbara's family consisted of six brothers and four sisters. They were Dick, Hessel, Jennie (Rus), Henry, Peter, Evalena (Branderhorst), Arie, Elgie, Johanna (Steenhoek) and John.

Two sons were born to John and Barbara: Donald Elmer born Nov. 19, 1924, and Virgil Wayne born Nov. 20, 1931.

Barbara continued to live in Pella until her death in 1967. Barbara, her brothers Arie, Dick, and Peter as well as her sisters Johanna and Elgie were all victims of crippling arthritis.

by Virgil Boertje

BOERTJE, VIRGIL WAYNE

F37

Virgil Wayne Boertje was born on a farm near Vandalia, Ia. on Nov. 20, 1931. He was the second son and last child born to John Boertje and Barbara Van Ryswyk Boertje. His older brother Donald Elmer Boertje was born on Nov. 19, 1924. Virgil attended two country schools, the latter one named East Ryan which was located two miles south and one-fourth mile east of Prairie City, Ia.

Virgil moved with his parents to Pella when he was 15 years old. It was a big adjustment from country to town living. His pride was a 1947 maroon Mercury car. Virgil graduated from Pella High School in 1950 and was drafted into the U.S. Army in Apr. 1953. He was stationed in Anchorage, Alaska, for 18 months of his tour of duty.

Following his discharge in Mar. 1955 he began working at Vandermeulen Hoeksema Co. This was a hardware and implement store owned by John Hoeksema at that time. Virgil and his brother-in-law Max Hoeksema later took over the ownership of this business. The name was changed to Hoeksema's, Inc. in 1959. (The hardware store is now owned by Jerry Stravers and is known as Stravers Hardware. The implement business was dissolved in 1984). Virgil and Max now are involved in farming near Gibson, Ia. but both continue to live in Pella.

Virgil married Shirley Ann Hoeksema on May 18, 1955 at Second Reformed Church. Shirley was born on Aug. 24, 1935, at 900 Lincoln St., Pella to John Hoeksema and Nellie Alice Koopmans Hoeksema. Her older siblings were Freda (1923), Dorothy (1927) and Max (1929).

She attended Pella Public Schools and graduated from high school in 1953. At that time Shirley became full-time bookkeeper for Vandermeulen Hoeksema Co., a position she held until the dissolution of Hoeksema's, Inc.

Two children were born to them. Bruce Alan Boertje was born on Mar. 13, 1957, and Barbara Jo Boertje was born on Oct. 16, 1959.

Bruce attended Pella Public Schools and Central College where he graduated with a B.A. in business. He was employed by Hoeksema's, Inc. until their closing in 1984. At the present time he owns and operates "The Record Collection" (a tape, record, and compact disc retail store) at 733 Main St., Pella, which opened in July, 1985. He is unmarried.

Barbara attended Pella Public Schools, obtained her B.A. from Central College in music, and her M.A. from Westminster Choir College of Princeton, N.J. She spent a year of internship at Menlo Park, Calif. In Aug. 1985, she became the Minister of Music at Santa Ynez Valley Presbyterian Church near Solvang, Calif. She is single at the time of this writing.

by Virgil Wayne Boertje

BOGAARDS FAMILY

F38

Abraham Bogaards immigrated to America in 1847.

Johanna Wilhelmina "Mooney" Koelman, wife of Abraham Bogaards.

The Parish Registers numbered 16827 Leerdam, South Holland, and 17102 Schoonrewoerd, South Holland, verify that Abraham Bogaert reared a son named Thomas Bogaart. The only note of significance in this generation was the change of the last name spelling from "Bogaert" to "Bogaart."

Thomas Bogaart

Thomas Bogaart married Grietje Knoop, daughter of Jacob Knoop, and to this union were born the following eight children: Jacobus (1699), Cornelis (1701), Jan (1704), twins – Willem and Anna (1707), Anna (1708), Gysbert (1712), and Willem (1715). The first seven children were born in Leerdam, South Holland, and the last child was born in Schoonrewoerd, South Hollandied

Jan Bogaart

Jan Bogaart was born Sept. 21, 1704, and married Hester Boom. Two boys were conceived from this marriage. The eldest, Abram, was born July 20, 1753, in Leerdam, and the youngest, Abraham, was born June 8, 1755, in Schoonrewoerdied There again was a name change in this generation with the two children going by the name of "Boogaard".

Abraham Boogaard

Abraham married Antonet Van Der Leeden, daughter of Kornelis Van der Leeden and Neeltje Zijderveld, on Jan. 23, 1780. The couple had six children: Jan (1780), Cornelis (1781), Arie (1785), Willem (1787), Gerrit (1789), and Thomas (1792).

Arie Boogaard

Arie was born Mar. 20, 1785, and married Geertje Verrips, daughter of Coen Verrips and Wilhelmina den Hartog, on Apr. 30, 1820, in Schoonrewoerd, South Hollandied To this union were born five children: Antenet (1820), Koen (1821), Willem (1823), Abraham (1824), and Gerrit (1829). Arie died on Oct. 13, 1832.

Abraham Bogaards

Abraham Bogaards, the fourth of five children conceived by Arie Boogaards and Geertje Verrips, was born Sept. 25, 1824, in Leerdam, South Hollandied He spent his boyhood days in the city of Leerdam, where he attended school. At 12 years of age, he learned the carpenter trade and made a steady application of this work for the remainder of his life. At the age of 23, he crossed the ocean with the first Holland colony on the ship named "Maasstroom" and arrived in Baltimore, Md., on June 2, 1847, and in Pella, Ia., in August of that year.

It is interesting to note that the spelling of the last name was changed when Abraham came to America. Records in Leerdam, South Holland, along with birth records show the spelling to be "Boogaard." The Port of Entry records show the spelling to be "Bogaars," and the naturalization papers show the spelling as "Bogaard." The name was also spelled "Bogaart" by Abraham's great grandfather and "Bogaert" by his great, great grandfather.

Abraham helped build the first house in Pella for the Hollanders and was a builder of the Scholte Church in 1847-1848. He owned a house and lots on Washington Street and a farm of 60 acres a mile and a half north of town. He arrived from Holland with a small amount of capital and made what he had by steady application to this work.

Johanna Wilhelmina Koelman, nicknamed "Mooney," became the bride of Abraham Bogaards on Apr. 9, 1849. The marriage ceremony was performed by Reverend Scholte. Miss Koelman was born Dec. 22, 1830, in Gelderland, Hollandied She was the daughter of A.P. Koelman and emigrated on the same ship as her husband to be with the first colony in the spring of 1847. She was accompanied by her father and brother, P.J. Koelman, when arriving on an August day in Pella, at that time, consisting of two log cabins. P.J. Koelman helped Mr. Scholte to lay out the town and survey the land in the vicinity and was responsible for planting the first groves in the city.

Abraham and Johanna reared eight children: Gertrude, Mrs. Phillip Olivier (1852-1935); Arie (1856-1938); Abraham (1859-1932); Elizabeth, Mrs. William Van Rheenen (1865-1935); Wilhelmenia, Mrs. Dick Brom (1870-?); Cornelia, Mrs. John Silvanus (1871-1922); Nellie (?-?); and Peter (1877-1945).

The Bogaards were both members of the Holland Presbyterian Church of Pella in which Abraham held the office of elder. Abraham died on Jan. 31, 1905, and Johanna on June 3, 1919. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

by Jerry A. Bogaards

BOGAARDS FAMILY
F39

Abraham Bogaards, Jr.

Abraham Bogaards, Jr., the third of eight children born to Abraham Bogaards and Johanna Wilhelmina Koelman, was born in 1859 in Pella, Ia. He married Cornelia "Kate" Van Rheenen on Oct. 12, 1881. Cornelia, the daughter of Hendrick Van Rheenen and Lena Langstraat, was born in 1863. The couple had three children: Abraham "Bram" (1884-1952); Mollie (1886-1906); and Cornelia "Kate," Mrs. Arnold Schippers (1889-1970).

On Mar. 26, 1889, the newspaper, *Pella Blade*, gave the following account: "A very sad death occurred Wednesday of last week. Mrs. Abe Bogaards, who lives about 1½ miles northwest of town, after having become ten days before the happy mother of her third child, a few days afterward took the measles which resulted in a sudden and altogether unexpected death. Thursday forenoon she was laid to rest at the cemetery west of town. The funeral services were held by K. Van Stigt."

Cornelia's death on Mar. 20, 1889, was a real shock to the Pella community. She died on a Wednesday and was buried on Thursday morning. This was probably done because measles was considered a contagious disease in 1889. It is thought that she was buried in the southwest corner of Oakwood Cemetery which is known as "Potters Fieldied" She had no gravestone. This area was used for persons who died of a contagious disease, persons whose identity was not known, or others who could not afford burial plots.

Abraham married for the second time on July 11, 1889. His new bride was Martha Marie Van Vark (1865-1954), daughter of Jacob Van Vark and Jennie Synhorst. To this second marriage were born three children: William A. (1890-1978); Minnie, Mrs. Jasper De Kock (1884-1956); and Jennie, Mrs. Tony Schippers (1895-?).

Abraham farmed in the Sandridge Community until he retired to a home in Pella. He died in 1932 and is buried beside his second wife in Oakwood Cemetery.

by Jerry A. Bogaards

BOGAARDS FAMILY
F40

Abraham "Bram" Bogaards and his wife, Johanna Van Heukelom.

Abraham "Bram" Bogaards

Abraham "Bram" Bogaards, the eldest child of Abraham Bogaards, Jr. and Cornelia "Kate" Van Rheenen was born near Pella on Oct. 12, 1889. On Sept. 16, 1910, he was united in marriage to Johanna Van Heukelom, daughter of Rick Van Heukelom (1855-1911) and Tryntje De Wild (1864-1953). Johanna was born on Feb. 8, 1892, on a farm east of Pella.

To this union were born seven children: Martha, Mrs. Pete Doornenbal (1911-?); Rachel, Mrs. William Uitermarkt (1913-?); Mollie, Mrs. Franklin Brom (1915-?); William A.M. (1917-?); Alberta, Mrs. Henry Naaktgeboren, (1920-?); Jeanette, Mrs. Norman Robus (1923-?); and Bernice, Mrs. Jacob Sneller (1924-?).

"Bram" and Johanna spent all of their lives in the vicinity of Pella, living in the Sandridge Community for some years and later in 1934, moving to a farm in the Bethel Community. "Bram" lived on the farm until the time of his death on Feb. 28, 1952.

Johanna spent a number of years living in Pella caring for her mother and brother. She died on July 8, 1984, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery beside her husbandied

"Bram" and Johanna made an interesting couple as they could be described as having quite opposite personalities. "Bram" was an easy-going, soft-spoken individual who was passive by nature. Johanna, on the other hand, was more flighty, quick-tempered, and moved at a very rapid pace. Patience was not one of her virtues, and she expected everyone around her to produce when it came to the work ethic. This ethic was certainly instilled in her children as they were all taught to work at an early age. This teaching continued far into their adult lives.

by Jerry A. Bogaards

BOGAARDS FAMILY
F41

William A.M. Bogaards

William A.M. Bogaards, known as "Bill", the only son and fourth child born to Abraham "Bram" Bogaards (1884-1952) and

William A.M. Bogaards and his wife, Martha Faye Hoksbergen.

Johanna Van Heukelom Bogaards (1892-1984), was born Nov. 7, 1917, on a farm in the Sandridge Community. He attended the Sandridge Country School but never seemed too enthused with the educational process. After attempting to complete both seventh and eighth grade in one year, he terminated his formal education and spent his efforts farming with his father.

Bill's six sisters described their brother as a somewhat "take charge" teenager who always had some tricks up his sleeve. They cite many instances of how he, being the only son, seemed to have privileges which they did not. His mother, Johanna, for example, would often sell eggs and hide the money from the family so it could be given to Bill to drive his roadster, somewhat recklessly, between the farm and Pella.

Bill moved with his parents in 1934 to a farm located seven miles northwest of Pella in the Bethel Community. This farm was owned by John and Harry Boot, and many tales are told of the efforts of the Bogaards family to save the farm during the depression.

Bill observed Martha "Faye" Hoksbergen one Sunday evening as she was sitting on the steps of her brother, Ray Hoksbergen's, home. She certainly caught his eye as they were married on Dec. 15, 1937. Faye was the daughter of Andrew Hoksbergen (1874-1935) and Anna Van Gorp (1876-1950). She was the youngest of 11 children.

After the wedding ceremony, performed by Rev. Gerrit Menning and witnessed by Harold Dieleman and Clara Block, the couple immediately returned to the farm home of Bill's parents where they lived until moving to Pella in 1982. The first week of his marriage, Bill contracted scarlet fever, and the couple experienced some very trying moments in the first few days of their married life.

To the union was born, on Mar. 4, 1942, one child, a son, Jerry. Faye had a most difficult pregnancy, spending much of this time in bed flat on her back. When Jerry finally arrived, he experienced an infection in his eyes with a prognosis from the medical staff that he would be blind for life. Another trying time in the lives of Bill and Faye, nevertheless, Jerry has perfect vision still today.

Bill was engaged in farming and was known as one of the more successful farmers in the area. He also became involved in the cattle buying and selling business and formed a partnership with Norman Rietveld. This partnership, which thrived for a number of years, went under the name of Rietveld and Bogaards.

In 1950, a sister and brother-in-law of Bill, Mollie and Franklin Brom, moved to the farm from Kilduff, Ia. and helped with the farming operation as Bill spent full time with his cattle business. Mollie and Franklin lived on the farm until their retirement in 1982 and then moved to a home in Pella. Franklin died on Nov. 20, 1984, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Bill was known by all as a successful businessman and often reminded his son that it did not take a college education to be able to make money. He was well liked by all in his community and had a number of friends. Both Bill and Faye were known as hard workers who went out of their way to help others. They were faithful members of the Third Reformed Church of Pella, Ia. and maintained a devout faith and belief in God.

by Jerry A. Bogaards

BOGAARDS FAMILY

F42

Jerry Adrian Bogaards

Jerry Adrian Bogaards, son of William Abraham Bogaards (1917-?) and Martha Faye Hoksbergen (1918-?) was born Mar. 4, 1942, in Oskaloosa, Ia. He is the great-great-grandson of Abraham Bogaards (1824-1905), who immigrated to the United States on the ship *"MAASSTROOM"* on June 2, 1847.

Jerry was an only child and lived his early life with his parents on a farm located seven miles northwest of Pella. Living on the same farm were an aunt and uncle, Mollie and Franklin Brom, who played an important part in the development of Jerry's life as well as the lives of his children.

Jerry completed his elementary education at the Bunker Hill school. He and his childhood playmate, Larry DeGoey, would either walk, ride their bicycles, or ride their horses to the one-room country school. Teachers having an impact on Jerry's life during those formative years were Mrs. Muriel Kooi, Mrs. Joyce Schippers, and Mrs. Opal DeHeer.

High school days were spent at Pella Community High School where Jerry graduated in 1960. High school friends were Gerald Kuiper, Roger Duven, and Larry Klein. Jerry was very active in high school activities and saved enough time for various school pranks. Upon completion of his high school education, he attended Central College and graduated in 1964 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Business Administration. He then went on to advance his education and obtained a Master's Degree in Social Work at the Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Va., in 1965.

Jerry was baptized on Feb. 7, 1943, at the Third Reformed Church and became a member of the Third Reformed Church in 1959. He transferred his membership to the Second Reformed Church in 1969 and that is where the baptism of his three children took place.

Jerry began his employment career at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Knoxville, Ia. during the fall of 1966. He began his career as a staff social worker on one of the psychiatric units and eventually advanced to the position of social work supervisor. After receiving many awards for outstanding performance, he was promoted to the position of Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Staff, which he held for a number of years.

Jerry Bogaards Family with champion bull, Left to Right: Jay, Judye, "Streamliner", Jerry, Julie, and Jeff.

On Oct. 19, 1968, Jerry married Judye Nichols of Knoxville, Ia.. The two met at the Veterans Administration where Judye was employed as a secretary. To the union were born three children: Julie – 1969; Jeff – 1970; and Jay –1973. The children attended the Pella Community Schools and were all involved in sports and music activities. Exhibiting livestock, both on a state and national level, was also a major accomplishment of the Bogaards children, and they achieved numerous championships, both with Maine-Anjou cattle and registered Quarter Horses. Daughter Julie was also a member of the 1987 Tulip Time court where she served as an attendant.

The Bogaards lived on a farm one mile north of Pella, owned by Jerry's father. The farm had previously been owned by a maternal uncle, Leonard Hoksbergen. Jerry and Judye became active in the cattle business, beginning with registered Hereford cattle and eventually changing to the Maine-Anjou breed. Jerry had always been very active in 4-H in his adolescent years, thereby developing his ability in working with cattle. This ability helped him capture the 1959 Grand Champion Steer Award at the Ia. State Fair as well as accomplishing the exhibition of two national Maine-Anjou bull champions (1979 and 1981), and the national Maine-Anjou female champions (1984).

Jerry and Judye's operation was named the JB Ranch, and for many years was managed under the capable leadership of Brad Wahlert. The firm achieved extreme success in the Maine-Anjou business, and broke all records for show ring achievements. A bull, "Streamliner", was also syndicated for the unheard of price of $2.25 million. Jerry himself served two terms as a national director on the Maine-Anjou board as well as two terms as national president.

The Bogaards also became involved in raising Quarter Horses and developed a noted brood mare band. These mares produced national champions, and from them, the Bogaards children learned to appreciate horses and became accomplished riders.

On May 4, 1984, to the sadness of their relatives and friends, Jerry and Judye were granted a divorce. They made a commitment to not allow, as much as possible, the divorce to interfere with the rearing of their children, and as a result remained "good friends" after the termination of their 15 year marriage.

In 1983, Jerry formed a business partnership with Brad Boswell, D.V.M. The partners built a veterinary clinic and Quarter Horse complex which operated under the name of JB Ranch and Veterinary Clinic. In addition to the operation of the veterinary clinic, the partners continued the tradition of raising prize winning Maine-Anjou and Quarter Horses.

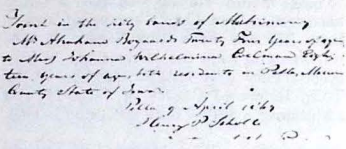
Jerry is very appreciative of the many generations which preceded him, and the many ways in which they helped shape the course of history as well as the lives of him and his children. Sincere gratitude is expressed to parents, uncles, aunts, as well as cousins for sustaining God fearing, hard working values that have helped maintain the "spirit" of the BOGAARDS FAMILY throughout the generations.

In summary, the following is the lineage in descending order of Abraham Bogaert: Abraham Bogaert (?-?) begot Thomas Bogaart (?-?) who begot Jan Bogaart (1704-?) who begot Abraham Boogaard (1755-?) who begot Arie Boogaard (1784-1832) who begot Abraham Bogaards (1824-1905) who begot Abraham Bogaards, Jr. (1859-1932) who begot Abraham "Bram" Bogaards (1889-1952) who begot William Abraham Bogaards (1917-?) who begot Jerry Adrian Bogaards (1942-?) who begot Julie Danette Bogaards (1969-?), Jeffrey William Bogaards (1970-?), and Jay Ashley Bogaards (1973-?).

by Jerry A. Bogaards

BOGAARDS, ABRAHAM AND JOHANNA

F43



Mrs. Abraham Bogaards (Johanna Koelman)

Abraham Bogaards came to Pella in 1847, as a bachelor with Dominie Scholte's first colonists.

He was a carpenter by trade and was a builder of the Scholte Church in 1847-1848.

In 1849, he was married to Johanna Wilhelmina Koelman, daughter of P.J. Koelman who was surveyor and gardener for the Scholtes. This marriage certificate of Abraham and Johanna shows that Rev. Scholte married them.

Abraham Bogaards, the builder of Scholte Church

BOGAARDS, ANDREW AND HENRIETTA (MENNINGA)

F44

Henrietta, the youngest child of Sietse and Lizzie Menninga, was born in 1907 west of Pella in the Roberts Creek area. She went to Liberty Corner School. She walked to school most of the time which was one and one-half miles each way. It wasn't too bad except when it was real cold or raining. When the weather was bad someone would come with the horses hitched to a buggy or sled to bring or get the children from school. She helped out on the farm and went to help people who had a new baby or needed some cleaning done.

Andrew Bogaards was born at Dallas, Ia. in Jan., 1902. At the age of three he moved with his parents to a farm two and one-half miles southwest of Pella in the Amsterdam neighborhood. He went to the Amsterdam Country School, which was a two mile walk. This is where he got his education, and as he grew up helped his father on the farm and worked some for others.

In the year 1928 Andrew Bogaards and Henrietta Menninga were married. To this union five children were born: Gerald, 1929; Lawrence, 1932; Pearl, 1936; Shirley, 1939; and Ruth, 1943. They moved to a farm only one-half mile from where Henrietta was born and raised. They farmed there until 1939. They then moved to a farm near Oskaloosa. They got electricity in 1942. For a few years they made sorghum in the fall until Andrew sold all the horses and bought a tractor. The sorghum mill was a horse-drawn one, so they quit the sorghum business. He was a hog and cattle farmer. He served on the school board several years and on the church council in Leighton. In the year 1955 they moved to Pella. Andrew first worked as a carpenter and later did maintenance work at Central Col-

lege. He retired in 1975. He died Apr. 20, 1985, after a long illness.

by Henrietta Bogaards

BOGAARDS, DALE AND GLADYS

F45

Dale Bogaards is the oldest son of Leslie Bogaards and Jennie Marie (Vos) Bogaards. Dale's father, Leslie, farmed in the Pella area all of his life and passed away on Mar. 23, 1969, of cancer. Dale's mother, Jennie Marie, lives in Pella, Ia. He also has a brother Donald who lives in Columbus, Ohio.

Dale was born Aug. 9, 1935, in Pella, Ia. He went to school at Bunker Hill, and Flint Ridge and graduated in 1953 from Pella High School. Dale helped his Dad farm in the Pella area. In the dry year of 1955 he farmed in the daytime and helped Doug Brunikool drill wells at night.

On Nov. 27, 1959, Dale married Gladys Van Peursem, daughter of Lester and Dena (Boertje) Van Peursem, from Prairie City, Ia. Gladys was born May 27, 1940, and graduated from Prairie City High School in 1958. She worked at Bankers Life Insurance Company in Des Moines, Ia., till Dale and Gladys were married. They we moved to a farm five miles straight east of Pella, Ia. In 1965 they purchased the 80-acre farm of D.K. Vander Waal which was located next to Dale's home place, three and one-half miles northeast of Pella. This farm was purchased from the U.S. Government in 1851 by Henry P. Scholte. In 1966 the Dale Bogaards family moved to the home place which they own and operate. They farm 500 acres, feed out hogs and cattle. Gladys is a homemaker and helps with the farming operation. Driving tractor is her hobby.

Dale and Gladys have three children. Brenda was born Jan. 22, 1964. She graduated from Pella Community High School in 1982 and was employed at Ideal Pharmacy. On May 31, 1986, she married Nathan Thiesse, son of Rev. and Mrs. Delmar Thiesse of Pella, Ia. Nathan and Brenda now live in Ames, Ia. Nathan graduated from Central College in Pella in 1985 and is now a graduate student at Iowa State University in Ames, Ia. studying applied mathematics. Brenda is employed by Photography by Danny in Ames, Ia.

Glenda was born Mar. 31, 1966. She graduated from Pella Community High School in 1984. She attended Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny, Ia. and received a degree in the Executive Assistant and Word Information Processing Programs in 1986. Glenda married Chad Vander Wilt, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Woody Vander Wilt of Pella, Ia. on Jan. 16, 1987. She is employed at RE/MAX Professionals in Urbandale, Ia. Chad went to Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny, Ia. and graduated with a degree in Financial Services in Dec. 1986. He is now employed at First Interstate Bank in Des Moines, Ia. Chad and Glenda live in Ankeny, Ia.

Dennis was born Oct. 18, 1971. He is now a freshman at Pella Community High School and helps his Dad farm whenever he can.

The Bogaards are active members of Third Reformed Church of Pella where Dale has been a deacon and elder. Gladys has been on kitchen service committee and served at many weddings, funerals, social events and Tulip Time dinners. Dale is also a member of Pella Co-op Board.

Christmas of 1985 was an exciting year for the Bogaards family. Both daughters received diamonds. Wedding plans began, Brenda and Nathan for May 31, 1986, and Glenda and Chad for Jan. 16, 1987.

by Dale Bogaards

Dale Bogaards family at the wedding of their daughter on Jan. 16, 1987, in the Third Reformed Church, Pella, Ia. Front: Dennis Bogaards; Back, L-R: Dale and Gladys Bogaards, Glenda and Chad Vander Wilt, Brenda and Nathan Thiesse.

BOKHOVEN, ANTHONY (TONY)

F46

Tony was born in 1921, the son of Herman W. and Antonia (Ver Ploeg) Bokhoven of Taintor, Ia. Carolyn, his wife was born in 1921, the daughter of Jacob and Reka (Vander Schaaf) Stursma, also of Taintor, Ia. Tony was raised on a farm south of Taintor and spent his first 22 years on the same farm. Carolyn spent her first nine years on a farm west of Taintor, and from there she moved to Peoria, Ia. with her parents, and lived there 13 years.

Tony was one of ten children. His brothers and sisters are: Herman W. Jr., Gerrit, Minnie (Roose), Jean (Vos), Arthur, Henry (deceased), Irene (Blom), Dena, and Ann.

Carolyn has only one sister, Mae Ruth (Bandstra).

Tony and Carolyn were married in 1944. Tony went to serve his country in World War II in Oct., 1944. He was in the service until July, 1946.

Tony and Carolyn have four children and seven grandchildren: Robert Eugene and Marilyn (Van Maanen) Bokhoven and children, Stuart Lee and Amy Jo; Henry Allen and Karen (Dykstra) Bokhoven and children, Jackie Kay and Jeffry Allen; David James and Anita (Fuller) Bokhoven and their child, Anthony William; Dennis and Carol Eileen Van Andel and their children, Rusty Lee and Ryan Allen. All children reside in Pella, Ia.

After returning from the service, Tony started in the auto parts business in 1947, working for what was then known as Dielemman Auto Supply. Later the name was changed to Steenhoek Auto Supply. He was a salesman for Steenhoek's until 1962.

In 1965, Tony started his own auto parts business in Pella under the name of Tony's Auto Parts. He started out with his oldest son Bob and his wife Carolyn.

As the business grew, Henry joined the firm after serving in the Vietnam war for two years. Next was David, who joined the firm, and then their son-in-law, Dennis, became one of the firm. This made it a complete family business.

In 1973, Tony turned over the business to his boys and his wife, but still stayed on as manager of the business. Tony joined the police force in Pella in Jan., 1973, and was on the force for five years.

After that Tony and Carolyn started the Baskin Robbins Ice Cream Store in 1978. They sold that in 1981.

They built a new building for the auto parts business on the east end of Pella in 1979. They sold the business to their children in 1985.

Tony and Carolyn are now retired and live at 831 Franklin Street in Pella, Ia.

by Tony Bokhoven

BOKHOVEN, HERMANUS W. AND ANTONIA C. (VERPLOEGH)

F47

Hermanus W. Bokhoven and Christina Verploeg Bokhoven.

Hermanus W. Bokhoven, son of Hermanus Bokhoven and Wilhelmina Van Wijk, was born on Dec. 24, 1879, in Gelderland, The Nederlands, one of nine children and one of two which later immigrated to America.

Coming from a family of low class and knowing that if he were to make a life for himself, he left his homeland to find work. Sponsored by an uncle of his future bride, Tunis Den Hartog, he came to America in 1908. While in The Netherlands he dug trenches for bridges in Germany, and when he arrived in America he pursued the same work and even helped dig the basement of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

After working in America for six years, he went back to claim his bride, Antonia C. Verploegh, daughter of Gerrit Drijver and Jannetje Verploegh, whose father was an "Eigenaar" (Land Owner) and they were married on Feb. 5, 1914, upon their arrival in New York.

Coming to an all American neighborhood and living on a farm east of Peoria, Ia., owned by Jake Timbrel, was a different life style far away from their parents and brothers and sisters.

For 33 years they lived and farmed at the same location. It was here they were blessed with the birth of ten children, five boys and five girls, nine of whom are still living today. It was here they received the news of the death of their parents, and it was here they experienced the days of the depression, wondering how they were going to feed and clothe ten children. Here they experienced the dread disease of scarlet fever among the children, six being ill at one time, resulting in the death of an 11-year-old son, Henry, to spinal meningitis, due to after after-effects of scarlet fever. It was here also they experienced the joys of family devotions around the table and evening visits of neighbors and their families, sometimes numbering 13 children. It was here they experienced the joy in marriage of their children and births of their grandchildren. It was here, and later in their retirement, that sorrow entered their lives as well, with the death of two daughters-in-law, three grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

In Oct. 1946, they moved to Pella, Ia., and purchased the home of C.C. Buerkens located at 515 East First St., for a cost of $4,500.00. Today the property has been replaced with the parsonage of the Second Christian Reformed Church.

After they moved to Pella, they were privileged to return to their homeland for a three-month visit with brothers and sisters, but once again they eager to return to America which was now their "home".

It was on Mar. 28, 1960, the Hermanus passed away at the age of 80 years and on June 21, 1969, that his wife Antonia passed away at the age of 76 years. Thankful for their many years of love and devotion, direction and leadership by their parents' christian example, the following children survive:

Herman W. and Marie Beyer Bokhoven of New Sharon, Ia; Gerrit D. and Dee Stouwie Bokhoven of New Sharon, Ia; Minnie and Lee Roose of Denver, Colo.; Jean and Dr. Clarence J. Vos of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Anthony and Carolyn Stursma Bokhoven, Pella, Ia.; Arthur and Phyllis Lauterbach Bokhoven, Pella, Ia.; Irene and Lawrence Blom, Pella, Ia; Dena Bokhoven Pella, Ia.; and Anne Bokhoven, Pella, Ia.

Dena and Anne are still living in the last residence located at 612 East First. Along with the children, 23 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren survive.

"As we reflect on things that are now past,
The memories and treasured moments, they will last,
We, the children, count our blessings one by one,
Giving thanks to God for what He has done."

by Dena Bokhoven

BONNEMA, DONALD

F48

The Bonnemas moved to Pella in 1959 from Des Moines, Ia. Donald was working for Farmers Grain Dealers, near Des Moines at the time. He continued working there and driving to and from Des Moines every day until 1976, when a job opening came at the local cooperative in Pella. After 17 years of driving to work in Des Moines, the decision was made to work locally where he is still working at the present time.

They first lived in a rented house on a farm owned by John Vink, east of Pella for five months while their house was being built at 616 Spruce Drive. It was the first house in the Northland Lanes Addition. Martin "Bats" De Jong was the builder. It was still farming country at the time as corn fields and old farm buildings had to be cleared first. The surface of the new street was cinders. A good school system and wanting to get away from the big city plus being "Dutch" was part of the decision to move to Pella.

Donald was born May 1, 1929, to Ben Bonnema and Henrietta (Muilenberg) Bonnema at Orange City, Ia. He spent most of his childhood days on the farm. He has one brother Earl. Two other brothers died in infancy.

Donald attended public schools in Orange City and graduated from high school in 1947. He also attended Northwestern College for one year. Then he worked for his father and as a hired hand.

On Mar. 22, 1951 he married Harriet Joyce Rensink, who lived on a farm two and one-half miles from the little town of Newkirk, Ia. in Sioux Co. Their first home was at Orange City, Ia.

The Korean War was going on and Donald was drafted in Jan. of 1952 and sent to San Diego, Calif., not in the army but marines which needed recruits at that time. His wife and baby girl born in June 1952, came to join him at Oceanside, Calif. for 11 months. In Aug. of 1953 the 3rd Marine Division was sent overseas to help end the Korean conflict. Halfway across the Pacific the Koreans, sensing the big division coming, signed the Peace Truce and the division instead, was sent to Japan where Donald spent the last four months of his duty time. He was discharged Jan. 1954. A valued souvenir from Japan is a 12-piece place setting of Noritake dinnerware. While he was overseas his son, Loren, was born Jan. 2, 1954, at Orange City, Ia.

Their first home after service was at Paulina, Ia. in O'Brien Co. as farm hands. While there, their daughter Sharise now two and one-half years, became sick with a malignant tumor on her kidney and died Jan. 9, 1955. They moved once again to Primghar, Ia. being in partnership in a paint and walllpaper store. During this time their daughter Cheryl Beth was born Mar. 10, 1955. Due to a drought in the area, business was unprofitable and Donald sold out his partnership in the store in 1956. The family then moved to Des Moines, where Donald attended A.I.B., taking an accounting and business management course under the G.I. Bill of Rights. While still in school, he worked part time for Farmers Grain Dealers Association. After graduating in 1958 he worked full time there, where he was a night foreman for many years. On May 6, 1961, another daughter Charma Joy was born.

As of the present, they are still living at the home they built. In 1968 Harriet Joyce Bonnema started working in the Dietary Dept. of Pella Community Hospital and still is, at the present time.

The birth and death records of Donald Bonnema's grandparents Peter and Kate (Bleinjce) Bonnema are not available.

by Donald Bonnema

BONNEMA, LOREN

F49

Loren Bonnema was born Jan. 2, 1954, at Orange City, Ia. to Donald and Harriet Joyce Bonnema. Loren was a very sick baby the first two months of his life with what the doctors called Cystic Fibrosis. He was put on a formula of banana flakes and skim milk for the first eight months. He spent time in

hospitals in Sioux City and Iowa City seeing various specialists. He was not expected to live. Many prayers were offered on his behalf, and he recovered and is healthy today.

Loren graduated from Pella High School in 1972. He attended Northwestern College in Orange City, Ia. for one year. On Aug. 24, 1974, he married Margaret Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Eugene Davis of Attica, Ia. They lived their first year of marriage in Knoxville, Ia., commuting to Des Moines to work. Loren worked for Farmers Grain Dealers Association in Des Moines, and Margaret worked for the Federal Government. Since then they have moved to Pella where Loren works for Culligan Water Conditioning, and Margaret works for Ulrich Motor. Loren also drives a school bus for Pella Community School. Margaret graduated from Twin Cedars High School in 1973. They have two children, Austin Ray, born Aug. 6, 1980, and Aaron Benjamin, born Apr. 20, 1983.

by Loren Bonnema

BOOMSMA FAMILY

F50

Cornelius, Sr. and Bertha (Vander Waal) Boomsma

Neil Boomsma, Sr., founder of the Boomsma company and father and grandfather of the Boomsma families presently living in Pella, lived in our community for a short time in 1971. Neil and his second wife, Bertha Vander Waal of Tracy, planned to retire in Pella, after several years of retirement spent traveling and wintering in Florida. They came to Pella early in the spring of 1971 and began building a home on Hazel Street. On May 3, 1971, Neil suffered a stroke while working in a field on New Sharon Road. He had planned to have a garden and sell fresh produce in Pella like in the "old days" in Chicago, but he died that day, just one day before his 66th birthday.

After Neil's death, Bertha lived in Pella for a couple of years. Bertha was born and raised in Iowa and had looked forward to spending many years here with Neil and his family, as well as her own brothers and sisters in Prairie City and New Sharon. In Oct. of 1973, Bertha married Fred Alphenaar and moved with him to Kalamazoo, Mich. where she is living today.

by Jan Boomsma

BOOMSMA, CORNELIUS AND JACQUELYNN (ROTTIER)

F51

On a wintry day in Jan. of 1961 the first Boomsma family arrived in Pella. Neil and Jackie and their two children, Barbara Lynn born Aug. 13, 1958, and Cornelius Steven, born July 26, 1960, made their first home at 615 Elm Street. They came to the Pella area from the south side of Chicago where Neil was working in the family egg business with his father and two older brothers. When the business saw a need to expand to Iowa, Neil, being the newest member of the firm, was chosen to take the responsibility of this venture (see business section). Settling right into the community and attending Calvary Christian Reformed Church, Neil and Jackie found Pella to be friendly and inviting. Today Neil and Jackie live at 510 Woodlawn Drive.

This picture was taken on June 9, 1984, at the wedding of Beth Boomsma and Kelvin Fynaardt. Front, L-R: Julie Boomsma, Megan Vander Molen, Brett Vander Molen, Jenna Boomsma, Heidi (Huisman) Boomsma, Steve Boomsma; Back, L-R: Neil and Jackie (Rottier) Boomsma, Beth (Boomsma) Fynaardt, Kelvin Fynaardt, Barb (Boomsma) Vander Molen, Gary Vander Molen.

On May 23, 1964, Julie Rae was born, and a third daughter, Beth Rene, was born on Sept. 16, 1965. The four Boomsma children grew up in Pella and found their partners here in the community.

Barbara married Gary Vander Molen of rural Peoria in October of 1975. They were blessed with three children: Ryan, born May 23, 1976; Megan, born June 10, 1979; and Brett born May 13, 1983. Gary and Barb lived in Waterloo, Ia. until September of 1986 when they moved to the Cleveland, Ohio area. In February of 1982 while living in Waterloo, their oldest son Ryan was struck by a school bus and died that day. Ryan was a joy to those who loved him and he left a wonderful remembrance. Before Ryan died he had a dream of heaven and told his family and friends that he wanted "to go there."

Neil and Jackie's only son, Steve, graduated from Pella Community High School in 1978 and was married in June of 1984. Steve lives in Pella with his wife, Heidi Huisman, and their daughter Jenna Janel, born May 27, 1985. Steve is involved in the family egg business with his father, uncles, and cousins.

Julie graduated from Central College in May of 1986 with a B.A. in computer science. That same month she married John Glessner who came to Pella from Waterloo to join the Boomsma firm as a resident C.P.A. John and Julie have one daughter Alexis Marie, born Jan. 8, 1987.

Beth, the youngest of the four children, reigned as Pella's 1984 Tulip Queen. She married Kelvin Fynaardt of rural Peoria in June of 1985. Beth and Kelvin make their home in Tempe, Ariz. where Beth attends Arizona State University.

by Jan Boomsma

BOOMSMA, THOMAS D. AND JANET (LONTZ)

F52

This picture was taken on the wedding day of Rich Boomsma and Mary Stursma, September 29, 1984. Pictured, L-R: Brenda Boomsma, Tom and Jan (Lontz) Boomsma, Rich and Mary (Stursma) Boomsma.

Brenda Boomsma – Pella's 1983 Tulip Queen, had the thrilling experience of passing her crown on to her cousin and friend, Beth Boomsma.

Tom and Jan Boomsma and their two children, Richard Arnold, born Nov. 13, 1963, and Brenda Jean, born Aug. 21, 1965, arrived in Pella on a hot, humid day in July of 1970. Tom brought his family from the Chicago area and joined his brother Neil in the egg business in Pella.

Tom and Jan found Pella to be a wonderful community and knew, after a year or two, that they were here to stay! Their first home was at 401 Hazel Street, and a year later they moved into a new home at 216 East 13th Street, where they are living today. Tom and Jan are active members of Faith Christian Reformed Church and have been involved in the community in various activities.

Rich graduated from Pella Christian High in 1983, attended Des Moines Area Community College. In Sept. of 1984 married Mary Lynn Stursma of Pella. Rich is involved in the

Beth Boomsma, 1984 Tulip Queen

family business here in Pella.

Brenda, Pella's 1983 Tulip Queen, is presently attending Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. where she will graduate in May of 1987. Brenda plans to spend a summer working in Germany and eventually hopes to settle in Colorado.

by Jan Boomsma

BOOT, ARIE W. AND ALVERETTA

F53

Arie W. Boot was born in the Pella vicinity on Oct. 18, 1930. He was the only child of William A. and Alta Boot. His wife Alveretta was the daughter of Joe and Alpha Van Den Berg. She was born in the Otley vicinity on Dec. 6, 1933, and has five sisters and two brothers.

Both received their early schooling in rural schools. Arie attended Plain View School northeast of Pella for several years, and Alveretta spent all her grade school years at Fair Oaks School near Otley. Both enjoyed ponies in their childhood days, and this was also their means of transportation to and from school when they were children.

They were married Sept. 10, 1953, in Pella. They have two children, Randal Eugene Boot and Vicky Lynn Stringer. Both presently live in the Pella area with their families. One child, Kevin, died in infancy. They have three grandchildren.

They have lived in Pella ever since their marriage. Arie has been in the accounting business, starting his own firm in 1949. Alveretta has been a homemaker. Both have been involved in several community activities.

Both Arie and Alveretta can trace their family roots to the early settlers of Pella and back to Holland as well. Their ancestors came to Pella in 1847 – 1855. Some were passengers on the *Good Ship Nagasaki* and the *Good Ship Maastroom.*

by Arie W. Boot

BOOT, ARMOUR AND SUSIE

F54

Armour Boot, born July 9, 1903, on a farm between Sully and Pella, was the third child of William B. and Alice Rietveld Boot.

He farmed until 1945 when, due to health, he became a parts man for then Vos Implement, continuing this work when the business was purchased by Zylstra Brothers. This business was located at what is now Leydens Auto, 508 Main.

The family lived near Galesburg for three years at which time he served on the Galesburg School Board. Interested in government, he was a member of the Pella City Council from 1962 to 1965, resigning at the time of his election as Marion County State Repersentative in the Iowa Legislature, serving one term.

Until his death Feb. 15, 1984, he filled his time pursuing his interest in woodworking and general repair.

Susie Zwank Boot, born Jan. 16, 1906, was the youngest child of Jacob and Nellie Vos Zwank, growing up in the Sandridge neighborhood. She was employed by Wilson Jewelry from 1943 until 1984 and currently works part time for Spreacker Jewelry.

Married Dec. 24, 1929, they, with their daughter Nola Ruth (Mrs. Lloyd Vander Streek), moved to Pella in 1943 to 1321 Broadway where Susie still resides.

by Nola Vander Streek

BOOT, DARRELL DUANE AND BONNIE LOU (KLYN)

F55

Darrell Boot was born May 2, 1963. His parents, Vernon Boot and Eleanor Vander Wilt, made their home north of Pella, Ia. where at that time Vernon was engaged in farming. Darrell was the third of three children. He attended the Pella Community Schools and was a graduate of high school in 1981.

Bonnie Klyn Boot, daughter of John Klyn and Lois Hoksbergen, was born on Aug. 2, 1957. She had three sisters and one brother. Their family also lived on the farm, their first home being approximately seven miles north of Pella, Ia. In 1962 they moved to a farmstead northeast of Peoria, Ia. Bonnie attended grade school at the Peoria Christian Grade School and graduated from high school at Pella Christian High in 1975.

Darrell and Bonnie were united in marriage Dec. 3, 1982. Their first home was located at 313 Jefferson in Pella. At that time Darrell was employed at Red Rock Rubber in Pella and Bonnie at Marion County State Bank in Pella.

To this union a daughter, Brandie, was born in 1983. She died unexpectedly two months after birth. The cause of death was diagnosed as Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

Darrell and Bonnie Boot, Dec. 3, 1982

After much deliberation, in July of 1983, the couple purchased an acreage located two miles north of Pella. At that time Darrell quit his job in Pella and began farming with his father and brother.

Three years after their first loss, another child was born to the couple. A daughter named Jenna was born Oct. 27, 1986. She was strong and healthy, – an answer to many prayers.

Presently, the Boot family is living north of Pella. They are active members of the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. Darrell is still engaged in farming and Bonnie, besides being a housewife, is employed at the Marion County State Bank.

by Bonnie L. Boot

BOOT, MARINUS AND HENDRIKA (VER STEEG)

F56

Marinus Boot was born in Kerkwerve, Zeeland, The Netherlands, on Feb. 28, 1828, the son of Gerrit Boot (1804-1833) and Joppa Straijer (1806-?). His grandparents were Marinus Boot and Elizabeth Gerritje Zwager, and Kornelis Straijer and Jannetje D'ooge.

Gerrit (Marinus' father) was a melkboer (milk farmer). He and Joppa were married June 2, 1827. They had three sons: Leonard, Cornelius,and Marinus and a daughter who married a Mr. Audyn. This daughter is believed to be Jannetje who was born Apr. 6, 1832 in Kerkwerve and died Mar. 8, 1878 in Pella. Another record shows Gerrit was born in Ellerneet and died Dec. 18, 1833, in Serooskerke at the age of 30 when his son Marinus was only five years old.

In 1835 Joppa married Joost Oldendorp and they had two children: Pieternella (Mrs. J.H.H. Van Spanckeren) and Job. Mr. and Mrs. Van Spanckeren (Marinus' half sister)

Marinus Boot

Hendrika Ver Steeg

lived for many years in the east half of the building now occupied by the Pella Chamber of Commerce, and Marinus' daughter Gerritje and her husband, Edward C. Varenkamp, lived for many years in the west half of the same building. Marinus' great-granddaughter, Gertrude Varenkamp (Mrs. Paul Lautenbach) also lived in the west half for a while.

National Archives records in Den Haag indicate that Joppa and Joost emigrated to America in 1846 via sailboat with seven children. Joppa died in childbirth at sea (the baby also died), but being only three days from port she was buried in New York, and the father and children went on to Buffalo, N.Y., where they lived for two or three years. Later they moved to St. Louis. The reason the family came to America was to escape the draft for army service since the boys were growing up.

Hendrika (Heintje) Ver Steeg was born in Holland Sept. 26, 1834. At the age of 13 she left Rotterdam with her family early in Apr. 1847, and came to America on the fourth ship, the Good Ship *Catherina Jackson.* She settled in St. Louis for a few years where she learned to read in Sunday School. She and Marinus Boot were married there on Jan. 4, 1851, and some of their children were born there. Later they moved to Pella.

Marinus was rejected for service in the Civil War due to badly crippled hands. He was a tobacco grower and processed tobacco in his own shop. Inspectors would come from time to time. He caught a severe cold while discussing a tobacco sale with a customer and this led to his death on Mar. 8, 1878, at age 50.

Marinus and Hendrika Boot had several children, some of whom died in infancy. Those who lived were: Gerritje (Apr. 15, 1853 – Feb. 4, 1928), Mrs. Edward C. Varenkamp; Emma (Aug. 14, 1857 – July 16, 1941), Mrs. Henry Kaldenberg; Jacob Boot (June 15, 1859 – ?), Johanna Mack; Mary (Feb. 21, 1864 – Jan. 1, 1947), Mrs. Dick G. Gosselink; Cornelius (Nov. 9, 1868 – Aug. 9, 1950), Barbara Langerak; Aart (Charles) (Sept. 14, 1870 – Jan. 30, 1947), Gertie Wisgerhof; Leendert (Apr. 12, 1872 – Jan. 17, 1879); Neeltje (Nov. 14, 1873 – Feb. 1, 1952), Mrs. Henry Vanden Oever; Marinus Jr. (Apr. 4, 1877 – Mar. 2, 1879); and Hendrika (June 24, 1878 – ?).

Hendrika's daughter Hendrika (Hattie) was born and died after her husband Marinus' death and she was left with several young children. At one time she had her beautiful wavy hair cut and sold since she needed money. On Oct. 29, 1879, she married Simon P. Wannewits, who had one daughter, Mrs. Boekenoogen, and one step-daughter, Mrs. F. Brinkhoff. Simon was born in 1820 and died Aug. 18, 1889. Hendrika died Mar. 17, 1904.

Great-grandfather Gerrit Boot was a lay preacher. In spite of the laws of the state church in The Netherlands that not more than sixteen people might assemble at a given time for public worship, he ministered to all who came. For this he was arrested and imprisoned. By accident he discovered a friend (Vander Linden) shared the same prison, one cell above his. Finding a hole in the floor (or ceiling) separating them, they clasped hands to pray and sang psalms.

Marinus and Hendrika are both buried in Graceland Cemetery, Pella.

by Henrietta Vanden Oever

BOOT, RANDAL E. AND KATHLEEN

F57

Randal Eugene Boot, eldest son of Arie W. and Alveretta (Van Den Berg) Boot, was born Mar. 1, 1955, at the Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia. His parents broke the tradition of naming the eldest son after his father and grandfather. He was baptized by Reverend William K. Reinsma on Mar. 27, 1955, at the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. He later made profession of faith on Feb. 9, 1975. Randy has son younger

Randy Boot Family in 1985. Front, L-R: Jennifer and Kathy; Back, L-R: Matthew and Randy

sister Vicky Lynn, Mrs. Randy Stringer of Pella; and a brother Kevin Lee, who died in infancy. On Aug. 28, 1976, Randy was united in marriage with Kathleen Van Waardhuizen, at the Third Reformed Church in Pella, Reverend Kenneth A. Dykstra officiating.

Kathleen (Van Waardhuizen) Boot, second child of Elmer John and Patricia Ann (Rietveld) Van Waardhuizen, was born Nov. 24, 1956, at the Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia. She was baptized by Dr. Thomas Boslopper on Feb. 3, 1957, at the Second Reformed Church in Pella. She later made profession of faith at the Third Reformed Church in Pella on Setp. 29, 1971. Kathy has one older brother, Craig Alan Van Waardhuizen of Rockwell City, Ia.; and one younger sister, Valerie, Mrs. Marvin Terlouw of Killduff. Kathleen and Valerie did not have middle names; their parents felt their names were long enough.

The Boots purchased their first home at 110 Independence St. in Pella and settled there after their marriage. They lived there until July of 1984, at which time they sold their home and moved to Rural Pella, to a home they purchased on Amsterdam Hill, in Lake Prairie Twp. When they were first married, Kathy transferred her church membership to Second Christian Reformed Church, where they attended until 1986. Their memberships are now at the Faith Christian Reformed Church in Pella where they are actively involved.

To this union two children were born. Matthew Alan Boot was born on Feb. 12, 1979, at the Pella Community Hospital. He was baptized, by Reverend Henry Peterson on Mar. 25, 1979, at the Second Christian Reformed Church. He attends Pella Christian Grade School, where he is beginning the fourth generation of Boots to attend Pella Christian Grade School. Jennifer Marie Boot was born on Mar. 6, 1982, at the Pella Community Hospital. She was baptized by Pastor Bruce Leiter on Apr. 4, 1982, at the Second Christian Reformed Church. She will also attend Pella Christian Grade School.

Randy attended Pella Christian Grade and High school, graduating in May of 1974. In his younger days, he was in Cub Scouts and Cadets. He had horses, which he kept at

Shady Brook Stables; the "pony farm" has since been redeveloped into a residential area, Sunset Hills West. He was in various horse shows and received several ribbons. Randy's first job was lawn mowing, which he developed in a lawn service, A & B Mowing and Hedge Trimming, with Mark Aldrich. He also baled hay for local farmers. When he was older he had a part-time job at Gosselink Builders, where he worked with his grandfather, William A. Boot. While attending high school, he had on-the-job training at Vermeer Manufacturing Company of Pella. After graduation he went to work full-time for Vermeers. where he is still employed. He also has a part-time job which he started in 1977, each spring building floats for the Pella Historical Society, for the annual Pella Tulip Festival. When he started this job, he worked with Floris (Flor) Geurts and Elmer Van Waardhuizen, both of whom have since retired from float building; and Kathy is his main (volunteer) helper.

Kathy attended Pella Community School, graduating in May of 1975. After this she attended American Institute of Business for one year, graduating in Sept. of 1976, with a Junior Accounting diploma. In her younger days, she was in Blue birds, Campfire and 4-H. Music was also important; she took piano lessons, was in musical groups and band. She was also active in several organizations in both church and school. Kathy's first job was as a babysitter, followed by several different part-time jobs and volunteer work. As part of her volunteer work, she spent two summers (1973 and 1975) in New York City teaching Bible school, at Bethany Memorial Reformed Church. She worked part-time as a cashier at Gibson's (Pamida-Pella) while in high school and also worked there full-time for awhile. Her next full-time job was for the City of Pella, at the City Office. After their children were born she became a homemaker, and later went to work part-time for the George Van de Voort, Jr. family.

The early 1980's were a trying time for this family as there were many illnesses, deaths and accidents. The most vivid memory happened on April 13, 1981, when Randy cut off two fingers while on the job at Vermeers. The fingers were re-attached, through the miracle of modern technology, by Dr. Douglas S. Reagan, a Micro-Surgeon in Des Moines, Ia. This is such a contrast from earlier days when they would been buried or disposed of.

Randy and Kathy enjoy outdoor activities. That was one of the reasons they moved to an acreage, to enjoy nature to its fullest. They have a large garden each year and enjoy the bountiful harvests which the Lord provides. They also have horses, which Randy enjoys working with, and the children are learning to ride. Their parents and grandparents also had horses as children. Matthew and Jennifer have a pet beagle named Dusty. Randy cuts wood for the wood-burning stove which is used to heat the family's home. Kathy enjoys doing handwork in her spare time, a hobby that comes naturally from her grandmothers. Other interests include reading and music. Matthew enjoys "working" on the computer and helping his dad with floats. Jennifer likes having books read to her and can't wait to go to school.

The Boots can trace their family history back to The Netherlands; some of their ancestors were in the first group that came to Pella, with Reverend H.P. Scholte. They were on each of the four ships that left The Netherlands in Apr. of 1847; they were also in the second important immigration, as well as later ones. God had richly blessed us in may ways. It is our hope and prayer that we can continue to pass our Christian values on to our children and that they will carry on this blessed heritage.

by Kathy Boot

BOOT, WILLIAM A. AND ALTA

F58

Four generations of Boots, photo taken in 1979. Front, L-R: William A., Matthew A., Randal E.; Back: Arie W.

William A. Boot was born on the family farm north of Pella on Jan. 13, 1904. He was fourth of eight children born to Arie C. (1862-1948) and Ida (Jetje Stuursma 1877-1939) Boot. Arie's father, Jacob Boot, came to Pella in 1853; Jetje came from The Netherlands as a child. His brothers and sisters were Jacob, Emma, John, Marion, Artie, Grace and Anna. There were other children, who died in infancy, but no records were kept of this. He attended the Bell country school and the Pella Christian Grade School.

Alta (Ver Meer) Boot was born on a farm near Leighton, Ia. on Feb. 6, 1903. She was the third of seven children born to Dirk (1864-1945) and Lambertha (Van de Lingen 1877-1960) Ver Meer. Dirk came to America around 1893 and Lambertha at the age of 15 (1892). They are both from province of Gelderland. Her brothers and sisters were John, Mariena, Lambert, Anthony, Anna and Dick. Anna died as a baby from pneumonia. Alta attended country schools, in the different areas, where they lived.

On Jan. 19, 1928, they were united in marriage in a double ceremony with William's brother John at Pella. To this union they added one son, Arie W., who was born Oct. 18, 1930. He married Alveretta Van Den Berg and they had three children.

They farmed northeast of Pella for sixteen years and the southeast of Pella for twenty-two years. In 1966 they retired from farming and moved to Pella. In 1980, they sold their home at 602 Liberty and moved into Fair Haven East, a new retirement home.

William passed away on June 1, 1985, at the Pella Community Nursing Home where he had been a resident for two and one-half years. Alta resides in Hilltop Manor South where she moved in 1986. They have two grandchildren living and one deceased, and three great-grandchildren.

by Kathy Boot

BORG, LYLE WAYNE AND MARY ADELAIDE (VER MEER)

F59

Lyle and Mary Ver Meer Borg, taken in 1982 at a relative's wedding.

Lyle W. Borg was born Mar. 13, 1945, the seventh of eight children of Albert and Addie Hagenson Borg. Albert and Addie Borg own and operate a grain and livestock farm near Forest City, Ia., in Winnebago Co. Lyle is the grandson of Martin Borg who emigrated through Ellis Island in 1901, with brother Gus Nelson, from Malmo, Sweden. Martin worked as a farmer, tinner, and plumber; and helped build the railroad. Grandfather Percy Hagenson farmed near Thompson, Ia., and did custom threshing and square baling. He was born in the U.S., with his parents emigrating from Opphiem, Norway. Lyle graduated from Forest City High School and Iowa State University, participating in vocal music, football, wrestling, and drama. He married Mary Ver Meer on June 2, 1967, and served in the U.S. Army as Information Specialist for the athletic teams of the U.S.

Left to right: Bradley W. Borg, age 16; Jonathan L. Borg, age 13; Joseph M. Borg, age 9. The occasion of the picture was the Sunday when Joseph was presented his Bible as part of the third grade class of First Reformed Church, Pella.

Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. Lyle later worked for the WMT Radio and Television stations, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, and is presently Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Vermeer Manufacturing.

Mary is the daughter of Harold and Jennie De Ronde Ver Meer. She was born Mar. 28, 1946. She, as her father and grandfather before her, grew up on Plain View Farm, attended Plain View School, and now with her husband Lyle, owns and cares for Plain View Farm with their children. She graduated from Central College in 1967. Her career has changed from education to running the family stable. In addition to caring for 11 horses, the family raises suffolk sheep and crossbred cattle.

The Borgs are active in First Reformed Church, where Lyle is an elder; Thunder Creek Hawks 4-H Club, where Lyle and Mary are leaders and their three sons are members; Dutch Family Singers and Dutch Heritage Dancers; and the Pella Historical Society, where Mary serves as chairman of the Carriage Committee.

Their sons are Bradley Wayne, June 13, 1970; Jonathan Lyle, Sept. 12, 1973; and Joseph Martin, Nov. 25, 1977. Brad has converted the milk parlor building into a wood-working shop and is the chief shepherd of the sheep flock. Jon was co-captain of the 7th grade football team for 1986 and set the Junior High wrestling record when he pinned an Oskaloosa wrestler in 15 seconds. Joe has already made his mark in horse show competition. In 1986 Joe won first place in Pony Western Pleasure at the Pella Historical Society Charity Show and first place at the Iowa State Fair in Pony English Pleasure. The sons are active 4-H members, as were the parents. Mary showed registered Holsteins and Angus steers as a member of Lake Prairie 4-H Club. She was champion showman at Marion County Fair, Dairy Cattle Congress, and Iowa State Fair. In 1964-65 Mary was Iowa Dairy Princess, and was Pella Tulip Queen in 1963.

by Lyle and Mary Borg

BORGMAN, CORNELIUS AND ETHEL (DENBURGER ROOVAART)

F60

Cornelius and Ethel (Roovaart) Borgman.

1895-1976, 1896-1981

Sometimes our name changes for reasons other than marriage. That was the case for Ethel, born in 1896. Ethel was one of six children of Joe and Marie Louisa Schippers Denburger, so she was baptized Eva Denburger. Her mother died from complications of childbirth after her brother, Marion Louis Denburger (Schippers) was born. The children were all sent to different relatives to live. Eva was sent to an aunt and uncle in Des Moines. Her aunt did not like the name Eva so changed it to Ethel Denburger. Life was cruel for Ethel in this home. She was the seventh child to be fed and cared for, and her aunt often took her frustrations out on Ethel by physically hitting her. Another aunt could see it was not a good situation so asked an aunt and uncle who lived in Colorado, who were childless, to take Ethel. They boarded a train in Des Moines around 1906 and went to Colorado to find a new home for Ethel. Henry and Nellie DeGeus Roovaart adopted Ethel, so now her name was Ethel Roovaart. She had a wonderful life with her new parents who dearly loved her and wanted the best for her. In Colorado they lived on a cherry farm, where she enjoyed picking cherries with her father and mother and sold them locally. They encouraged her to go to school but wanted her to graduate from Pella High School. They moved back to Pella just before Ethel's senior year in 1915. The new high school building (our present Community Center) was just completed, and Ethel's Class of 1916 became the first class to graduate from that building.

For a few years Ethel worked as a telephone operator at the Fowler Telephone Company. One time a terrible electrical storm hit Pella and the whole switchboard lit up. Mr. Fowler told them all to go home and not touch a thing. All the lines were down the next morning. Ethel had everyone's phone number memorized and in later years could still repeat them.

Ethel's parents wanted her to be a teacher, so sent her to the University of Northern Iowa for a short course to qualify her to teach. Her first school was West Amsterdam where she taught for three years. Each weekend she would walk the two and one-half miles home to Pella and back out on Sunday where she boarded during the week with the Bogaards family. Her pay of $50 a month also covered the janitorial work. She also taught at East Amsterdam and Valley Schools before taking a year off to receive more education for her teaching credentials.

In 1924, she started teaching at Flint Ridge School in Mahaska Co. across from the Borgman Farm. Here she earned $90 a month. She boarded during the week with the VandeNoords.

Cornelius Borgman was born on the Borgman Farm on Nov. 11, 1895. His parents were Evert Rense and Jozena DeGeus Borgman. When his father died unexpectedly in 1917, Cornelius had to farm because his older brother, Worp, went off to serve in World War I. When Worp returned and was married, their mother moved to Pella and lived with her father, Cornelius DeGeus, and Cornelius stayed on the farm with Worp and his new bride, Minnie Van Rheenen Borgman. It was the Borgmans' responsibility to get the teacher each Sunday and bring her home on Friday. Cornelius was assigned this task. Each Sunday he would leave home earlier and earlier to pick up Ethel and deliver her to the VandeNoord home. There they would play games with the family and visit.

Cornelius and Ethel were married on Feb. 17, 1926, Cornelius and now her name was Ethel Borgman. They farmed in the Oskaloosa and Eddyville areas before building a home on Huber St. in Pella next to her parents, the Roovaarts. For many years Cornelius worked as a free-lance carpenter around Pella. He died on the Apr. 15, 1976, and Ethel on Sept. 9, 1981. She will always be remembered for her gentleness and he for his cigar, and walking with a limp.

by Shirley Borgman

BORGMAN, EVERT RENSE AND JOZENA (DE GEUS)

F61

1862-1917, 1865-1962

Coming to Iowa as a baby around 1863, Evert Rense Borgman settled easily into farm life. His father, Evert Ipes Borgman, had recently died, leaving his mother, Reino Van

Evert Rense Borgman, Neeltje, Worp Evert, Reino, Cornelius, and Jozena.

BORGMAN, GLENN EUGENE AND SHIRLEY DEAN (VAN KONYNENBURG)

F62

The Glenn Borgman Family, l-r: Glenn, Dean, Dirk, DeeAnn, and Shirley. Taken in 1968.

Peyma Borgman, with four children under twelve. She married her widowed brother-in-law, Henrickus Van Houten, who lived near Pella. Life in Plainfield, N.J., differed from rural Iowa. As a child, she had received a good education and the importance of education had been stressed. One of her brothers was a lawyer and another a doctor. Her new husband, Van Houten, was a teacher, so no doubt she felt her children would have some educational opportunities. Arriving here, the children disliked their new stepfather/uncle a great deal. He lived on a farm but only managed it. The children were forced to work hard. As soon as they were old enough, two of the children, Worp and Neeltje, left for other states. Evert and his brother, Willem, wanted to farm. Willem was the oldest, so he stayed on the Van Houten farm. Evert fell in love with his neighbor, Jozena DeGeus.

Jozena was born Nov. 21, 1865. Her parents were some of the earliest settlers of Pella. Her mother, Neeltje Van Vliet, daughter of Jacob, arrived on the Good Ship Pieter Floris in April of 1847. Her father, Cornelius DeGeus, came to Pella in 1855 from Maasdam, S. Holland. He farmed for many years east of Pella near the Van Houten farm. Evert and Jozena were married Mar. 17, 1887. His mother, Reino, had purchased a farm just north of where she lived and Evert and Jozena began farming there. Farming was very difficult for Evert. Financial problems seemed to beset him. His good sister, Neeltje, who was nursing in New York, often helped him financially.

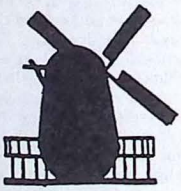
Evert and Jozena had four children: Reino born in 1888, Neeltje in 1891, Worp Evert, in 1892 and Cornelius in 1895. These four children had a wonderful life. They often talked of their father's singing and whistling around the farm. The children were all encouraged to attend school at the Flint Ridge School across the road. No doubt Grandma Reino had influenced her daughter-in-law on giving the children an education. The teacher boarded at the Borgman home, so the children were allowed to start at age four. The older neighborhood boys could attend school only in the winter when the field work was finished. Many times the students were older and bigger than the teacher!!

Social life centered around the school and neighborhood. During their early adult years, one of the homes always had a party or gathering planned for the weekend. Sunday evenings were usually spent together in groups of families.

The Borgman children can always recall the date of Nov. 21. It was not only mother Jozena's birthday, it was the date she set to have the corn all picked, the storm windows up, the parlor rugs outside to beat, and all the house cleaning completed. For it was on that date, Jozena's many brothers and sisters would come to celebrate and she wanted everything spic and span. Her small house would be filled with celebration. A celebration always included hot chocolate in their family.

Evert died of a brain tumor in 1917 so the carefree days were over. The boys had to run the farm and go off to World War I. Worp married Willhelmina Van Rheenen in 1922 and Jozena moved to Pella to live with her father. Reino married Wiggert Roorda, Neeltje married Herman A. Tysseling, and Cornelius married Ethel Denburger Roovaart. Jozena lived a long life. In 1953 she helped break ground for the present First Reformed Church because at age 88 she was the oldest member. She died in 1962 at the age of 96. Her children lived long lives too. Three of them lived to be over 90.

by Shirley Borgman



Glen Eugene Borgman was born in Mahaska Co. on Oct. 2, 1932. He was born on the Borgman farm which is located four and one-half miles northeast of Pella. Glenn's parents were Worp Evert and Willhelmina Van Rheenen Borgman and he was the fourth child in a family of five. Glenn's early life was spent doing chores on the farm and attending Flint Ridge School, a typical country school with one teacher and all nine grades. The big event of the year was putting on an all-school program at Thanksgiving or Christmas. This took weeks of practice and preparation with many songs, plays, and dialogues. Glenn can still remember giving a skit with his boyhood friend, Harry Pippel, entitled, "Is a Pig's Tail Pork?" After graduation from Flint Ridge School in 1946, it was on to Pella High School. Those were still the days of freshman initiation and town kids versus "country bumpkins." But Glen quickly adjusted to the ways of his town friends and participated in many outside activities, including sports. Many mornings unsuspecting students opened their book lockers only to be greeted by a chicken nesting in their notebooks. Glenn had an unending supply of chickens.

Central College was next on the agenda and again more freshman initiation. Those green and red beanies had to be worn until after homecoming. College wasn't all study for there, too, were sports and dances and many new friends to meet from all parts of the country. California girls were the most interesting because they wore the mod clothes, talked hep, and had never seen snow falling. Glen took it upon himself to educate one of these girls to the midwestern culture.

Shirley Dean Van Konynensburg was born near Modesto, Calif. on Dec. 15, 1933. Her grandfather, Dirk Van Konynenburg, had been an early Dutch settler in the San Joaquin Valley. He immigrated to the U.S. by stowing on a ship. Then working his way across the states, he stopped in Pella to work for a Mr. LeCocq. After a few years he moved on to Hospers, Ia. where he again worked on a farm and met his wife, Gertie Schaapman. They settled near her parents in Platte, S.Dak., and started farming. The droughts caused many crop failures so when an ad

appeared in the Orange City "Volksvriend" asking Christian Reformed families to move to the Modesto area to farm and establish a church, he and two other families decided to move. Shirley's father was only six months old. As each of the Van Konyneburg children married, her grandfather gave them 40 acres to start farming. Shirley's parents, Dirk and Adriantje Schuiling Van Konynenburg, raised peaches, grapes, walnuts, and almonds.

Shirley's early memories are filled with playing in those orchards. They would use the peach boxes to build houses and hotels. She attended a two-room country school two and one-half miles from home by riding her bicycle each day. On the way home they always took a break at the date tree to visit with their friends before departing in different directions. (Sometimes the dates were ripe, too.) The population at the school often fluctuated due to the "Okies" coming from Oklahoma to help with the harvesting each fall. Then it really began to overflow during the middle forties when everyone wanted to live in California.

Shirley completed high school in 1951 at Modesto High School, and during that last year began to hear about a church college in Iowa. The next September she boarded the famous California Zephyr train to Iowa to begin her college days at Central College in Pella. She had never seen the town or the college before she moved into Graham Hall. During Thanksgiving break she visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed LeCocq with their daughter, LouAnn. LouAnn's friends came over one night to play records and dance. Glenn Borgman was one of those friends.

Shirley and Glenn were married July 8, 1955, after Glenn finished two years in the army. He returned to Central and she began to teach fourth grade at Webster School. In 1958, they moved to the Borgman Farm and their first child, Dean Worp. Two other children joined their family as years passed, DeeAnn in 1959 and Dirk Jon in 1965.

They continue to live on the family farm but Dean is engaged in the day-to-day work there. He married Jill Groenendyk, daughter of Maurice and Helen Struik Groenendyk.

Their daughter, DeAnn, graduated from Oberlin College, served three years in the Peace Corps, and at present has begun a course in nursing. Dirk graduated from Central in 1987 and is a social studies teacher. After farming for 25 years, Glenn went to work at John Deere – Hoeksema for four years and at present is an insurance agent at VerDught Agency. Shirley has served on the school board since 1979 and has worked to establish a hospice in Pella. They are both very active in First Reformed Church.

by Shirley Borgman

BORGMAN, REINO (VAN PEYMA)

F63

1820 - 1895

Reino Van Peyma was born in Tenaard, Friesland, in The Netherlands, on Nov. 16, 1824. Her father, Worp Van Peyma, had taken over the family farm, but his interests

Reino (Van Peyma) Borgman settled near Pella in 1863 with her second husband, Hendrikus Van Houten.

were to create and improve his world. He preferred to write, to study the stars, and improve the sea dykes in his province. Thus his financial success on the farm was limited. Knowing of the opportunities in the U.S., he took his family and sailed for America on May 9, 1894. Reino had married Evert Ipe Borgman on Feb. 24, 1849, just a few months prior to departure.

Evert Ipe Borgman was born near Kloosterburen, Groningen, on Jan. 24, 1820, on his family farm, Oud Bokum, which had been in the family over 100 years. Not being the eldest son, he knew he had to explore other occupations. He decided to become a carpenter. He was the contractor – carpenter for the local church in Kloosterburen and built many of the windmills in the area. (His handcrafted tools are often on display at Tulip Time in Pella.)

When Evert and Reino arrived in the U.S. he chose to establish an import – export business, as well as farm, near Plainfield, N.J. His brother, Cornelius, in Groningen would ship him goods and in turn Evert would ship many agricultural tools. For many years Evert sent the two-bottom gang plow to Corelius, causing the spread of new agricultural techniques to northern Holland.

Reino and Evert had seven children, three dying in infancy. Evert died in 1862, at the age of 42, leaving Reino with four children ranging from infancy to 12 years of age. Evert's sister Idiana and her husband, Hendrickus Van Houten, had immigrated to the U.S. with Evert and Reino, and Idiana had died in 1851. Van Houten had explored the new Dutch colony in Pella and lived on a farm four miles east of Pella. When he heard Evert had died. He married Reino, his sister-in-law, as was often the custom in that day. So Reino brought her Borgman children to Iowa to settle on the Van Houten farm.

The children, Worp, Neeltje, Willem, and Evert Rense, were not happy with their new step-father, Van Houten. He made them work very hard on the farm. As soon as Worp was old enough, he left for the lumbering industry out West and was not heard from in later years. When Neeltje was 18 years old, she chose to return to live with her grandfather, Worp Van Peyma, who had settled in Lancaster, New York. She entered the nursing profession and for many years would return to Pella for the summer and tell the oral tradition stories for the family. Willem continued to work for his step-father and was never married. Evert Rense married his neighborhood sweetheart, Jozena DeGeus. Evert's mother and Van Houten owned a farm just north of where they lived and that became the homestead of the new Borgman family, Evert Rense and Jozena DeGeus Borgman, in 1887. Reino enjoyed seeing her family, but her loss of her first husband, Evert Ipe, was deep. She died on Dec. 12, 1895.

by Shirley D. Borgman

BORGMAN, WORP EVERT AND WILLHELMINA (VAN RHEENEN)

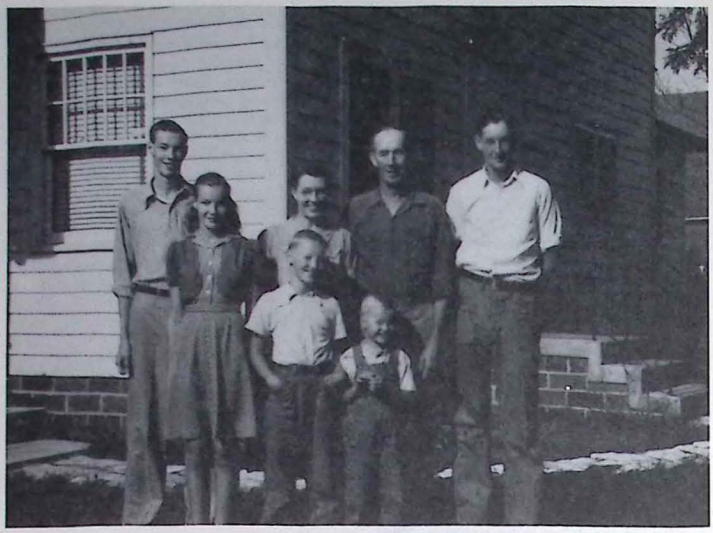
F64

Central Academy Glee Club Trip, 1921, Worp showing off to Jane Gosselink and Martha (Gosselink) Lautenbach.

Worp Evert Borgman was born on the family farm four and one-half miles northeast of Pella, on June 8, 1892, the first son of Evert Rense and Jozena DeGeus Borgman. Worp was one of four children, having two older sisters: Reino, who married Wiggert Roorda and Neeltje, who married Herman A. Tysseling; and one brother, Cornelius, who married Ethel Denburger Roovaart.

Worp's childhood was spent on the family farm and attending grade school at Flint Ridge School across the road from the farm. His early buddies in the neighborhood included Ben and Gary Vogelaar, who became lifelong friends. Worp was a good student and after grade school was encouraged to further his education. Two factors prevented him from doing this immediately. One was the untimely death of his father from a brain tumor in 1917 and the other was the outbreak of World War I. Although operating the family farm for his mother, brother and sisters was essential, Worp was drafted into the army and sent to Camp Dodge in Des Moines for his initial training. National patriotism was at an all-time high and many pictures of young men going off to war were prevalent. After surviving a horrible flu epidemic that killed many men, Worp served with the U.S. Infantry in France. Arriving in France, he contracted a case of mumps and was nursed back to health by a French woman and her daughter in their home.

After World War I, the education bug again



The Borgman Family in front of their new farm home in 1939. Front: Glenn and Robert; Back: Howard, Joyce, Minnie, Worp, and Stanley.

captured Worp. He attended Central Academy, which was available to those who had not had the opportunity of high school education. He stayed in Pella with his grandparents, the Cornelius DeGeuses, where he milked the cow and cleaned out the barn. Many in the city of Pella had a cow and some chickens behind their homes at this time. Worp was not only a good student but relished all the extra-curricular activities available. His first love was football. The style of the 1920's was very little pads, no face protection and very few rules. Worp played center and often took the brunt of the opposing team's forward smacks. On one occasion he lost four of his front teeth but considered it all in fun. It certainly beat cleaning Grandpa's cowbarn. He enjoyed Men's Glee Club as well. On one of their trips, he met a young woman by the name of Willhelmina (Minnie) Van Rheenen.

Minnie came to Central from a farm background near Galesburg. The daughter of William and Elizabeth Bogaards Van Rheenen was born on Oct. 14, 1898. She was one 13 children and spent much of her early childhood caring for the younger brothers and sisters. Minnie moved to Pella when her parents retired from the farm and worked as a sales clerk in the Puritan Drug Store. Ice cream sodas and sundaes were the treat after the band concerts in Central Park. The store was often busy till late at night. She lived on North Main St. and many young men would walk her home after work . . . not too many street lamps in those days, and no respectable young woman would walk home alone. The secretarial career looked more promising then dishing out ice cream, so on to Central Academy for a commercial course. Minnie enjoyed her activity in the Ladies' Glee Club, especially when the Men's Club joined them for a tour. It was on one of these trips that the romance with Worp started and flourished. After several tours and many trips to the Des Moines River sandbar, Minnie and Worp finally said "I do" on Feb. 22, 1922.

In 1922, you did not drive a car on your honeymoon. Worp and Minnie took the train to the Fort Des Moines Hotel. After three days, they returned to Pella to be greeted by her father, "Hebt je goed ges lapen" (Have you slept well?)

Back to the Borgman family farm and on to raising a family of five children: Howard, born in 1924; Stanley, in 1926; Joyce, in 1928; Glenn, in 1932; and Robert in 1935. It was a busy life but a happy life as all worked together and played together. Worp and Minnie's goal was that all of their children receive a college education. They succeeded in realizing that dream. They also worked to improve and add to the family farm. Many buildings were constructed along with a new modern home in 1939 at a cost of $9,000 including furnishings. They were pioneers in soil conservation on their farm and with the help of the CCC boys in the thirties and forties, constructed many terraces, grassed waterways, and erosion control dams. Fifty years later, much of this work is still aiding in solid conservation. Worp was always civic minded and served many years as Richland Township Clerk, trustee on Mahaska County Board of Education, and held, various offices at First Reformed Church. Minnie died on Mar. 1, 1982 and Worp on May 12, 1984.

by Glenn E. Borgman

Pella men going off to World War I in 1918. Front, standing on left: Bill Rebertus, Henry Gezel, Arie Schilder, Joe Vande Kieft; Seated: Worp Borgman, Lou Thomassen, Art Verrips, and Con De Prenger (on bumper); Front, standing to the right: Dick Hessing, Pete Pippel; Back, l-r: Martin Paardekooper, Dr. Camp Wormhoudt, Dr. George Lankelma, Dr. J.J. Sybenga, Booth and two men from Prairie City. The other two are unknown.

BOSCH FAMILY

F65

Frederick Christian Sixtus Bosch was born July 26, 1876, in Frankfurt am Main, Niederrad, Germany. His father was a stonecutter by profession. He served in the Franco-Prussian war after which he entered the postal service. He died from after-effects of the siege of Paris at the age of forty-nine years. His mother died at the age of thirty-six when Frederick was seven years old. He attended Public and Continuing school in Germany until he was eighteen years old. He had hoped to enter the China Inland Mission but because he was too young and had no trade to support himself he was not accepted. Meanwhile he was introduced to a visiting Professor who invited him to come to America, continue his education, and prepare for the ministry or missionary work. That appealed to him and he came to the U.S. in Sept., 1894, and entered the Academic Department of the Bloomfield Theological Seminary. He studied there for six years and completed his theological training at the New Brunswick Seminary in May, 1901. He was

Front, l-r: Frederick, Arthur, Viola, Esther and Katharina. Back, l-r: William, Helene, Frederick, Herbert and Calvin.

ordained by the Classis of New Brunswick at the Sydenham Street Reformed Church of New Brunswick, N.J.

Rev. Bosch served pastorates at Zion Reformed Church near Chapin, Ia., North Fairmont Presbyterian Church in Cincinnati, Ohio, Second Reformed in Pekin, Ill., and Dumont Reformed in Dumont, Ia.

During his ministry at North Fairmont Church he attended both Lane Presbyterian Seminary and the University of Cincinnati. In 1909 he became a graduate of Lane Seminary and received his Master of Arts degree from the University of Cincinnati. The honorary Doctor of Divinity degree was conferred upon him by Central College in 1944.

In 1916 he came to Central College as Professor of Greek and German. In 1919 he became Principal of Pleasant Prairie Academy in German Valley, Ill. for three years. Then he was called back to Central as Registrar and Professor of Greek and German for twenty-four more years. Upon retirement from Central he was Principal of Pleasant Prairie Academy again for one year until they could find a permanent Principal. He retired from active service in June, 1947. After the death of his wife in 1942 he continued to live in Pella with the William Bosch family until his death in 1957.

Dr. and Mrs. Bosch were the parents of three daughters and five sons. Five of the eight children, plus two of their spouses and two granddaughters all graduated from Central College. The three daughters, Helene (Mrs. George Mennenga), Viola (Mrs. John Luke), and Esther (Mrs. Douglas Pickworth), all became registered nurses. Helene married Dr. George Mennenga was a graduate of Central and later a Professor of Bible at Central. He later was Professor of Bible at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich. One son, Calvin, became a physician. Frederick became a minister in the Reformed church. William attended Bradley Technological Institute and became a licensed watchmaker. He came back to Pella and was the watchmaker for over forty years and eventually the owner of Wilson Jewelers until his retirement in 1972. Herbert owned and operated a variety store in Monroe, Ia. Arthur had employment in Pella and then in Clinton, Ia. for many years.

Of the two granddaughters who graduated from Central, Barbara (daughter of William) went to Japan as a short-term missionary, teaching English in Japanese schools for three years. Then she was employed at the Central College Library. Presently she works for the Department of Human Services in Ia. She lives in Davenport, Ia.

Darlys Bosch Dickman, also a daughter of William, taught kindergarten classes for several years until her own two sons were born. Daniel James was born in 1970, and Scott Eric in 1971. The Dickman family lives in Decorah, Ia.

by Bernice Bosch

BOSCH, ARTHUR AND DOROTHY

F66

The move to Pella was in 1958 when Art began teaching chemistry at Central College. He had graduated from Central College in 1951 and fired a coal furnace and did yard work for Hattie Van Cleave while a student.

The Bosch Family. Front, l-r: Barbara, Arthur, Dorothy, and Rebecca; Back, l-r: Robert, Ronald, and Ruth (Bob's wife).

Dot began some Biology teaching in 1961 and changed to a developmental reading in 1972. Both are presently employed at the college and enjoy activities there.

Art was born Nov. 15, 1928, on a farm in southwest Minnesota to Gerrit and Jennie (Ten Haken) Bosch and his ancestors came from Gelderland and Overijssel. Dot was born Oct. 19, 1928, on a farm in Wisconsin to Hugo and Mabel (Hoopman) Kranendonk. Her ancestors came from Gelderland and the most recent (Kranendonks) from Ridderkerk, South Holland, in 1911.

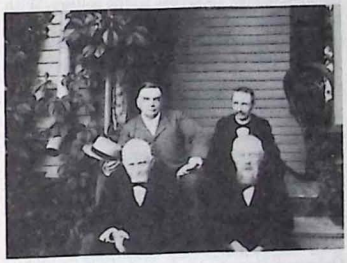
The Bosch family includes four children: the oldest, Robert (1957) was born in Wisconsin; Barbara (1958); Ronald (1963); and Rebecca (1967). They have lived in southwest Pella and presently live at 1111 Peace St. The family has always enjoyed camping and traveling. Art and Dot lived in Germany for one year while Art was in the Army in 1954. The biggest venture for the entire family was living in Taiwan from 1970-1971 while Art and Dot did teaching there. In 1978 Art and Dot, along with the two youngest children, drove to Yucatan, Mex., to teach for Central College there.

The three oldest children have now left Pella to pursue their careers. Robert is a physicist, now married and working in Michigan; Barbara is a pathologist in North Carolina; and Ronald is studying statistics in Iowa City.

by Arthur and Dorothy Bosch

BOUSQUET, A. E. DUDOK

F67



Bousquet Brothers. Front, l-r: Henry L. and Herman F.; Back, l-r: Pierre Henri "P.H." and John J.

Abraham Everardus Dudok Bousquet, born Sept. 6, 1803, in Amsterdam, Noord Holland, was the eldest child of Pierre Henri Bousquet and Anna Carolina De Wit. Though there were nine children in this family, A.E. Dudok had only one brother and one sister living at the time he emigrated. The Bousquets and the De Wits left France for Holland in 1684-1685 in the wake of religious persecution.

Henriette Marthe Chabot, born Oct. 13, 1800, in Rotterdam, Zuid Holland, was the daughter of Jean Joseph Chabot and Jeanne Marie Catherine De Wit. The earliest known Chabot is recorded in 1040 in France. The Chabots also left France for Holland in 1684-1685.

Dudok and Henriette were married Nov. 26, 1834, in Rotterdam. Their home was in Zalt Bommel, Gelderland, The Netherlands, where their four sons were born. They were: Pierre Henri, born Dec. 23, 1835; Jean Joseph, born Mar. 23, 1837; Henri Louis, born Feb. 14, 1840; and Herman Frederick, born Aug. 16, 1841.

The economic and religious climate in Holland forced Dudok to consider emigration, but the deciding factor was a letter from H.P. Scholte asking him to come to Pella. Upon arrival in Pella, the family immediately involved themselves in the growing community. Within a very short time, Dudok had purchased land, built a house, and entered a partnership with Wolters and Smeenk in a general store. But these activities were not his greatest desire. Dudok felt that Pella had great potential and made every effort to advance his ideas, though many dreams were doomed to failure. He was an enthusiastic supporter of a plank or "cor-du-roi" road from Pella to Keokuk, actually financing 25 miles himself. Like so many of his fellow countrymen, Dudok knew the advantages of water travel, particularly for commerce. He formed a company to build and operate flat boats for the transportation of goods on the Des Moines River, a project that failed. Undaunted, he next tried a steamboat, which also failed. Still believing that river travel was possible, he personally financed the dredging of part of the Des Moines River, a project he later abandoned.

Dudok also supported many successes, though he did not live to see them all to fruition. He was a financial supporter and a tireless negotiator for Central College. The Baptists sought a location where they could expect the greatest financial help. Pella subscribed $7,400.00 by Mar., 1852. Dudok and his family gave $500.00, and he wrote of his plan to give 160 acres to the college. With his successful negotiations, the college was formed May, 1853, and his youngest son, Herman, was in the first graduating class of 1861.

Another of Dudok's successes was the railroad in Pella, though it did not arrive until ten years after his death. He was a stockholder and a member of the original incorporation of the Keokuk, Fort Des Moines, and Minnesota Railroad on Sept. 1, 1853. He was an influential negotiator and an active delegate to the many conventions.

Dudok (or his family) also gave the land for Oakwood Cemetery where he is buried. He died Sept. 8, 1856. Henriette died Sept. 30, 1879, and is buried next to him.

On Dec. 1, 1864, P.H. married Sara Maria Scholte, daughter of Rev. H.P. Scholte and his first wife. John J. (Jean Joseph) married Anna Vander Linden on Oct. 9, 1868. Henry (Henri Louis) married Harriett J. Briggs (one of the founders of P.E. O.) on Jan. 12, 1873. And Herman (Herman Frederick) married Sarah Reynolds on May 16, 1867. John J., Henry, and Herman all volunteered for service in the Union Army during the Civil War. There were so many volunteers from Pella that the quota was filled and a draft unnecessary. John was wounded twice in his right leg at a battle at Matamora, Tenn. All three brothers received promotions during the service to their adopted country. During this time the eldest, P.H., took care of all the family business and cared for and supported his widowed mother.

A.E. Dudok and Henriette Bousquet left behind many letters and documents which give life to "dry" historical facts. He and Henriette are remembered with fondness and respect for this legacy.

by Juli Wilson

BOUSQUET, P. H.

F68

Bousquet Family Left to Right: Emma, Emma Jo, Carolina, P.H., Marie 1888.

P.H. (Pierre Henri) Bousquet and his first wife, Sara Maria Scholte, had two daughters: Anna Carolina, born Sept. 16, 1871, and Sarah Marie, born July 2, 1875. On Jan. 14, 1876, Sara Maria Scholte Bousquet died at the age of 36. On Aug. 27, 1879, P.H. married Emma Thompson, daughter of Joseph Thompson and Anne Post, at her parent's home in Readington, N.J. P.H. and Emma had met in Pella during her visits to her brother Abram Thompson, minister to the Second Reformed Church. On Oct. 26, 1881, they became the proud parents of another daughter, Emma Josephine Bousquet. The house where the Bousquet family lived and Emma Jo grew up is, today, known as the "Strawtown Restaurant". Emma Jo later told of having callouses on the calves of her legs from the steep stairs!

P.H. was a leading member of the community. In 1857, P.H., John Nollen, and H.P. Scholte formed a bank known as the Central Exchange and Land Office. Soon after the formation, it became known as Pella Savings Institution. In 1872, the name changed again to Pella National Bank. P.H. was also a leading attorney in Pella. He served as legal advisor to nearly every family in the Pella area.

P.H. and Emma were both educated, cultured, and deeply devout people. All three daughters attended college. Corolina attended Bryn Mawr and Grinnel, Marie attended Stevens and the Boston Conservatory of Music, and Emma Jo attended Grinnel and Central Academy. Carolina married Dr. William La Force on Aug. 31, 1904, and spent many years as a missionary with her husband in China. Dr. LaForce taught surgery, and Carolina taught English at the University of Peking. They had no children. Marie married George Wills on June 21, 1910. George was an electrical engineer and they lived in the "wild west" town of Goldfield, Nev., while he worked for Nevada Power and Light. Later, George and Marie lived in Riverside, Calif., where they settled after the building of Hoover Dam on the Colorado River. George and Marie had one adopted daughter, Carol, who died at the age of 16.

On Jan. 10, 1906, Emma Jo married Benjamin Henry Langerak, son of Meyer Langerak and Geertje Van Baren. Emma Jo was very involved in Pella life. She was member, as was her mother, of the Marion County Chaper of D. A. R. Emma Jo was also a member of long standing of the Pella Historical Society, and she took an active part in the Tulip Time festivities.

Peirre Henri Bousquet died Feb. 14, 1908. Emma Thompson Bousquet followed two years later, on Feb. 10, 1910. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Juli Wilson

BRAAFHART, HENRY AND LEONA V. (WITZENBURG)

F69

Leona Vanita Witzenburg was born Apr. 28, 1917, four miles west of Pella, the first farm place across the four-mile crossing on Highway 163. She graduated form the Pella High School in 1936. In 1938 she entered a summer session at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., to study flute, piano, theory, and voice. Upon completion of the first term she journeyed on to Woodstock, N.Y., an artist colony in the heart of the Catskill Mountains, to study private flute under Georges Barrere — World Premier Virtuoso of the flute at that time. In 1941 she received her Bachelor of Music degree from Morningside College in Sioux City, Ia. In 1955 she received a Master of Music Education degree from the University of Arizona in Tucson together with transfer credits of a 1943 summer session at Columbia University in New York City.

She taught music in Auburn, Galva, McCallsburg, Early, and Schaller, Ia.; then moved to Casa Grande, Ariz., where she taught music in the public schools for 15 years, from 1947-1962. In 1950-51 she served as a member of the Arizona State Committee on text book selection for the State of Arizona. She taught at Cholla School in The Paradise Valley area of Phoenix, Ariz.

Later she became employed at the Arizona State University as head of the Music Research Facilities in Frank Lloyd Wright's last construction, The Grady Gammage Auditorium. The music research facilities were then on the second floor of this building.

In time she quit her work and came back to Iowa to be married. she was 55 at the time she married Henry Braafhart. They were married at The Little Brown Church in Nashua, Ia.

Henry Braafhart was born in Ede, Gelderland, The Netherlands, on Feb. 4, 1902. He attended a Christian school that was sponsored by the First Reformed Church. School was different there in that you attended classes the year around with perhaps a week or two off for upkeep and re-decorating of the building; so a youngster graduating from the eighth grade there might be something like one graduating from high school here. Henry often dreamed of going to Africa or coming to the United States. He read many books on

Africa and seemed more inclined to go to Africa but after his graduation he became a forester in The Netherlands. Times were good during World War I. Holland was not involved but after the war there were hard times.

One of Henry's brothers had come to the United States and had made his acquaintance with Gerrit Witzenburg, Leona's father. Gerrit needed a farm hand; so Henry's brother wrote to him and told him he had a job for him if he wanted to come to America. Henry came to America on Mar. 9, 1921. He was just 19 years old when he worked for Leona's father. Leona was just a little girl starting school the following September. Farm work was scarce in the winter time so Henry decided to make arrangements with the rural teacher, Henrietta Plette, to go to school with Leona so he could learn the English language. There were no paved roads in those days, and snow banks could get pretty high. Henry would often carry Leona piggyback style through the big Iowa snow banks on their way to school.

After Henry's brother, Casper, married, Henry and Casper decided to farm together in the Melcher-Dallas area on the Albert Von Howeling farm.

On Aug. 2, 1929, Henry married Leona's mother's cousin, Nellie Hoogland. At the time, Henry was working for John Witzenburg. She died of Hodgkin's Disease on Apr. 20, 1966.

On Nov. 2, 1972, he was married to Leona Vanita Witzenburg. There were no children from either marriage. The couple was very active. Leona played with the Sioux County Orchestra, the Tulip Time Special Orchestra, and gave a flute recital. Henry enrolled in an art class at Northwestern College and has done some very lovely work. Leona enrolled in a Dutch class before going to The Netherlands to visit Hank's family. He still has three sisters in Ede who know no English; so the Dutch language is very necessary when visiting them. Henry and Leona have made three trips to The Netherlands since their marriage. They have been out west, to California, Oregon, Washington, Colorado, Montana, Idaho; North to the Dakotas, Minnesota, and Canada; South to Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Arizona.

They rode with The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa in 1975, 1977, 1979, and 1982. They not only rode with RAGBRAI across Iowa, but they rode back again to Orange City on their own. In 1985 they started out together, but Leona had problems and dropped out the third day. Hank finished the trip, but rode back with Leona in the car. They have become quite the celebrities of RAGBRAI. They have been written up in various newspapers across Iowa, have spoken over a number of radio stations, and appeared on T.V. shows. Henry was even featured on cable. His name was mentioned in the July issue of 1984 Reader's Digest, and this past year they made the 1986 Summer issue of The National Geographic Traveler. They are planning to go again this 1987 if at all possible. Leona is 70 and Henry 85.

by Leona V. (Witzenburg) Braafhart

BRAAM, HARRY AND ELIZABETH (DIELEMAN)

F70

Harry Braam and Elizabeth (Dieleman) Braam taken on their 25th wedding anniversary, June 3, 1940.

Hendrik (Harry) Braam was born to Johannes (John) Braam and Cronelia Stomphorst Braam in Pella on Nov. 22, 1887.

Elizabeth Dieleman was born on Oct. 19, 1888, to Daniel Dieleman (1849-1919) and Maria Martina Scharff (1851-1936). Elizabeth Dieleman's grandparents were William Dieleman (1809-1877), who was born in the Netherlands, and Susanne Boeve Dieleman (1813-1897), whose parents were Huguenots and were killed when Susanna was three years old. William Dieleman and Susanna Boeve were married in 1839 and came to America in 1849. They lived in New York for several years where Elizabeth Dieleman's father was born.

Her grandfather, Willem Scharff (1819-1890), was born in Schaarloos (now Charlois) Ijselmonde, The Netherlands. He married Cornelia Helena de Bruyn (Bruin) on Dec. 2, 1842. Maria Martina Scharff and all her brothers and sisters were born in Schaarloos. They set sail for America in 1856.

Daniel Dieleman and Maria Martina Scharff were married in Pella on Mar. 7, 1872. They farmed in the Galesburg area. Children born to this union were: Susanna Rietveld (1875); Thedora (Dora) Cornelia Kool (1877); William (1879); Wilhelmina (Minnie) Maria De Jong (1881); Katharine Schultz (1883); Daniel (1884); Helena (Allie) Marie Heerema (1887); Elizabeth Braam (1888); Emma Van Zomeren (1890).

When they retired and moved to Pella their daughter Elizabeth worked at Van Niewaal's Clothing Store.

Harry Braam and Elizabeth Dieleman were united in marriage on June 3, 1915, and lived on his farm five miles west of Pella on Highway 163. In 1926 they moved to a farm in the Sully-Kilduff area.

In 1928 the children contracted scarlet fever. This disease was greatly dreaded and feared. The family was isolated from everyone. When groceries and coal were purchased no money was exchanged; no letters were allowed to be sent. They were ill for six weeks. A quarantine sign on the door stated "No Admittance, Scarlet Fever". The schoolhouse was fumigated, as it was believed this would purify and disinfect the building. No one else contracted the disease, and it was always a source of wonder as to how the children were exposed to the disease, since no one else had it nor did anyone come down with it.

The years 1934-35 are remembered for the devastating drouth. To have no crops and little water was very difficult. Helping graze the cattle in the ditches along the road and driving them to neighbors for their drinks will never be forgotten. Much of the livestock had to be sold at auctions, but it was almost impossible to find a buyer.

In 1936 Harry Braam with his family moved to a farm near New Sharon. Their children were: Ruth Lucille (1917), married to Oscar Halblom in 1940, had one son Randall (1944-1976); Herma Marie (1919); Ethel Mae (1922), married to Mose Schwartz in 1947, has two sons, Victor (1948) and Raymond (1950); Faith Darlene (1929-1974), married to Bert Permar in 1954, and had two children, Elizabeth (1956) and Bradley (1959).

Elizabeth Dieleman Braam died on May 26, 1948, at the age of 59 years, seven months, and seven days. After her death Harry Braam sold their farm and moved to Pella. He built a house in the Braam Addition at 1213 West Second Street. The huge maple tree in the back yard which provided shade for the house was the original tree that was planted by his father John Braam when he bought this section of land around 1870. This tree was planted in the exact center of the 40 acres. Later, due to de terioration, the tree had to be destroyed. Darlene Braam lived here with her father until her marriage. She taught third grade at Lincoln School for three years from Sept., 1951, to May, 1954. This was Harry Braam's home until his death on May 27, 1958, at the age of 70 years, six months, and five days. He and his wife and their parents are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

The children will always remember their parents' unshakable faith in God and their father's gems of wisdom. He kept records of farm and family happenings and weather conditions. These daily journals are treasured by the family. I Love my Heritage.

by Herma Cowell

BRAAM, JOHANNES

F71

Johannes (John) Braam was 23 years of age when he came to America from Amsterdam on Mar. 1, 1870, with his bride Maria De Vries. They were married on Feb. 23, 1870. She died one year later on Mar. 5, 1871; their son Jan died the same year at the age of six months. His father was Jacob Braam who lived at Trompenburgstraat No. 21 in Amsterdam where he had a dairy selling "Boter,

Johannes Braam and Cornelia (Stomphorst) Braam.

Kaas, Eieren en Fijne Vleeschwaren".

After John Braam arrived in Pella he bought a small farm in northwest Pella where he established a dairy — hand delivering milk and cream to Pella residents. In 1902 he sold this land in lots and it came to be known as the Braam Addition.

On June 19, 1873, he married Jannetje Verros. Children born to them were: Leena Braam Douwstra (1874-1955); An Toonijaa (1876-1932); Jan Teunis, born in 1878. John Braam's wife died on Sept. 21, 1878.

John Braam was united in marriage to Cornelia Stomphorst on Feb. 1, 1882. To this union five children were born: Hendrik (1883-1884); Cornelia Braam Ettema (1885-1949); Hendrik (1887-1958); Hermen (1890-1919); Leendert (1893-1980). The children helped deliver milk and cream and worked on the farm. One of their favorite pastimes was ice skating on a pond by Blommers Mill which was close to their home.

On Feb. 22, 1908, John Braam had a public auction. He had for sale: three head of horses, nine head of cattle, 20 head of hogs, chickens, harness, corn, and potatoes.

Cornelia Stomphorst Braam died May 2, 1908, at the age of 49 years, six months and two days. On Feb. 14, 1919, at the age of 28, Hermen (Herman) Braam died of complications of the influenza (known as the Black Plague) which spread after World War I. He was a student at Central College and was noted for his musical talent. His death was deeply mourned by family and friends.

Leendert (Leonard) Braam pastored Reformed churches in New York and New Jersey. He was a Central College graduate and a member of the board of trustees for many years.

The original family home still stands at 1005 West First Street in Pella.

In 1912 John Braam married Christine Streng Vender Zyl (1849-1931). He died on June 22, 1926, at the age of 79 years, five months, and six days. He was a faithful member of the First Reformed Church at Pella and served on the consitory. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. The house where he was living at the time of his death still stands at 502 Washington Street.

by Herma Cowell

BRANDERHORST FAMILY

F72

The Gerrit Pieter Branderhorst family decided to move to the U.S. in the year 1949. The reason: not enough chance for their six sons to farm in The Netherlands. There was a total of seventeen persons involved: Gerrit Pieter (father), Anneke Garstman (mother) Branderhorse, six sons – Gerrit, Piet, Nico, Kees, Bertus, Jo; six daughters – Marie (twin of Gerrit), Sjaan, Drika, Dirkje, Mientje, Annie, and also son-in-law, Lambert Vander Beek, Marie's husband, and their three small children. Kees (now Cornie) was sent out scouting and he sent back good reports so preparations were made to emigrate. They soon left, but without Nico. He had just met Nellie Meurs and thought it was a bad idea to be separated from her by 3000 miles and more and, although his ticket was paid, he declined to go.

After one and a half years Cornie made it back to Holland to marry his sweetheart, Margaret Bosker, and talked Nico into moving to the New World too. Nico and Nellie set out for Rotterdam to the American Consulate to apply for their papers, only to hear that the best thing to do was get married and apply as a family and things would progress much faster as they could then put them higher on top of a long waiting list.

Their wedding took place on Nov. 28, 1950, and they reapplied.

On Jan. 3, 1951, Nellie's father and Nico travelled to Rotterdam to see how things were going and found the necessary papers ready. Since they were in Rotterdam anyway they went to the office of the Holland Amerika Line and were told a freighter S.S. "Veendam" was leaving the next day, room left for two! The following morning at 7:00 a.m. they were on their way by bus to the harbour, each with a suitcase, on Jan. four.

The month of January is a bad month to cross the ocean they soon found out. It took nineteen days with most of the people being seasick most of the time, including Nellie. On one particular day it was announced that the ship made a progress of only two miles, the captain being happy not to have been going backwards at least another fifty miles. On Jan. 23, they finally docked at Hoboken. Mr. Delwin De Haan and son-in-law, James Ebbers were on hand to transfer the couple from the pier to the Greyhound station. De Haan was asked to check at the pier by Nick's parents, as Nico's sister, Drika, worked for the DeHaans. What a relief to be sitting in the bus, each a pillow and a Hershey candy bar. Now we soon will be there! But it turned out that America was a lot bigger than they had figured. As every stop was made "Des Moines?" is all they could say. And then the driver, "No sit down." But finally on Jan. 25, after one night, one whole day, and another night in the bus they arrived in Des Moines and were met by the rest of the family.

A small apartment was rented and Nick started working for De Jong's Greenhouses ($160. per month). Slowly they got on their feet. After a year of walking Nick bought a car and they moved in a glorified chicken-house on the premises of Van Gorp Hatchery. Soon Nick became a partner with Henk Van Wyngarden at Van Wyngarden's Greenhouse and later on he bought out Henk's share of the business, and began operating under "Nick's Flowers" in partnership with Nick Jr., the oldest son. Besides Nick Jr. the family consists of Kathy (now Noteboom) who has three children: Shanelle, Nick, and Shondra. Marlo, the youngest, married to Lori Allen living in Fort Dodge, he being the Recreation Director there.

Nick and Nellie go back to the old country many times as tour directors, showing off their stomping grounds to hundreds of people and have never regretted their move to the U.S.

The rest of Nick's family moved to Canada in 1952 because there were no farms for sale in the Pella area, they could only farm 50-50 and this was not what they really wanted.

by Nick Branderhorst

BRANDERHORST, WILLIAM MARIUS

F73

William and Maria Branderhorst in their garden in 1940.

William Marius Branderhorst (1864-1944) was the second of ten children born to Gerrit Pieter Branderhorst and Pietje Van Gammeran. Pietje passed away early in life, after which Gerrit married Pieternella Van Wyk. William's wife Maria Johanna Vander Beek (1869-1957) was the third of five children born to Gysbert Vander Beek and Emmeke Bax. The Branderhorst ancestry can be traced to the French Huguenots in 1713 while the Vander Beek ancestry traces back to the Cossacks from southern Russia in 1700.

William and Maria arrived in the U.S. in 1908 with their family of thirteen, the oldest of whom was Pearl, 19 years. The youngest was Lambert, three months.

Upon their arrival in Pella the family found themselves scattered in different homes but

soon got together in a home on Liberty at East Second St. The youngest daughter Hester was the only natural-born U.S. citizen.

Most of their life was spent in and around Pella, but in 1934 they moved into Pella where they lived until their death.

A complete family history with many pictures and the story of their involvement with Dominie Scholte while still in the Netherlands, is available in the Pella Public Library.

by Wilma Den Besten

BRINKHOFF, FREDERICK W.

F74

F.W. Brinkhoff

F.W. Brinkhoff was born in Germany and at 17, he came to America and adopted it as his future home. He arrived in Pella the night before Abraham Lincoln became President.

He first accepted a position with Esquire Graefe, who was at that time engaged in the mercantile business (Mar. 4, 1861).

After the war, he started in the mercantile business with H.F. Bousquet.

Years later he formed a partnership with W.D. Forsythe in the drug business. Then he bought out Mr. Forsythe, and in 1897 sold the business to Allen and Stubenrauch. By this time he was ready to retire, so he and his family moved to England where he successfully represented several American manufacturers.

In 1912 he turned his business over to his son-in-law, William Sellers, and moved to Chicago where he died on July 9, 1919. He was buried in Pella's Oakwood Cemetery.

Mr. Brinkhoff left his mark upon the city of Pella during this lifetime. In 1890 the family lived upstairs on the corner where the Ideal Pharmacy now stands, occupying the whole upper floor.

He erected several fine business blocks in the city. One of these still carries the date 1912 and was a drug store located on Main Street where the In't Veld Market now stands. During the time of its construction the Brinkhoffs lived at the Welle Boarding House on Franklin Street, recently torn down to make way for a new apartment.

During their four-month stay, recalls Les Welle, Milwaukee, "They always came into the kitchen after the evening meal and helped with drying the dishes. While doing so they entertained us with stories of London, which at that time was the world's largest city. Naturally we were impressed."

Brinkhoff was elected to serve as alderman for the city and was a member of the board of education for many years. He was an early advocate of paving our city streets and was responsible for planting many of the trees along our streets and in our parks.

For all this, it is fitting that Pella should name one of its city parks after him. This is the Brinkhoff Park at the west entrance to our city.

BROM, HENDRIK

F75

Teuntje Goemaat and Barend Brom. This is thought to be their wedding picture.

Hendrik Brom a carpenter, born about 1801 in the Netherlands, was married to Antje Zwierking on May 1, 1825, in Mijdrecht, Utrecht, where Antje was born Apr. 21, 1803, to Jannetje Blom and Barend Hendrik Zwierking. During their married life together, Hendrik and Antje had 21 children, 18 of whom died in Holland. Wanting to join family and seeking economic improvement they boarded a ship for the U.S. on June 26, 1856. The three children who accompanied them were Styntje born June 12, 1826, who married and moved to Chicago; Jan., born Mar. 11, 1833, and died Aug. 16, 1918; and Barend, born Nov. 13, 1838, and died June 27, 1916. In Sept. 1856, they joined the First Reformed Church in Pella on an 'attestation of membership' from the church in Kockengen, Utrecht.

Jan was married to Anna Wolvers Sept. 19, 1861, and farmed in the Pella area. Their children were Antje, married to John Vander Werf; Cornelius, wed to Mary Hansell; Henry, joined in marriage to Jennie Ziegler; Steina married Matthew Ten Hagen; Katrina Cornelia, espoused to Michael Van Ekeren; John, who did not marry; Frank, married to Maggie Vandersyde; Barney, wed to Hattie Meyer and Teunis, espoused to Minnie Lovering.

Descendants of Jan Brom living in the Pella area in 1986 are: Raymond Brom, Henry Van Ekeren, Jacob Brom, and Marvin L. Van Haaften and their families.

Barend married Teuntje Goemaat the first child of Pleuntje van Klootwyk and Dirk Goemaat on Dec. 27, 1864. Teuntje was born Nov. 2, 1848, and died Dec. 28, 1929. They had 12 children, listed here with their dates and spouses: Dirk (1865-1922) married Minnie Bogaards; Henry (1867-1952) was wed to Jennie Walraven; Teunis (1869-1873); Antoney (1872-1949) espoused Jennie J. Den Hartog; Nancy (1874-1920) was the wife of John Ritchie; John (1876-1967) married Tony Ver Steeg; Tunis (1878-1965) married Lena Monster and Cora Van Driel; Niesje (1881-1962) was wed to Ivo John Beerends; Mathys (1883-1906); Jacob (1885-1927); Christina (1889-); and Anna (1892-1986) who was married to Peter Beintema and Herman Langstraat. Barend was a gardener, raising vegetables on his property at the corner of Liberty St. and West 2nd St., which he sold up and down the streets of Pella. He was also a grave-digger at the Oakwood Cemetery. His family tells of the occasion when he heard sounds from a newly filled grave. On opening the grave the body was found face down in the coffin. This type of occurrence was possible in those days since the body was not embalmed as it is today; nor did they have the modern medical knowledge and techniques for determining the certainty of death.

Of Barend's children who made their permanent homes in Pella, Niesje made clothes, quilted and knitted for others; Mathys, known as Tice, worked for Jaarsma's bakery; Jacob ran a grocery store in the building next to the present Strawtown Inn and, after studying shorthand and typing at the academy was employed as a stenographer; and Christina rented rooms to male college students just prior to the construction of the men's dormitories.

It is noteworthy that Barend's daughter, Christina, aged 97, is still living and well at the time of this writing. There is also a granddaughter, Mabel M. Williams, daughter of Ivo John and Niesje Brom Beerends, living in the Pella Manor. There are many of his descendants living in the southeastern part of the state.

Among Hendrik Brom's other descendants, estimated at a total of approximately 400, there are architects, artists, contractors, doctors, nurses, educators, engineers, factory workers, farmers, ministers, musicians, and therapists who are scattered throughout the U.S.

by Jacob Brom

BROUWER, JOHN AND BERTHA

F76

John William Brouwer and Bertha Ver Meer were married on July 2, 1948. John is the son of John W. and Aleida Vande Vis Brouwer, who had come to America form The Netherlands with four children in 1919. Bertha's parents are Albert Tunis and Jennie Van Heukelom Ver Meer, who have always lived in and around Pella.

The eighth of ten children, John (1927) has three sisters and four living brothers. His sister Gertrude (1908) married Jeff Willemsen (1905-1957) in 1930. Martha (1910) married Joe Willemsen (1910) in 1933. Henry (1913-1947) married Charlotte Wyma (1917) in 1939. Arnold (1917) married Velma Dop (1921) in 1941. Henrietta (1920) married Bastian Vander Velden (1916-1980) in 1941. Little brother John lived from 1922 to 1925. Allan (1925) married Darlene Colyn (1928) in 1954. Garrett (1930) married Lois Gildersleeve (1932) in 1951. Wilfred (1933) married La Vonne Van Wyk (1936) in 1954.

John lived and went to rural schools in the Monroe area. In 1944 polio caused John to be hospitalized in Des Moines Lutheran Hospital's Kenny Cottage for a half year. He then took his high school courses by correspondence and graduated in 1948 from Capital City Commercial College in Des Moines.

Bertha (1926) had one brother, Wilbur Roy or Bud, who lived from 1922 to 1985. In 1946 he had married Helene Gosselink (1924). Her sister Ruth (1927) married Dick Stravers (1927) in 1951. Her sister Bel (1933) married Dale Vos (1931) in 1954.

Bertha attended Pella Christian Schools and Calvin College in preparation for becoming a teacher. She taught in Peoria and Pella Christian Schools for a year each.

Then, after their marriage in 1948, John and Bertha moved to Battle Creek, Mich. John was in the credit department of the Kellogg Company. Bertha taught a year in a Battle Creek public school. Then they moved to a little house on St. Mary's Lake north of town. In 1951 their son, Jerry Arlan, was born. The summer of 1952, they returned to Iowa and in October they moved to Newton, where John was employed in the office of the Maytag Company. Their daughter, Becky Luann, was born in 1954.

John and Bertha were involved in the Newton Christian Reformed Church and Newton Christian School for thirty years. Bertha taught at the school for five years and was the principal for four years. The children both had their grade school education in Newton Christian School.

The summer of 1964, John's father passed away. Then in 1965, John began to have serious health problems. Jerry entered Pella Christian High School that year and Bertha started teaching fourth grade at Pella Christian Grade School. For seven years, until Becky graduated from Pella Christian High, the family transported Newton young people to school in Pella.

Jerry went to Grand Rapids, Mich., to college and to work. There he met Nancy Fay Meeter, the daughter of Sylvester and Margery Van Dyk Meeter, from Munster, Ind. They were married in Nov. 1971. They have stayed in the Grand Rapids area. Jerry is self-employed in a wholesale sewing notions business.

In Dec. of 1972 Becky married Gary Wayne Vos, the son of Brant (Bernie) and Johanna Olsthoorn Vos of Sully, Ia. Becky joined Gary in El Salvador where he was in the Peace Corps. Late in 1973 they settled on Gary's home place, a Guernsey dairy farm, south of Kellogg, Ia.

We have six grandchildren with another expected soon. Jerry and Nancy have two children: Jonathan Paul (Oct. 28, 1977), and Renee Kristin (Dec. 17, 1979). Gary and Becky's children are: Jillissa Danae (Jan. 15, 1975), Rebecca Jayne (Jan. 30, 1977), Joseph Brant (Nov. 23, 1979), and Jordan Jon (April 28, 1982).

In Apr. of 1981 John took a medical disability retirement from Maytag. That July, Bertha's father passed away. John's mother and Bertha's mother are in Newton nursing homes. In 1982 John and Bertha moved to Pella since Bertha, continues to teach third grade in Pella Christian School. John enjoys doing some small wood working projects in his workshop.

by John and Bertha Brouwer

John W. and Bertha Brouwer Family on their 35th anniversary in 1983. Front, l-r: Renee Brouwer, Bertha (holding Jordon), Jonathan Brouwer, and Becky; Back, l-r: Jerry, Nancy, John (with Joseph), Jayne, Jill, and Gary Vos.

BRUMMEL, AARON

F77

Laura (Hays) and Aaron Brummel

Aaron Brummel was born in 1884 in Epe, Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands. He came with his parents, Dreis and Jana Brummel, to the U.S. in 1887. The family settled near Pella. In 1905 he went West to work, and in 1910 he married Laura Hays of Prairie View, Kan. They were the parents of two daughters, Elva (Mrs. Jacob J. De Haan), and Ethel (Mrs. Harold De Bruin).

They returned to Iowa in 1913 and lived in the Pella, Leighton, and Oskaloosa areas. Aaron farmed and was closely associated with the Mahaska Co. A.S.C. and other farm programs. Aaron retired from farming at the age of 80. He and Laura later lived with their daughter and son-in-law, Elva and Jake De Haan in Pella. Aaron died in 1972 in Pella.

by Elva De Haan

BRUMMEL, LAURA (HAYS)

F78

Laura Hays Brummel was the daughter of David and Rose Schesser Hays. David Hays was born near Galesburg, Ia. At the age of nine, David went with his family as far west as Kansas with the Wyatt Earp caravan. Laura was born Nov. 13, 1891, in a sod house near Prairie View, Kan. Laura came to the Leighton area after her marriage to Aaron

Brummel. She died in 1975 in Pella. She and Aaron had two daughters, Elva (Mrs. Jacob J. De Haan), and Ethel (Mrs. Harold De Bruin).

by Elva De Haan

BRUNIA, FRANS W. AND ALLIE "ALICE" ISAAC (ROORDA)

F79

Frank, as most people knew him, was born Dec. 9, 1857, at Nes, Friesland, Netherlands. Frank was the son of Willem Kornelis Brunia of Metslawier and Tietje Theunis Posthumus of Ternaard, Friesland. He died June 17, 1925, at Pella, Ia. He married Allie (Alice) Isaac Roorda, second child of Izaak Epke Roorda and Baukje Abrahams Buwalda, on Mar. 4, 1885, at Olivet, Ia. Allie was born Jan. 29, 1860, and died Oct. 1944, at Des Moines, Ia. Frank and Allie lie buried in the Oakwood Cemetery, on the west side of Pella.

Frank's father was a successful land bouwer (farmer). Frank and his brother Kornelis, left Friesland and came to Sioux County, Ia. where their uncle Reinder K. Brunia was located. From there the three of them went to Pella, Ia. Frank and Uncle Reinder started to work on the farm of Isaac Epke Roorda, and Kornelis went to work for Cornelius van Houweling. In due time Kornelis Brunia returned to Friesland, and Frank Brunia married the farmer's oldest daughter. The young couple bought a farm close by. Frank knew good farming methods and was an outstanding farmer. He practiced contour plowing, planted legumes, raised fine corn, and kept his hogs healthy when hog cholera was rampant.

At the age of five, Allie's family decided to go to Oregon Territory, along with many relatives and friends, to make their fortune. In later years, she wrote some of her memories about going to and from Oregon, and the time spent there. Allie was an accomplished seamstress, capable of duplicating any item by just looking at a picture. So great was her ability to sew that others came to her for lessons. She also had a keen ability to nurse the sick. She nursed many of her relatives and friends. She had a knowledge of herbs and their uses and often used them in administering to the sick. Later, all four of her daughters became registered nurses. Crocheting, tatting, and knitting were Allie's hobbies.

In 1902, Frank and Allie retired to Pella to a small acreage, mainly to give their children the advantage of higher education and more social life. This acreage was a miniature farm; here Frank kept a hog or two, a couple of milch cows and a flock of chickens. He had over an acre of fruit and vegetables for home use and the market. No weeds were allowed to go to seed so, after a few years, weeds were no problem in his garden. He loved his lawn, flowers, and trees. Two of the prettiest hard maple trees in north Pella were planted by him in 1905. Frank and Allie maintained a small nursery of selected black walnut and pear trees for any one who liked to plant them.

They raised five children: Bertha Anne (Aug. 20, 1887 – May 10, 1961) married Louis C. Unger on Apr. 3, 1922; Letitia (May 17, 1889) married William Marion Black Aug. 24, 1925; Henriette (Jan. 8, 1891 – Apr. 22, 1975) married William McAllister Barry Oct. 15, 1924; William Frans (May 17, 1893 – June 27, 1968) married Ena Heemstra Feb. 28, 1916; and Sara Alice (Oct. 17, 1898 – Feb. 4, 1986) married Jeffery William Black, Sr., Dec. 3, 1927.

by William Brunia

BRUNIA, WILLIAM FRANS

F80

William was born May 17, 1893, near Olivet and Leighton, IA. about eight miles southeast of Pella, Iowa. He died June 27, 1968, at Des Moines, IA. He was married Feb. 28, 1916, in Des Moines, Ia. by Reverend Medberry to Ena (Ijnske) or (Ynske) Mame Heemstra. Ena was born Sept. 15, 1895, at Ternaard, Friesland, The Netherlands. She was the ninth and last child of Mame (Marion) Heemstra (Mar. 11, 1856-Oct. 15, 1917) and Trijntje (Catherine) Riemers Kooistra (Apr. 24, 1854-May 30, 1933). Her parents were married in 1878. Father and Mother Heemstra were farmers in Friesland. Their homestead was built less than a hundred yards from the dike, just west of the fisherman's town, Wierum. In 1957, Ena and William went to Friesland to visit relatives and friends, and especially to see the old homestead. The family living there invited them into their home. It was damp and cold outside, but the living room was very warm and cozy. A young daughter was happily knitting. When Ena was six months old, the family moved to Ia. While crossing the ocean, Papa Heemstra warmed the milk bottle in the pocket of his coat. Cows were brought along on the ship as a source of milk.

William Frans attended the Pleasant Grove Rural School in Mahaska County. It was earlier known as the Baker School. He graduated from high school and attended Central College in Pella, Ia. for a year. He then studied electrical engineering in Los Angeles, Calif. for a year and a half, and then attended Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Ia. Will and Ena started their married life as farmers near Eddyville, Ia. William then taught grade school in Pella for four years. While Will was teaching he was a Boy Scout Master. He then went back to farming for three more years before moving to Des Moines, Ia. where he was self-employed as a mill-wright. This led to electrical contracting, motor rebuilding, and some developing and designing. He went into the electrical wholesale business and founded Brunia Electric, Inc.

Will and Ena were members of several civic clubs. They enjoyed traveling to learn how other people live, work and play. They were also interested in collecting rock specimens and gem stones and a part of William's collection was given to Central College in Pella. Will was also very interested in geneaology with plans of recording his information in a family history book. William is listed in the "Who's Who in the Midwest," a regional volume where listing is limited to but three per 2,000 persons and is made impersonally and without solicitation.

Will and Ena had seven children: Alice born Jan. 16, 1917 at Eddyville, Ia. and married June 19, 1941 at Des Moines, Ia. to Foryst Melvin Proudfit, Frank born Feb. 7, 1918 at Eddyville and married July 26, 1946 at Des Moines to Lois L. Stookey, Marion born June 4, 1919 at Eddyville and married June 21, 1941 at Princeton, Mo. to Erma L. Wood, Ray was born Sept. 19, 1921 and died in infancy, Nathan born July 4, 1924 at Eddyville and married Dec. 7, 1946 at Des Moines to Denise Ann Dowie, Catherine born Jan. 27, 1927 at Des Moines and married May 24, 1948 at Des Moines to Harry (Babe) Melton. Harry died suddenly and Catherine married again Mar. 1, 1958 at Des Moines to James L. Maurer. William was born Dec. 4, 1931 at Des Moines and married June 7, 1951 at Des Moines to Kathleen Amanda Roberts.

by William Brunia

BRUNSTING, BETTE

F81

In 1870 a group of Pella residents ventured to Sioux Co. to establish their homes. Nearly 100 years later this Sioux Co. native claimed Pella as her home. In 1964 I joined the Central College speech communication faculty and served as Dean of Women. Three years later I began my present full-time position as a member of the communication department.

My grandfather Brunsting immigrated to Sioux Co. with his parents in 1882, and settled near Hull, the farm where I was born. The Brunstings came from the Province of Drenthe. I visited the "dorpje" of Brunsting which has about 12 homes clustered on the edge of the farmland. A viaduct on the main highway from Beilen to Assen clearly marks the road to Brunsting, but the Brunstings have moved to other parts of The Netherlands. My mother's parents, the Rikkers, came to Hull from Ermelo in Gelderland where I have visited relatives. I love The Netherlands and have spent several vacations there.

Since I graduated from Central College (1956), Pella was not new to me. My three older sisters also had attended Central so my visits here began in 1943. My early memories were of Tulip Time and the "The Red Mill," in which my sister Joyce had a role along with such notables as Tudor Kempkes, who was the star as far as I was concerned. I went back to Sioux Co. and learned all the words of his songs from a recording. My sister Lucille studied violin with Henry Cox whom I remember kissed my mother's hand when she was introduced to him.

Music was an important part of my college life and I have fond memories of singing in Second Reformed Church choir with Edith Le Cocq, Larry Grooters, Leonard Allen, A.B. Van Houweling, and many others. As a college freshman, I will always remember the shock and pleasure of walking into Waechter Lumber Yard on a Saturday afternoon and hearing the opera sounding forth. I nearly forgot that I was there to buy boards for a bookcase.

My oldest sister Evelyn (Mrs. Max Kuyk) lived in Pella at the time I was a student, and their home was across from the Country Club Golf Course. I have many pictures showing

the trees that line Elm Street along the club when they looked like small bushes; it was the edge of town.

Because I am a single person, my descendants will not be listed in future historical books of Pella. As one who worked on this book and one who loves Pella, I did want to be included in this edition.

by Bette Brunsting

BUITENWERF, ALAN AND TERI

F82

Alan Buitenwerf family, Nov. 1985, L to R: Jeffrey 8½, Teri, Alan, Jaci 5.

Alan Wayne Buitenwerf, the oldest son of Howard Wayne Buitenwerf (born Sept. 29, 1928, and died Nov. 7, 1961) and Cornelia Maria Van Wyngarden Buitenwerf (born Oct. 22, 1928) was born Sept. 25, 1954, in Albuquerque, N.M. at the Sandi Base Army Hospital while Howard served four years in the air force. The family returned to Pella in Nov., 1955. Alan has one younger brother, Craig Steven Buitenwerf (born Jan. 29, 1958). Alan's father died of cancer at the V.A. Hospital in Des Moines on Nov. 7, 1961 at the age of 33 years.

Alan and Craig remained in Pella with their mother. Alan attended Pella Christian Grade School and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1972. He graduated from Central College in 1976 with a major in business.

On May 28, 1976, Alan married Teri Lyn Steward in the First Baptist Church in Pella, Ia. Teri, the daughter of Tom and Thyrza Hackert Steward was born May 22, 1955, in Oskaloosa, Ia. At the age of four her family moved to Pella where she graduated from the Pella Community High School in 1973. She was employed by the Pella City Swimming Pool during her summers. Teri attended Iowa State University the year following graduation and then became employed at the Pella Medical Center in 1974 where she continues to work part-time. Alan was employed by the Vander Linden Rexall Store part-time in high school and college and then full time until 1978 when he joined Ver Meer Sales and Service in Pella as a salesman.

A son was born to the couple on Sept. 10, 1977, at the Pella Community Hospital. He was named Jeffrey Alan Buitenwerf. On July 18, 1980, a daughter Jaci Lyn Buitenwerf was born at the Pella Community Hospital. Jeffrey Alan and Jaci Lyn are students at Lincoln Grade School in Pella.

Alan was baptized in the Albuquerque Christian Reformed Church and Teri at the First Baptist Church in Pella. Jaci and Jeff were dedicated at the First Baptist in Pella where the family continues to be active members.

The Buitenwerfs purchased a home at 942 Broadway on the old Scholte Gardens site in 1977 and have spent several years remodeling it.

The family enjoys gardening, golfing, swimming, playing baseball, and woodworking.

by Alan Buitenwerf

BUWALDA, ABRAM PAULUS

F83

One of the most skillful pioneers, Abram Buwalda, 1802-1881, was born at Ee Friesland, The Netherlands, and came to America with the original settlement in 1847. His wife Aaltje was born at Hantumer Uitburren, Friesland. They, with five small daughters, came on the ship *Pieter Floris*.

In The Netherlands Abram was a shopkeeper and gardener, raising potatoes and cabbage for seed. The potato blight was affecting his crop and he was afraid that the soil was hopelessly contaminated. Economic conditions in Holland were not good in the 1840's and religious oppression threatened the freedom of worship. The Buwalda's decided to apply for a part of the settlement in America. Each head of a family had to sign for a trade or occupation and Abram was accepted as a rope maker. Abram had a machine for making rope and he raised the hemp he needed. After being cut and tied in bundles, the hemp was packed under water in a pond so the fibers would loosen. Then the rope was made.

In The Netherlands, Buwalda also raised flax which was spun into linen. This was sold in his store. There was a large bolt of the linen left when they were ready to leave the country. The law forbad taking it out as a whole bolt, so the family cut the linen in shorter lengths. Altje's mother suggested that the lengths could be used as shrouds in the new country.

Abram has been described as a tall, muscular man with dark red hair. he had abundant good health while Aaltje was rather frail and often sick. She always had to have help with the heavier housework while she put her efforts into spinning and weaving. When the family arrived at Keokuk, Aaltje was so sick that Abram bought a carriage and a team of horses to take her on to Pella. There was only one log house there which became the home of the Scholtes. The only other building was a corncrib. Since Aaltje was sick, the Buwaldas were permitted to live in it. A Mr. Ten Hagen who was also sick made a shelter under the broad eaves of the crib using his trunks and pieces of canvas for walls. Mrs. Ten Hagen had died at sea so Buwalda cared for the sick man and his little son Peter. Later, in appreciation, Mr. Ten Hagen gave the Buwaldas an old sugar bowl and a brass candlestick.

As soon as possible Abram built a log cabin partly dug out so when the cold weather came, the family was comfortable. This home was built in the side of a creek bank where Abram had noticed coal deposits. He and his daughter Doetje dug coal here for many years. This farm was one and one-half miles northwest of Pella along Highway 163. Later, a coal mine was operated by a Dieleman on this place. Sows and small pigs were soon a part of the farm operation. Of course, this attracted wolves or coyotes. Altje at one time heard a terible squealing by the pens and rushed out to find a wolf killing a small pig. She hurried back into the house for the fire tongs and chased the predator away. Abram raised sheep and Aaltje and the daughters spun the wool and wove clothing. He made a wood turning lathe and made parts for furniture. He made spinning wheels designed after the ones used on canal boats in Holland. He also made wooden trays, urns, and candlesticks from walnut wood. Some of these are still preserved. He found a shrub with hollow stems on his property and used the stems in making smoking pipes. He also made a machine for hulling oats and making oatmeal. In The Netherlands his Buwalda forebears were known for the many inventors in the family. Abram put this knack to good use many times in the new settlement.

Buwalda was known as a good provider for his family and a good neighbor. He gave much cured meat and other products to the poor. He died at his farm home in 1881 and Aaltje died in 1870. They, and some of their children, are buried on the farm three miles northwest of Pella.

The farm was purchased about ten years after the settlement. The Buwalda children born in Friesland were: Geartje (Mrs. Geert Dykstra); Boukje (Mrs. Issak Roorda); Trijntje (Mrs. Wieger Roorda); Paulina (Mrs. Engle Ver Ploeg) Doetje (Mrs. Anne Roorda). Two sons were born in America: Gerrit (married Elizabeth Hammel); Andrew (married Hieka Biesma). Gerrit and Andrew later received a franchise to provide electrical service to the City of Pella.

by Pauline Tysseling

BUWALDA, JOHN J. AND EMMA

F84

"Moeden, kun ik een vet bal hebben?" ("Mother, may I have a doughnut?")

Lee Vriezelaar was ten years old in 1929, when he was amused because his new four-year-old stepsister, Alice Buwalda, asked his mother that question in the Dutch language. Other family members sitting around the kitchen table in the farmhouse two miles northwest of Pella were Lee's sister Joyce Vriezelaar, age six, their mother Emma, Sara Buwald, age six and her father, John J. Buwalda.

Alice had spoken in the Dutch language because her grandmother, Allie Roorda Buwalda (later Mrs. Ryn Vander Ploeg), had lived with the family the previous three years and spoke only in the native tongue at that time. Sara and Alice's new mother realized it was going to be difficult for them in school if the Dutch language was spoken at home. She wisely made the rule that all future conversations would be in English only.

John J. Buwalda Family, 1939. Front, l-r: John J. Buwalda, Ruth and Emma Buwalda; Back, l-r: Alice and Sara Buwalda, Joyce and Lee Vriezelaar.

Emma was the widow of John Vriezelaar (1894-1924). John J. Buwalda's first wife was Anna E. Gosselink (1900-1926). John J. and Emma were married June 6, 1929. The children affectionately refer to that date as the time "we got married". In 1930 the family moved from the farm to Pella, living for several years at 510 West First Street. In 1932 a new baby sister, Ruth joined the family circle, so it was "his kids", "her kids" and "our kid". The folks often said, and the children agreed, that family unity worked so well because it happened in a home where Christian love abounds.

At this time John was a trucker taking semi-loads of butter and eggs to Chicago for the Pella Produce Company. Emma was a beautician and opened a business, "Central Beauty Shop", in the home. She also was a seamstress, sewing most of the girls' clothes. Other talents included knitting sweaters and crocheting doilies and tablecloths.

In 1935 John changed from trucker to merchant. He opened a Gamble store in Montezuma, Ia. where the family lived for two years.

The girls remember seeing their first moving picture show in Montezuma. It was a Shirley Temple show, the only kind they were allowed to see. Lee was graduated from high school there in 1936. The family, however, missed their relatives, friends, and church and moved back to Pella.

John then started the O.K. Tire and Welding Shop at 709 East First St. He continued in business there from 1937 to 1947.

Lee attended Central College and later owned and operated a grocery store on the east side of the square in Pella. He served in the U.S. Air Force during World War II.

In 1942 Lee Vriezelaar married Mary Louise Renaud. They owned and operated Lee's Variety Store on Franklin St. and Holland Plastics Company in Gilman, Ia. Their two daughters are Mary, Mrs. Mark Bowermaster, and Jan, Mrs. Jim Vande Voort. Their grandchildren are Cole Bowermaster and Judd and Jenny Vande Voort. Lee died of cancer in Dec., 1986.

Joyce and Sara were graduated from Pella High School in 1941. Joyce attended Central College and Simpson College and taught second grade in Polk City Elementary School. She also did some clerking in dress shops. In 1959 Joyce Vriezelaar married Raymond Kirk and they live on their farm near Chariton, Ia. Ray also works as a guard at the Hy-Vee headquarters in Chariton. Their daughter, Kristen, is Mrs. Bill Messamer and their granddaughter is Candace.

Sara, attended Central College and worked in Des Moines at the Government Rent Control Office during the war years. She was a graduate of the university of Northern Iowa and married Frank Plath in 1951. Frank passed away in 1974, and Sara in 1975. Their daughters are Sara Frances, Laura, and Carol. All three are career girls.

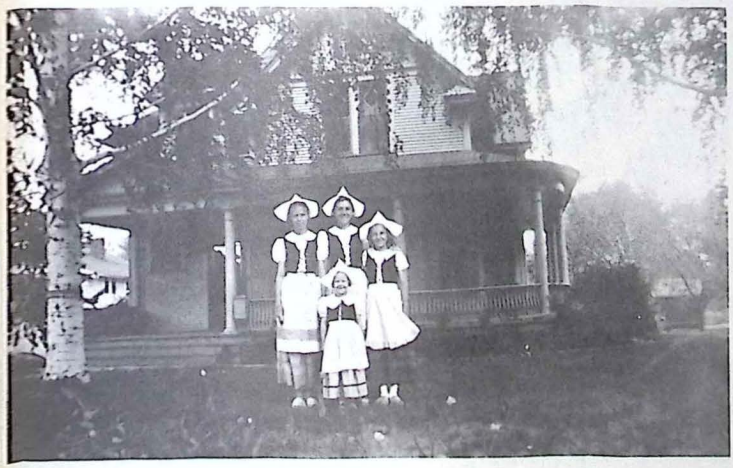
Alice was graduated from Pella High School in 1943 and taught in rural Warren Grove School northeast of Pella. In 1945 Alice Buwalda married Arie Ver Dught. They live south of Monroe, Ia. where Arie farms, and he also worked at the Maytag Company, Newton, Ia. for 30 years. Alice had resumed teaching school in 1957 and was graduated from Drake University in 1968. Both are now retired. Their four daughters are: Donna, Mrs. Merlin Hamm; Beverly, Mrs. Don Thompson; Arla, Mrs. Herb Doddridge; and Patty, Mrs. Kendall Wessel. Their eight grandchildren are Jennifer and Ryan Slebos; Mike and Melinda Hamm; Jodi, Chad, and Randy Thompson; and Tamara Doddridge.

In 1947, when Ruth was a high school student, she moved with her parents and sister, Joyce, to Arizona where they lived for eight years. Ruth was graduated from Mesa High School in 1950. Ruth Buwalda married Leon Ray in Aug., 1950. They live in Minneapolis, Minn., where Leon is manager for a packaging company and Ruth is involved in Christian counselling. Their two daughters are Risa Anderson and Ronna, Mrs. Mark Vinge. Their grandchildren are Danielle and Scott Anderson, and Peter, Rachel, and Mariel Vinge.

On this family tree we see that John and Emma have 12 granddaughters and no grandsons. However, there was no lack of great-grandsons. The family home was at 709 Broadway from 1940 to 1985 except for the few years in Arizona.

Emma passed away in Mar. 1983, and John is now a resident of Hilltop Manor, but there are special memories of holidays and birthdays celebrated in their home. Each year during the busy days of Tulip Time, frineds and relatives felt welcome to use the Buwalda home as headquarters since it was just a half block from the festivities on the town square.

by Alice Ver Dught



Tulip Time 1936. Taken at 510 West First in Pella. Front: Ruth Buwalda; Back,l-r: Joyce Vriezelaar, Sara Buwalda, Alice Buwalda.

CARSON, JOHN H.

F85

John Harlan Carson (1808), soldier of White Sulphur Springs, Va. married Mary Wright (1814-1864), of Virginia and in 1832, moved to Coshocton, O. Mr. Carson was a member of the Ohio militia (1833-1842). Upon reaching Ohio with their family, they settled in Recovery, O. Their children were Elizabeth (1833), Rachel (1834), Catherine (1839), Mary Jane (1840), John (1843), and Melinda Irene (1853).

John decided in 1865 to go west. He bought a train ticket to the end of the line. This turned out to be the old "K-D" Railroad ending in Pella, Ia. He found employment as a laborer at first and later was employed by the City of Pella. He served from 1888 until 1911, six years on the city council, two terms as assistant fire chief, and was street commissioner from 1895 to 1911. On Jan. 2, 1873, he was married to Sarah Catherine Fernidia Coplea by Mayor W.M. McCully. Sarah was the daughter of one of the early American pioneers who settled at Red Bush, Marion Co., in the Porterville area. Her parents were James and Laurana Johnson Coplea. The Coplea's had come from North Carolina and Virginia.

John and Sarah had eight children: Embert William, Edgar Hugh, Jennie Laurana, John Harlan, Elvin Le Roy, Mary Ethel, Alice Almeda, and Henry George Carson. They were one of the few old American "South End" families whose boys all had strange nicknames – Kit, Cope, Cully, Havers, and Skillet. Often times, when called by their given names, people didn't recognize them as the Carson boys.

Henry George Carson (1888-1944), was born in Pella and attended the Pella schools. He became a moulder by trade and served during World War I. On Mar. 9,1920, he was united in marriage to Dora Junella Van Vark, daughter of Wm. C. Van Vark and Bertha Van Haalen Van Vark. Father played some pro-baseball, and Mother was a nurse during World War I and active in various clubs in Pella. They had three children: Carol J., Bertha Mae, and George William.

Carol J. Carson (1921), attended school in Pella. On Mar. 29, 1941, she married Liston L. Courtney, and they had one son, Michael G. Courtney, born in 1949, a registered gunsmith. Carol J. Carson married Bert Van Dusseldorp Nov. 25, 1955. She was the first woman to work in law enforcement in Pella.

Bertha Mae Carson (1923), married Harold VandeNoord, a farmer, Jan. 22, 1947. They had two children. Peggy (1949), who is employed at Vermeer Manufacturing. Donald Vande Noord (1951), is a carpenter. He married Mary Jane Wisse and they have three children: Tracey, Timothy, and Todd.

George William Carson (1926), served in the U.S. Airforce World War II, Pacific Theatre. When he returned home, he worked for Van Gorp's Machine Shop. In 1947, he began work for the city of Pella in the electric department. He has been a member of the fire department for 39 years, serving as assistant chief for 20 years. George is also very active as a ham radio operator. He married Louise Maxine Rysdam (1932-1976), May 2, 1951. They had two children. Steven (1957), married Laurie Paschal. Both are astro physicists and work for Martin-Marrietta in Colorado. Mary Patricia (1960), works for Wal-Mart in Pella.

The Carson's have worked for the City of Pella since "Uncle John" came to town because that was the end of the railroad line. One bragging right we claim is that we are one of two families in Pella that lived on their own street. Carson Street was named after "Uncle John" as a memorial to him when he passed away in 1912.

by Carol Van Dusseldorp

CHEZEM FAMILY

F86

Samuel Chezem came to Marion Co., Ia. from Indiana with Joseph Porter and his wife Mary Ann Chezem Porter. He was a farmer and the father of Mary Ann. He returned to Indiana after the family was settled.

Samuel Chezum was born on Jan. 3, 1795, in Maryland and died June 1, 1875, in Parke Co., Ind. He married on Jan. 14, 1818, in Pickaway Co, Circleville, O, to Elizabeth Airhart Gouty. She was born on Dec. 15, 1797, in Maryland, and she died May 29, 1858, in Parke Co., Ind. Their family was: Henry, Holman, William, Elizabeth, Josephine, Mary Ann (Joseph Porter's wife), Alonzo, Sylvanis and his twin, Sylvester.

by Emeline (Gezel) Vos

COLE, CYRENUS

F87

Cyrenus Cole, U.S. Congressman

Cyrenus Cole was born Jan. 13, 1863, on a farm near Pella. After completing school in Pella, he enrolled at Central University of Iowa (Central College), where he had already studied Latin during the final two years of high school. Cole completed his studies in 1887, and in great part on the basis of a special issue of the *Central Ray* published under his editorship, was immediately hired by the *Des Moines Register*. He remained with the paper for just over 10 years, seven of which were spent as an editorial writer. He was, as his friend John Nollen stated, "developing his particular talent" and making the best possible use of it."

In 1898 Cole and H.G. MacMillan, U.S. attorney for the northern district of Iowa, jointly purchased the *Cedar Rapids Republican*. In Cedar Rapids, Cole founded the *Times* and introduced an evening edition of the *Republican*. It was also during this period that he did some of his most prolific writing, most of which was published by the Cedar Rapids' Torch Press. To this day, *A History of the People of Iowa*, which appeared in 1921, is a familiar title to students of the state and its heritage.

While his newspaper ventures in Cedar Rapids were successful, Cole commented on his first few bewildering weeks of proprietorship, "I soon realized that being the owner of a newspaper was not equivalent to sleeping on a bed of roses . . . roses had thorns."

Instrumental in the election of many other Republican office holders, Cole himself was elected as a Republican to the 67th Congress to fill the vacancy in the House of Representatives left by James W. Good. He then won re-election to the 68th and four succeeding Congresses, where he served a total of 12 years, from 1921 to 1933.

A vivid and delightful account of the Iowan's initiation into the world of politics is given in *From Four Corners to Washington, A Little Story of Home, Love, War, and Politics*, 1922; and *Back to Four Corners, A Story of Politics* 1924. True to his journalistic calling, Cole wrote weekly letters to his constituency; for a number of years, these letters appeared as a regular feature in many of the home state's newspapers. Cole was considered a valuable friend of many in Washington and was given numerous assignments by the Presidents under whom he served.

Cole did not stand for re-election to Congress in 1932 since his district was split three ways in the reapportionment of 1930. He chose to remain in Washington, where he continued as an active author. It was during this period that Cole's most important work on Iowa was written, the State Historical Society's Centennial History entitled *Iowa Through the Years*. Like his earlier *History of the People of Iowa*, the Centennial History traces Iowa's history from New France's earliest plans to explore the Mississippi Valley through the period of earliest contact with the Indians, early settlements and territorial government, the process of statehood, the Civil War, and the social changes of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This capstone of the author's historical writings appeared in 1940, the year after Cole's death.

It was during this period that he wrote his recollections, *I Remember, I Remember*. He counted himself "fortunate in having writing as a hobby to pursue in my retirement. The man who has no hobby is of all men most to be pitied. One must go on doing something. An unoccupied mind is like an unoccupied house into which the bats fly through broken windows."

In the *1922 Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa*, Cole's writing on the state and its people are cited as being characterized by a "number of sketches, all more or less historical, and of decided merit and literary charm".

Many of Cole's most memorable pieces had not even been written when the history appeared. From the vantage point of having access to all of his works, however, we would have to concur with the author of the history that the salient and abiding feature of Cyrenus Cole's writings is their remarkable ability to speak from heart to heart.

Cyrenus Cole died Nov. 14, 1939, in Washington, D.C. His final homecoming was to Pella where he was buried in Graceland Cemetery.

by Phil Webber and Jay Vermeer

COPLEA FAMILY

F88

John Harlan Carson and wife Sarah Coplea Carson, daughter of James and Laurana Johnson Coplea.

James Coplea, Sr., was born in 1770 in Montgomery Co., Va., Celey Hearn Coplea was born in Wythe Co., Va. They had their own plantation and James was a chandler. James and Celey had five children: Rhoda, Gordon, Charles, Helen, and Achsah and James Coplea. Due to unsettled frontier problems, they moved to Mt. Pleasant, N.C., to give their children a better advantage in education. It was here that young James Coplea (1818-1875) met Laurana Johnson Coplea (1818-1877). Laurana was the daughter of Dr. Joseph Johnson and Catherine Bonneau Johnson of Charleston, N.C. They were married in Charlestown, N.C. in 1838. They had five children: Martha Jane, (1840-1889) married Alex M. Rosborough; Charles Liberty (1842-1897); Mary Doria Coplea (1846-1849); Sarah Catherine Fernidia Coplea Carson (1849-1925) married John Carson; America Ann married George D. Croll Dec. 24, 1871; and Virginia Caroline Coplea (1855-1856). The family began the trek west in 1840, finally stopping in Edwards, Ill. It was here James settled the family and leaving them went on west to find a permanent home. Along the way he had contacted his old friend Nicholas Earp. After being a planter, soldier, and fine woodworker, James arrived in Red Brush, Marion Co., Ia. He was among the first pioneers to come out to this area. He returned from time to time to Illinois and in 1849 went back and brought the family to Red Brush. Here he pursued his craft. He was a cooper and worked at Warren's saw mill. In the late 1860's he assisted Nicholas Earp as a law enforcement officer here in Pella.

Charles Liberty Coplea went west in 1864 with Nicholas P.E. Earp wagon train. He drove the wagon for Mrs. Earp to California. He remained with the Earp family for several years. In 1897, sad to say, he died of lead poisoning in Texas. (See Carson story.)

by Carol J. Van Dusseldorp

COPLEA FAMILY

F89

John Harlan Carson

The John Harlan Carson family. Back row L to R: Elvin, Henry Van Arkel, Edgar, Henry, Embert, James Grover, Harlan Carson. Seated L to R: Iva Brown Carson, Jennie Carson Van Arkel, Sarah Coplea Carson, John H. Carson, Ethel Carson Grover, Harlan Carson. Children: Ethel May Carson, Grace Van Arkel, Hugh Fowler Carson, Helen Grover, Erma Carson.

First row L to R: (?) Rosborough, Dave Thomas, (?) Rosborough, Daisy Croll. Second row: L to R: Martha Jane Coplea Rosborough, America Ann Coplea Croll, Sarah Catherine Coplea Carson, John Harlan Carson, George D. Croll, Alexander Rosborough. Back row: L to R: Henry Van Arkel and daughter, Jennie Carson Van Arkel, Iva Brown Carson, Elvin Carson, Edgar Carson, unknown child, Alice Fowler Carson, Embert Carson and daughter, Henry Carson, Ethel Carson Grover, Harlan Carson, James Grover and daughter Helen Grover. Photo taken about 1915 or 1916.

COWELL, GLEN AND HERMA

F90

Herma Braam, daughter of Harry and Elizabeth Braam, and Geln Cowell were united in marriage on Mar. 9, 1946, at De Kalb, Ill. Glen was born in New Sharon on May 31, 1919. His parents were Robert Cowell (1886-1954), born at Bucklin, Mo., son of John Cowell (1849-1887) from Missouri and Mary Stith Cowell from Kentucky; and

Glen and Herma Cowell taken December 1980.

Christmas 1957 Larry 7, Donald 2, Sandra 10.

Gertrude Ellen Farr (1888-1942), daughter of Wesley and Sarah Farr who lived near Peoria. Glen Cowell's sisters and brother are: Lorene Malcolm (1909-1977); Roberta Baughman (1912-1982); Leona Shinpaugh (1914); Perry (1917-1920); Glen (1919); Vivian Sullivan (1922); Virginia Beadle (1925); Barbara McClure (1928); Jeana Rysdam (1932). Their parents are buried in the Baldwin Cemetery near Peoria.

Glen and Herma Cowell moved to Pella in 1952, where Glen was employed in construction work. To this union were born three children whose childhood and school years were spent in Pella. The children are: Sandra Sue (1946) married Jerry Van Engelenhoven in 1969 and lives in Mesa, Ariz., and has one daughter, Lynette (1960); Larry (1949) married Rita Bensink in 1972, lives in Des Moines and has three children — Shawn (1976), Sallisha (1978), Sara (1979); and Donald (1954), married Faye Daniels in 1978 has three children: one deceased, Laura (1981-1981); Michael (1982); and Megan (1984).

by Herma Cowell

COX FAMILY

F91

William and Charity Cox and their sons, J. Murray and Thomas, came to Pella from Ohio in 1855. The boys attended school in Pella, but when Thomas was 13 he enlisted as a drummer in the Civil War. At the end of the war he enrolled in Central College; but he became so interested in telegraphy, which he learned at the Pella depot, that he left college and went to work in several Iowa towns and in Wyoming, Texas, and South Dakota. When his health began to fail, he returned to Pella where he bought the American House

Hotel on Franklin St. with his brother Murray and became the manager until his death in 1909.

J. Murray also enlisted in the Civil War in the 17th Iowa infantry as a musician. He served for three years in some of the hardest fought battles of the war. He was a war prisoner in the infamous Andersonville prison. He returned to Pella after the war to begin work on the Des Moines Valley Railroad.

He married Luella, the daughter of Dr. Henry and Caroline Keables who had moved to Pella from Michigan. They lived in Prairie City for two years, returned to Pella, and purchased the house on Main St., which is now the Pella Day Care Center. Here their five children were born. One had died previously. The five were: Murray A. who died at age 24, Henry, Carrie (Mrs. W.G. Vander Ploeg of Knoxville), Libby (Mrs. J.F. Closz of Muskegon, Mich. and Hattie (Mrs. Van Cleave of Pella.)

Soon after the war Murray took great pride in organizing a band that later had the distinction of being one of the finest in the state and made him one of the best known Pella citizens for 50 years.

Murray was a railroad agent for 48 years before he retired. After that he aided his brother in the management of the American House Hotel.

The Cox residence was always a center of musical activity in Pella. Both parents were devoted to music and three of their children were music teachers. Hattie and Carrie both gave private lessons in their homes.

Henry received his Bachelor of Music degree from the Des Moines Music College and did graduate study in Berlin with the violinist, Joachim. He taught at Grinnell College, Des Moines Music College, Christian College in Columbus, Mo., the University of Iowa, and for over thirty years he was a teacher and performer in high schools, colleges and with the symphony orchestra in the Omaha, Nebr. area. He and his wife, Queen Snow Cox, returned to Pella in 1939. He served as head of the orchestral department at Central College and they both continued to teach many aspiring young musicians privately.

by Alice Lammers

CRAVER, KENNETH D. AND JACKI L.

F92

Jacki, Jessemynn, Desha, and Ken Craver.

Kenneth Dean Craver and Jacki Lynn Stursma were married on May 6, 1972, after meeting two years earlier at Pella's Tulip Time.

Ken was born on Mar. 12, 1953, in Oskaloosa, Ia., and lived in New Sharon, Ia., where he attended North Mahaska Schools. He is the youngest of four children of Leland Glen Craver, born Nov. 28, 1918, and Rosa Katherine Fleming Craver, born Mar. 22, 1922. Ken's brother Dennis Linn Craver was born on Aug. 2, 1951, and died in Vietnam in 1971, while serving with the army in the Vietnam Conflict. Ken's sisters are Vivian Eileen Craver Kiene, born Dec. 18, 1947, and Carolyn Lea Craver, born Aug. 3, 1950. Vivian is married to Allen H. Kiene. They live in Broomfield, Colo., and have two sons: Jeremy Allen Kiene and Benjamin Glen Kiene. Ken's sister Carolyn lives with her parents in New Sharon, Ia. Ken is a grandson of Glen Burbank Craver, born Aug. 21, 1889, died Sept. 4, 1969, and Mary Opal Stanley Craver, born Nov. 16, 1891, died May 4, 1967, and Chanley Lee Fleming, born Aug. 15, 1898, and Esther Lucile Sheesley Fleming, born June 28, 1902, died May 24, 1980.

Jacki is the daughter of Donald Rex Stursma, born Oct. 11, 1931, and Alberdeen Gritters Stursma, born Aug. 6, 1932. She was born in Oskaloosa, Ia., on July 7, 1953, and has lived most of her life in Pella where she attended Pella Christian Schools. Jacki has two brothers: Jimmy Lee Stursma, born June 8, 1955, and Jerry Dale Stursma, born June 6, 1957. Jim is married to Susan Kay Hicks Stursma. They have a daughter, Jami Sue Stursma, and live in New Sharon, Ia. Jerry is married to Darlene Mitsu Wallace Stursma. They have two children: Justin Dale Stursma and Jennifer Nicole Stursma. They live near Otley, Ia. Jacki is the granddaughter of William C. Stursma, born Apr. 2, 1907, died Dec. 8, 1985, and Leona Rus Stursma, born Aug. 15, 1910, died Sept. 10, 1981; and Rev. Martin John Gritters, born Apr. 2, 1906, and Jeanette Vande Kerk Gritters, born June 18, 1905.

After marrying in 1972, Ken and Jacki lived a short time in West Des Moines, Ia., where Ken attended United Electronics Institute and Jacki worked at Monarch Life Insurance Company. They now live in Pella where their two daughters have been born: Desha-Noel Craver, born Oct. 6, 1972, and Jessemynn Lia Craver, born Sept. 24, 1977. Both girls attend Pella Christian Grade School. Desha spends much of her time playing softball or basketball and practicing flute for band. Jessemynn enjoys reading and playing piano.

Ken is employed at Vermeer Mfg. and enjoys reading and model railroading. Jacki is employed at Pella Christian Grade School as a cook for the school's hot lunch program. Her other activities include reading, playing piano, and sewing Dutch costumes for Tulip Time. As a family the Cravers enjoy summer camping and hiking trips to Colorado. The Cravers are members of Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella where Desha and Jessemynn were baptized as infants by their great-grandfather, Rev. Martin Gritters. Ken, Jacki, Desha, and Jessemynn currently live at 1011 W. 2nd St. in Pella.

by Jacki Craver

DAHM, BERT

F93

Marie and Bert Dahm.

Bert was the second son of Jakob Dam and Stientje Groenenboom. He was born in Nieuw Beijerland, The Netherlands, in 1892 and was trained to be a carpenter. In 1910 his father persuaded him to come to America. As a lad of 17 he came to Pella. Little did he realize that his father planned to come soon and needed a base to come to with his large family. Bert worked as a farm hand for a few years and also as a carpenter.

Bert married Marie Van Genderen in Feb. 1917. For one year they farmed north of Pella and then settled in the Peoria area as farmers. In 1935 they moved to the "home place" where his father had lived earlier. In 1960 they built a new home in Pella and moved there upon its completion. Bert then commuted to the farm every day as long as his health permitted. They had three children: Jacob B., Christine (Mrs. Vernon Van Ee), and Stella (Mrs. Harold Pothoven). Bert died in Apr. 1970 and Marie, his wife, in Aug. 1977.

by J.B. Dahm

DAHM, BRANDON ISSAC

F94

Tracing the 140-year-old Pathway from Scholte's Ships

On Apr. 11, 1847, two-year-old Truitje Nieuwendorp, probably clinging to her mother, boarded the ship Nagasaki in Rotterdam, embarking on the first leg of the long journey to Pella, Ia. As one of the original colonists in Dominie Scholte's band, she set the stage for the five generations who followed her.

Truitje, who would be called Gertrude in America, was born in 1845, the sixth child of Hendrik and Ida Bukkely Nieuwendorp. Her father, Hendrik, died just a few years after

Brandon Issac Dahm, age 3½ at Christmas, 1986.

getting his family established on a farm outside of Pella, and was buried on a small knoll on that farm. Her mother, Ida died in 1880. Gertrude married Jan (John) Vos, on Mar. 21, 1872, who had immigrated to this country in 1871 with his brother Hendrikus. John was born in Genderen on July 3, 1835, the son of Gijsbert (May 29, 1799-Aug. 7, 1868) and Jenneke Maria Boll Vos (born Apr. 7, 1811). Gijsbert was a baker in Genderen. Genderen was the village in which Scholte was the minister and whose church seceded from the State Church, and this connection undoubtedly influenced John and Hendrikus' decision to settle in Pella.

John and Gertrude settled in the Leighton area, in Black Oak Township. To this union, 12 children were born. Besides farming, the family also operated a molasses mill. John died in 1903. Gertrude was tragically killed in 1904, when a falling tree crushed her during a storm.

Bertha Vos, the ninth child of Gertrude and John Vos, was born on April 21, 1885, in Black Oak Township, Mahaska County. On Feb. 15, 1911, she married Lambert Van Wyk. Lambert Van Wyk, born Oct. 19, 1882, in the Haarlemmermeer polder, was the sixth child of Willem (May 4, 1849-May 1, 1917) and Trijntje (Dec. 28, 1853-Dec. 28, 1893) Van Den Heuvel Van Wijk. Both Willem Van Wijk and Trijntje Van Den Heuvel had immigrated to the Haarlemmermeer polder as children with their parents, as this was a huge lake which had been diked off and drained, and now offered rich agricultural land that had never before been tilled. Both Willem and Trijntje had been born in Genderen, and again, it was probably this association with Scholte that prompted them to immigrate to the Pella area rather than other parts of America. They settled near Galesburg, Jasper Co. with their eleven children in June of 1892.

Lambert and Bertha bought a farm southeast of Peoria and lived there all of their married lives. Lambert died of cancer on Dec. 21, 1954, and Bertha died Oct. 13, 1976. They had seven children, the third being John Henry Van Wyk, born Aug. 24, 1915. On Sept. 19, 1940, he married Grace Veenstra, born Dec. 12, 1916, the second child of John (Jan) Lambert and Carrie Vander Molen Veenstra. John L. Veenstra was born in Munnekezijl, Friesland, and immigrated by himself to Pella in 1908. Carrie was born in Otley, Ia., on Sept. 24, 1887. Her parents immigrated to America from the province of Gronigen in The Netherlands. John and Grace bought a farm just across the road from John's childhood home and have lived there ever since.

John and Grace had one daughter, Carolyn Betty, who was born on Mar. 23, 1942, in Oskaloosa. After one year of college at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Ia. and one year of teaching at the Prairie City Christian Grade School, she married Carrol Ray Bandstra, who was born south of Searsboro on Nov. 23, 1941, the third of seven children born to Dick and Gerdena Van Ryswyk Bandstra. Dick was born on Apr. 3, 1915, near Albia while Gerdena was born near Prairie City on Dec. 16, 1917. Carrol Bandstra's ancestors came to Pella from Warfstermolen, Friesland, in 1899. Carrol and Carolyn settled on a farm northwest of New Sharon, where they raised two children, Calvin Duane, born on June 24, 1963 in Oskaloosa, IA, and now residing in West Union, Ia. as a state bank examiner, and Caryn Galene, born on Dec. 30, 1964, in Oskaloosa.

Caryn Bandstra married Chad Mitchell Dahm at Lower Grove church in 1982. Chad, the son of John (born May 18, 1939) and Sandi (born Dec. 21, 1942) McMurray Dahm, was born on July 22, 1965, in Newton, Ia. The Dahms had been in the Pella area since 1911, when Dad's grandpa emigrated with his parents and 11 brothers and sisters from Nieuw Beijerland, Holland.

Caryn and Chad's son, Brandon Issac Dahm, was born on Febr. 21, 1983, in Grinnell. Thus the 140-year-old genealogical path, which was started in Pella by Truitje Nieuwendorp and which encompassed several area towns, now ends again at Pella with this latest generation, as Chad is a senior at Central College and Caryn is a loan clerk at the Pella National Bank.

by Caryn Dahm

DAHM, J. B.

F95

J.B. Dahm was born in the Peoria area in the year 1918, the son of Bert Dahm and Marie Van Genderen Dahm. In Mar. 1919, he had the unique experience of being one of very few people to be baptized in a horse barn. The occasion was such because the Peoria church building was destroyed by fire shortly before, and temporary services were held in the horse barn. Another rarity was that he did not know a word of English when he started country school in Garden Hall near New Sharon. His early years were spent on the farm and a vivid impression of the depression of the 1930's remains in his memory.

In 1946, when soil conservation practices were being introduced and the farm-to-market road system was established, he bought his first bulldozer. The business grew so that in 1949 a full road construction crew was organized. For many years they built roads and artificial lakes and other related work all

Arvena and J.B. Dahm

over Iowa, mainly in the southern part. Among other related activities they worked rock quarries, operated a coal mine, and were involved in mine reclamation projects.

J.B. was an early booster and promoter of the Pella Community Hospital and Nursing Home. With much satisfaction he served on the original steering committee and board of trustees. When urged to serve on the Pella Communtity School board, he accepted a new challenge and served for 15 years. By establishing sound policy and leaving detail to the administration, J.B. stated "we were able to build our system into the very best in Iowa." Those 15 years of service were very rewarding because of the cooperative effort of the whole community.

In 1949 J.B. was married to Arvena Huyser, daughter of M.W. and Antoinette Verros Huyser. They have three children: Ann, Bryce, and Mary.

Ann graduated from Wichita State University and now lives in Cedar Rapids. Her husband, Bob Buckheister, is an electrical engineer with Collins Rockwell. Ann's hobbies are playing the harp at various functions and being a part of vocal choruses. They have two children, Tom and Susan.

Bryce graduated from the University of Northern Iowa and founded Iowa Fuel and Minerals. This company is involved in coal mining and land reclamation. He lives in Pella with his wife, Marla, and son Jasen.

Mary's degree in home furnishings came from Colorado State University. Upon graduation she found employment with Levitz Furniture Company, in Denver and Dallas and currently in Houston, as a merchandise manager for the same company. She is an accomplished harpist and has played on many occasions at top supper clubs in Dallas and Houston.

J. B. and Arvena are members of the First Reformed Church where they were both active in their younger years. They love to travel. Their particular interest is observing and studying various cultures and ways of life in foreign countries. This proves to be

enriching and broadens their view of the universal aspect of the human race.

by J. B. Dahm

DAHM, JACOB AND EFFIE (STUURSMA)

F96

Front, l-r: Effie and Jacob Dahm. 50th Wedding anniversary.

Jacob Dahm was born in The Netherlands on Dec. 8, 1896, to Jacob Dam and Stientje Groenboom Dam. His father operated a bakery which was attached to their home in Nieuwe Biejerland. In 1899 a fire destroyed the bakery and their home. The fire was caused by a young boy making a candleholder out of a sugar beet and setting it in the window.

The family consisted of twelve living children. As it became impossible to set up the children in the bakery business, thought was given to emigrating to America. Two older brothers, Bert and John, were sent ahead to spy out the land. As reports were favorable, the ten remaining children emigrated to the United states with their parents on Apr. 19, 1911.

Jacob was a lad of 14 when they crossed the ocean by boat. They settled near Leighton in May of 1911, and the children began attending Black Oak Center school to learn English. In 1912 the family moved to a rented farm near Eddyville. All transportation was by foot, bobsled or buggy.

In 1915 they decided to move again, this time to a farm of 440 acres near Peoria with a large house. Adequate bedrooms were needed for the parents and twelve children. Sadness struck when the mother died of pneumonia in July of 1926 at the age of 59.

In 1924 Jacob and his brother Henry purchased the Peoria store from John J. Stuursma. As it turned out, Jacob married one of the clerks in the store, namely Mr. Stuursma's daughter Effie, in 1925. Henry and Jacob managed the business together for 20 years. Jacob continued in the store alone until 1956 at which time he sold part interest to his son-in-law, Richard Van Kooten.

Effie Stuursma was born Apr. 23, 1901, the second of five children born to John J. and Dirkje Postma Stuursma. Like her husband, she too was born in The Netherlands and emigrated to the United States at the tender age of four. One of the sad things the family faced almost immediately was the death of her older brother, John, who died of diphtheria at the age of eight.

Her father, J.J., purchased the Peoria Store in 1914 and continued in business there until 1924. This includes the war years of 1918 when the Dutch people were looked upon with extreme disfavor and with great suspicion, having been accused of being pro-German. This finally culminated in the burning of the Peoria church and school. J.J. slept many nights with a loaded shotgun under the bed during these tense times because of personal threats which were made.

Jacob and Effie lost their first-born children, a set of twins, on Apr. 9, 1929. Later, three more children arrived — Dorothy Dahm Van Kooten whose husband now operates the Peoria Store; James Dahm, a Pella dentist; and Estella Dahm Vis who lives in Edgerton, Minn.

The store provided many opportunities to visit with customers and friends. Many were the discussions over theology, politics, etc. Those were the days when eggs and cream were traded for groceries. Deliveries were made with a truck.

Jacob was an avid reader. His reading interests provided him with many hours of enjoyment especially in the areas of history and theology. His defense of Calvinism was a keen one. The Pella librarian found a ready place for books the library wished to discard.

In 1956 the family moved to a residence in Pella. However, retirement did not come easy for Jake. It was difficult for him to get up in the morning without worthwhile work. However, Central Park provided an outlet with its "coffee kletz."

Jacob died on Nov. 27, 1979, at the age of 83 years of a severe stroke. Effie continues her residence in Pella.

Jacob and Effie had several opportunities to return to the home of their birthplaces in The Netherlands. Jacob declined any such suggestions for a return visit. He would then say, "I left Holland when I was fourteen. I know what it is like. Why would I go back?"

by James P. Dahm

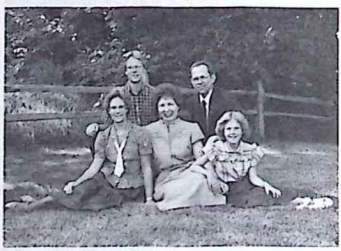
DAHM, JAKOB

(See F143)

DAHM, JAMES P. AND MARLENE J. (HOLLEMAN)

F97

James Dahm was born Sept. 29, 1935 in Peoria, Ia. to Jacob and Effie Stuursma Dahm, the second of three living children. His boyhood years were spent in the Peoria area where life was at its best.



Front, l-r: Jane, Jeff, Marlene, Jim and Sara. James Dahm Family 1984.

Upon graduating from Central College in 1957 he studied physical therapy at the University of Iowa where he received his certification in 1958.

Jim was married on July 29, 1958, to Marlene J. Holleman of Springfield, S.Dak. whom he had met at Central College. Marlene was born Feb. 6, 1937, the second of three children born to Henry and Albina Pavlis Holleman. Marlene was raised in the beautiful, somewhat Dutch town of Springfield, S. Dak. on the banks of the Missouri River. Marlene attended Southern State Teachers College in Springfield for one year and then transferred to Central College. She received a two-year teaching certificate from Central College in 1957, which was the last year the two-year teaching certificate was granted.

The couple lived in West Liberty, Ia. for one year where Marlene taught in the elementary schools. Jim began his work as a staff physical therapist at the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City working with handicapped children and adults.

In 1959 the Dahms took residence in Des Moines where Jim was the head of the physical therapy department at the Iowa Lutheran Hospital while his wife continued teaching at the elementary school in Bondurant.

A change of interests moved the couple to Iowa City in 1962 when Jim entered the College of Dentistry, University of Iowa, for four years of study.

The year of graduation was 1966, during the Vietnam War. The family moved to Illinois where an assignment in the Public Health Service placed Dr. Dahm as a Dental Officer for two years in the Federal Penitentiary, Marion, Ill., a maximum security prison built to replace Alcatraz. These prison experiences were wide and varied.

The attractiveness of Pella lured the family "back home" when in 1968 Dr. Dahm purchased the dental practice of Dr. Richard Roush who had returned to school for additional studies. The practice has continued for nineteen years to this time.

Dr. Dahm has taken an active part in the Luke Society, a society of physicians and dentists who are active in medical missions. In 1981 and 1985 he participated in a short-term mission project to Honduras as part of a team conducting clinics in outlying, remote villages. The work was done in cooperation with local evangelical churches.

As a native of Peoria, Ia. Jim became interested in the history of his birthplace. Peoria was a community which suffered through some severe intercultural conflicts during the World War I years of 1917-1918. In 1984 Jim collaborated with his sister Dorothy in publishing a book on its history, *Peoria, Iowa: a Story of Two Cultures, 1853-1984* . The book was well received.

To this couple were born three children: Jeffrey Paul, born Nov. 17, 1964, is a student at Dordt College and plans to follow his father in the dental profession; Jane Anne, born Mar. 27, 1967, is also a student at Dordt College; and Sara Celeste who was born June 12, 1973.

The Dahms reside at 607 Columbus St. in Pella.

by James P. and Marlene J. Dahm

DE BOER, WILLIAM
F98

Bill, Dorothy, and Baby Jannylee De Boer

Left to Right: Judd, Janylee, Joline, Dorothy, Bill, and Justin

Douwe or David De Boer was born to Anna (Van Wieren) and rendit De Boer on a farm near Roseland, Ill. on Mar. 1, 1862. Both Anna (July 16, 1838-Nov. 23, 1930) and Rendit (Jan. 15, 1836-Nov. 9, 1920) were born in Friesland, The Netherlands, and died in Pella, Neb. David's siblings were: Rendit of Denver; Peter of Bonners Ferry, Ida.; John of Prairie View, Kan.; Garret, Jake, and Jim of Lynden, Wash.; Kathryn (Kate Van Diest) of Pella, Neb.; and Sam of Firth, Neb. On Mar. 18, 1885, David married Janna (Jane) Te Selle who was born near Oostburg, Wis. on Jan. 31, 1866. She was the daughter of John Henry (Jan. 22, 1838-Mar. 13, 1921) and Hannah Berendina Onihk) Te Selle (Dec. 18, 1841-Mar. 17, 1929) who moved to Nebraska in a covered wagon and lived in a sod house near Holland while their house was being built. John Henry Te Selle was born in Winterswijk, Gelderland. Jane's siblings were: Dillie (Tenhulzer – Wubbels), Albert, Garret, Henry, Rev. John, Zena (Dick Leisveldt), and Ben. David and Jane's children were: Rendit (Sara Young) 1886-1944, John (Jane Tenhulzen) 1888-1941, Albert (Jenny Lefferdink) 1889-1949, Hannah (John Tenhulzen) 1891-1974, Anna (George Fischer) 1893, Della (Ray Judah) 1895, James (Vesta Bell) 1896-1977, Henry (Lillian Hickman) 1898, Garrett (Marie Offer) 1900, Geziena 1902-1976, William (Dorothy Muyskens) Aug. 24, 1904, Bertha (Dick Gerdes) 1906, and Kathryn (Irvin Slattery) 1909-1968. In addition to bringing thirteen of her own into the world, Jane served as midwife for a number of others. David De Boer was energetic; even at the age of seventy he could beat most of his sons in foot races. Favorite family amusements were nightly work-up baseball games with neighbors on the prairie in the summer and singing around the piano. Religion was a very important aspect of family life. David's frequent admonition to this children was, "Don't forget God!" The family filled an entire church pew each Sunday, and meals were marked by prayer, Bible reading, and hymn singing. David farmed a section and a half and built a comfortable house in 1910 which had indoor plumbing and carbide gas lighting, luxuries for that era and place. In 1916 he purchased two Model T Fords to transport the family. However, after driving over a hedgerow, Jane preferred the horses and buggy for herself. Eventually the home farm and Firth State Bank of which David was president were lost in the Depression. David was struck and killed by a car on Sept. 13, 1939. Jane died on Dec. 5, 1946.

Along with many relatives, Bill attended District Seventeen Country School. He graduated from Firth High School where he played basketball. In 1923, after winning 29 out of 30 games, they lost the state tournament to the School for the Deaf. That fall Bill entered Central College in Pella, Ia., where he prepared to become a history teacher and took part in track events. He met Dorothy Muyskens, daughter of Peter and Lydia (Hoffs) Muyskens, and they participated in campus literary societies and vocal music groups. After graduation in 1927, Bill taught an Anneville Institute in Kentucky. Dorothy and Bill were married on June 19, 1929, after she had completed one year of teaching English in New Hartford, Ia. A year later they moved to Albert Lea, Minn., where Bill taught history for fourteen years.

First two girls, then two boys were born: Janylee (Rev. John Thornton) Sept. 16, 1930; Joline (John Arlo De Jong) May 12, 1933; Judd (Diane Brown) Feb. 24, 1939; and Justin (Carol Strode) Oct. 18, 1946. By the time Justin was born Bill had given up teaching to become a hardware merchant, first in picturesque Rushford, Minn., then in Waseca. After high school graduation in 1951, Joline followed her older sister to their parents' alma mater, which awarded her a scholarship as valedictorian of her class. There she majored in art and acquired a teaching certificate. As her sophomore year drew to a close she became acquainted with student body president John De Jong during the spring a cappella choir tour. A day off in Chicago provided the opportunity for a first date which included a matinee concert of the Chicago Symphony. They were married following her graduation June 18, 1955. In the fall of 1957, Bill and Dot moved to Portland, Ore. Bill became a salesman for his brother-in-law Bill's insulation and roofing firm while Dorothy s ubstitute-taught kindergarten for fifteen years. Janylee taught English, married, and settled in San Francisco and later near Salem, Ore. Her son Scott is studying film at the University of Southern California while his sister Julie attends high school near the family home, Taucross Farm, an Episcopal retreat center, (For Joline's story see Dorothy Muyskens, William C. De Jong, and Marie Blom.) Judd, who graduated from Willamette U., manages Brown Enter-

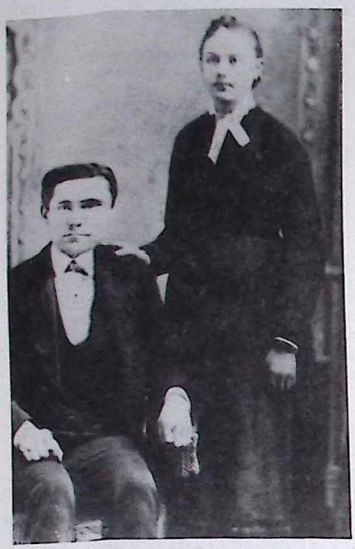
Front, l-r: Jane, Geziena, Kathryn, Hannah, William, Bertha, and David De Boer; Back, l-r: Garrett, Jim, Anna, Albert, John, Della, Rendit, and Henry.

prises in Boise. He and Diane have three children: Kirsten and Michael who are in college and Jennifer who is in high school. Justin, who graduated from Lewis and Clark College, is a stockbroker. His wife Carol teaches elementary school. Their children, Lisa and Brent, are in junior high and grade school, respectively. Dot and Bill moved to Lake Oswego in 1980 to be near Justin's family after Bill retired. It was there that Dorothy died of a stroke on Mar. 25, 1985.

by Joline De Jong

DE BRUIN, JOOST AND WILLEMPJE (GOSSELINK)

F99



Joost and Willempje (Gosselink) De Bruin wedding picture taken February 14, 1878.

Joost De Bruin was born Jan. 13, 1855, in The Netherlands to Jacob Martin de Bruin and Wilhelmina Hulstein. He was one of six children: Aaltje, Jan, Maartje, Hendrica, Cornelius, and Joost. The family immigrated to America in 1857.

Willempje Gosselink was born Feb. 19, 1859, to Gerrit Jan Gosselink and Dirkje Kolenbrander. Her father, Gerrit Jan, left The Netherlands to come to America with his parents, Gerhardus Hendrikus Gosselink and Elizabeth Hogenkamp Gosselink and their seven children on the ship "Nagasaki" on April 11, 1847. Her mother, Dirkje, came to America with her parents and their five children in 1856. Willempje was one of six children: Elizabeth, Willempje, Grada, Gerhardus, Jane, and John.

Joost and Willempje were married Feb. 14, 1878, at the Third Reformed Church in Pella. Ten children were born to this marriage: Wilhelmina (Minnie), Gerrit John, Dirkje (Dora), Adriana (Jennie), Jacob Martin, Maartje (Martha), Elizabeth (Lizzie), Hendreaka (Hattie), Gradus Henry (Harry), and Cornelius Jan (Cornie).

They bought a small farm about six miles east of Pella and also rented a large tract of land on the South Skunk River bottom near the Warren Bridge. They lived here for fourteen years. Machinery was very primitive, so they put in long hours to get crops harvested and planted. They had a few dairy cows. They raised a lot of purebred Black Angus cattle. Once a year Joost would ship a carload of fat cattle to Chicago. He would go on the train and ride in the caboose. He also raised purebred Poland China hogs, purebred horses, and purebred Barred Rock chickens, which were rather unusual at that time. He like to try new things and was always trying to improve on the seed corn, oats, clover, and potatoes.

In the winter of 1892, they bought a 280 acre farm, four miles northeast of Leighton, for which they paid $30.00 an acre. This was on the edge of a large tract of South Skunk River bottom land about two miles southwest of the Crookham Bridge. There were two sets of buildings a short distance apart. One house was usually occupied by a hired man. Since a great deal of this farm was tillable, it took a lot of hard work to plant and care for the crops, and during the summer months, they usually had two hired men.

It took a lot of food to feed such a large family. Much of it was raised on the farm. Forty or fifty bushels of potatoes were stored in the large cellar every winter. Much fruit was canned in one-half gallon fruit jars, as a quart was not enough for one meal. They had a large garden and also raised chickens and hogs. Laundry was done with a large tub and a washboard, later a hand machine.

Spring wagons replaced farm wagons for going to town. These were smaller and lighter than the regular wagons and had a large spring under the low box on each end, and two low backed seats. The back seat was removable. One was really exposed to the weather and they used umbrellas when it was rainy. They needed heavy warm clothing when it was cold.

In 1904 Joost became ill with internal hemorrhaging. The doctors did not know what was wrong, and he died in a little more than a week, at the age of 49, on Nov. 24, 1904. This was a terrible shock to the family. Willempje had a strong faith in God and did very well to be left alone with ten children, the youngest only two years old. The family missed their father terribly, but time heals. Willempje's greatest concern was the Christian training of her children, and she was very strict about Sunday School and catechism lessons, Bible reading, and prayer.

Peddlers, agents, and beggars were never turned away by Willempje. Anyone could get a night's lodging and meals free, so there were usually more than a dozen people around the table. Bridge and road builders often stayed a week.

In 1905 rural mail delivery was started. The next year rural telephone lines were put up. A couple of years later the mail carrier bought a car, the only one in the neighborhood. The farmers still used top buggies and carriages. A few had surreys with a fringe on top. With a team of high-stepping horses these looked quite spiffy.

Willempje moved to Pella in 1923, leaving the farm for her sons. She still lived a busy, useful life for many years. On Aug. 6, 1949, she died at the age of ninety years and six months.

by Lois Klyn

DE GEUS, FRANCIS AND AGNES

F100

Francis De Geus was born the second child and first son to William De Geus and Regina (Huyser) on Oct. 9, 1897. His boyhood years were spent on farms in the Peoria and Taintor areas. He attended Fleming and Warren Schools in Mahaska Co. He also helped his father and brothers perform the many tasks that a farm of that era required.

He was baptized in the First Reformed Church of Pella where he also made profession of his faith and later served as a deacon and elder. He was manager of Graceland Cemetery, which is owned by the church, for many years.

Horse and buggy was the popular mode of transportation during this era, although cars were appearing on the scene. He courted Agnes Walraven, who became his bride on Feb. 27, 1924, using horse and buggy and also the family Essex.

Agnes was born Sept. 27, 1898, the eldest child of Gerrit Walraven and Alida (Van Zante). Her childhood was spent on the Walraven family farm northwest of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood. She attended and graduated from Battle Ridge School. She was baptized at the Bethel Church north of Pella, and later made profession of her faith there. Some years later she transferred her membership to the First Reformed Church of Pella.

After completing her education she worked at home and also helped her grandmother Mrs. Dieles (Echje) Van Zante.

Following their marriage, Francis and Agnes moved to a farm four miles west of Pella in Summit Twp., Marion Co., which Father William De Geus had purchased from Ana Witzenburg. The spring rains had made the dirt road nearly impassable for the Model T they now owned.

Two daughters were born to this couple. Gladys was born on Jan. 15, 1929, at the Mercy Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia. She attended Silver Grove School, located three-fourths of a mile south of her home, and graduated from Pella High School in 1947. After graduation Gladys worked for the Pella Rural Electric Cooperative until her marriage to Wilbur I. Newendorp, son of Walter and Marie (Groenendyk) of Leighton, Ia., on Apr. 29, 1954. They are the parents of four children: Vincent W., Vicki Gail, Vaughn W., and Valerie Gay.

Bernice was born Oct. 26, 1935, at their home on the farm. She also attended Silver Grove School and graduated from Pella High School in 1953. After graduation Bernice followed in her sister's footsteps and worked for the Pella Rural Electric Cooperative. On Feb. 24, 1956, Bernice married Jacob J. Van Gorp, son of John and Dena (Kloosterman). Their children are: Laura Beth, Julie Kay, and Mark Jay.

Francis and Agnes were actively engaged in farming for 38 years before building and

De Geus Family – 1965. Front, l-r: Agnes and Francis; Back, l-r: Gladys and Bernice.

moving to their present home at 914 Union St., Pella.

One of the big events of the year was the arrival of the annual threshing crew. Women and children were kept busy — as well as the men. The men and boys worked hard with harvesting the oats despite the summer heat. Women and girls were kept busy preparing large meals and coffee times without the modern conveniences of the 1980's.

In the winter time the men would go around to each home in the neighborhood, butchering beef and pork for their annual supply of meat. The men would cut up the meat and the women would fry the sausage and other pork, render the lard, and can the beef. Some of the meat would be smoked in their own smokehouses.

These 38 years spent in farming were the setting for many extreme changes. Cars replaced the horse and buggy; tractors and modern machinery took the place of the horse and horse-drawn farm implements. The depression years of 1929 and the early 1930's gave way to the more prosperous years during and following World War II.

Francis was never too busy to get involved in community affairs. He served on the Silver Grove School board and the Otley Cooperative Exchange board for many years. Agnes is involved with Ladies Aid and is a volunteer for the Pella Community Hospital. Following their retirement, they keep busy with their church activities, Tulip Time, gardening, canning, and helping their family and friends.

by Gladys Newendorp and Bernice Van Gorp

DE GEUS, WILLIAM AND REGINA

F101

Wedding picture of William and Regina De Geus – Mar. 22, 1894.

William De Geus was born Sept. 8, 1868, son of Cornelius and Neeltje Van Vliet. His mother sailed to America on the ship *Pieter Floris,* which left Amsterdam in Apr., 1847; and his father arrived from Maasdam, South Holland in 1855. William was one of 13 children. They lived on a farm northeast of Pella for many years. He received his education in a rural school. He was trustee of Richland Twp., Mahaska Co., around 1915-1916.

Regina Huyser was born in Rysoordt, South Holland, June 21, 1869, the daughter of Frans and Adriana (De Haan). She was one of nine children. She received her education in The Netherlands. She later related to her grandchildren how she had skated on the canals. She came to the U.S. in 1884. She learned the English language from her sister who attended school here, and Regina said this is why she never had a Dutch accent. She and her family farmed in the Sully and Pella areas.

Regina and William were married Mar. 22, 1894, at the Huyser home. They farmed in the Sully, Taintor, and Peoria areas until purchasing their farm northeast of Pella. They built a new barn on this farm in 1902. It was the first hip-roof barn built in the area and was patterned after the Blommers Mill. In 1934 they retired and moved to 505 Broadway in Pella. Their children are: Nellie, Francis, Cornelius W., Andrew, Jozena, Marion, and Jeanetta. All the children received their education at the Fleming and Warren Schools in Mahaska Co. The sons in the family were all engaged in farming.

Nellie was born June 23, 1896. She married John J. Den Adel, son of Walter and Jennie (Vos), on Feb. 26, 1925. They farmed northeast of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood until 1963, when they retired and moved into their new home in Pella. In 1983 they moved to Hilltop Manor. Raymond and Verlan are their sons. Nellie died May 30, 1984, and John on Dec. 9, 1983.

Francis was born Oct. 9, 1897. He married Agnes Walraven, daughter of Gerrit and Alida (Van Zante) on Feb. 27, 1924. They farmed west of Pella for 35 years and then moved to their present home at 914 Union, Pella. They have two daughters, Gladys Newendorp and Bernice Van Gorp.

Cornelius was born Aug. 15, 1899. In 1934 he moved to a farm west of Otley. On May 2, 1935, he married Grace Pannekoek, daughter of Nick and Mary Van Zante. They lived on this farm until 1961, when they moved to 825 Franklin St., Pella. Their children are Willis, Marlena Wichhart, Regina Gritters, and Joyce Vander Leest.

Andrew was born Aug. 23, 1901. On Feb. 12, 1930, he was married to Anna Van Zante, daughter of Gysbert and Jane (Van Houweling) in a double ceremony with his sister Jozena. They farmed just south of his parents' home northeast of Pella in Mahaska Co. In 1967 they retired to their new home at 810 Liberty, Pella. Two daughters were born to them, Ellen and Dorothy Van Sant. Ellen passed away Jan. 24, 1977, and Andrew on Apr. 16, 1986.

Jozena was born on Dec. 6, 1904. On Feb. 12, 1930 she married Garret Dieleman, son of William and Maria (Ippel) in a double ceremony at the De Geus family home. They farmed in the Galesburg, Oskaloosa, Pella, and Otley areas before moving to Pella in 1957. William, Reuvena Bruxvoort, Marvin, Robert, and Delores Meadows are their children. Jozena moved to Hilltop Manor in 1986. Garret passed away on Apr. 23, 1969.

Marion was born Feb. 26, 1909. He married Nellie Van Haaften, daughter of Dick A. and Gertie Walraven on June 14, 1934. They lived on the De Geus farm northeast of Pella until 1971, when they moved to 304 Main St., Pella. Marion also had a trucking business. Their

daughters are Marilyn, Janice Jones, and Arlene Vander Loon.

Jeanetta was born Apr. 28, 1914, on the De Geus family farm where she lived with her parents until 1934, when they moved to Pella. She enjoyed working for her church and helping others whenever possible. Her hobbies included playing the piano, reading, and crocheting. She died Dec. 21, 1985.

William and Regina faithfully attended the First Reformed Church of Pella. After their retirement William enjoyed gardening and Reginia kept busy with knitting. They often spoke the Dutch language but would change to English to communicate with their grandchildren.

by Gladys Newendorp and Bernice Van Gorp

DE GEUS, WILLIS AND LORNA

F102

Willis Nicholas De Geus, son of Cornelius and Grace (Pannekoek) De Geus was born Apr. 5, 1936. He was named William Nicholas after his grandfathers, William De Geus and Nicholas Pannekoek, but has always been called Willis. He lives on the same farm where he grew up, which is located three miles west of Otley and was purchased by his father in 1936. Willis attended country schools near Otley through the eighth grade. He graduated from Pella Public High School in 1954. He served in the Army Reserve from 1958 to 1964. Farming has been his occupation since 1954 and he raises corn, soybeans, oats, hay, hogs, and cattle. Entering corn and soybean yield contests has been rewarding since he has been a district champion twice with corn yields of 199.43 and 203.71 bushels per acre in 1982 and 1984. His hobbies are fishing and traveling. He married Lorna Mae Ver Ploeg on June 9, 1961.

Lorna is the daughter of Gradus and Fannetta (Van Wyk) Ver Ploeg. She was born Oct. 8, 1939, on the farm four miles south of Pella where she lived with her parents, one brother, and four sisters until 1954 when the family moved to 1212 Peace St., Pella. The farm where they lived was purchased by her great-grandfather Engel Ver Ploegh who bought it with gold he earned in California during the gold rush of 1848. Lorna attended open through eight at North Porterville country school and graduated from Pella Public High School in 1957. Mathematics was her favorite subject in school. After high school, she worked at the office of the Pella Coop. Electric Assn. for five years. She sings in a triple trio from the Otley Reformed Church which has been singing together since 1972. Her hobbies are crafts and needlework.

Willis and Lorna have three boys: David, Steven, and Brent; and one daughter, Susan. All of them attended grades one through four at Otley and grade five at Lincoln School in Pella, grades six through eight at Pella Middle School, except David, who attended Otley School through fifth grade. All of them participated in the school bands and some school sports. David, Steven, and Brent belonged to County Line 4-H Club and showed hogs at the Marion County Fair.

David William, born Oct. 9, 1963, graduated from Pella Community High School in 1982. He is a 1986 graduate of Central College, Pella, and majored in biology. David maintains an interest in wildlife and completed a project on screech owls for which he was awarded the distinction of a senior honors scholar. He is a graduate student at Iowa State University at Ames in the department of animal ecology.

Steven Neal, born Oct. 29, 1965, graduated from Pella Community High School in 1984. He farms with his father and is interested in mechanics. Susan Dawn, born June 7, 1970, is a student at Pella High School at the present time. Susan sings in two choruses and plays a flute in band. She is a member of the Summit Strivers 4-H Club and has exhibited her sewing projects at the Iowa State Fair. Brent William, born Jan. 29, 1974, is a student at Pella Middle School. His interests are Origami, woodworking, and sports, and he plays a trombone in band.

The family enjoys traveling in the U.S. and fishing in Canada for summer vacations.

by Lorna De Geus

Front, l-r: Steve, Susan, and Brent; Back, l-r: Lorna and Willis DeGeus, and David – July 1985.

DE HAAN FAMILY

F103

Raymond J. and Jeanetta W. (Van Gorp) De Haan

Raymond J. and Jeanetta W. (Van Gorp) De Haan

Jacob DeHaan, Raymonds great-grandfather, was born on Jan. 4, 1803, in Hendrik Ido Ambacht, Netherlands. Not being allowed his religious freedom he decided to move to America with his four children: Pieternella, Cornelia, Teunis, and Dingeman. The eldest son Mathew remained in Holland. Jacob's wife had died several years prior to the emigration and he never remarried.

After a long voyage they arrived in Pella on June 24, 1849. Jacob purchased a large tract of land on the south edge of Pella. The north edge of the purchase is now University St. and the east edge is now East Third St. The land lies in sections 10 and 15. He and his sons built a substantial two-story brick home on the homestead on University St. which stood until 1930. This home had the first wallpaper in Pella.

Remaining on the original homestead is a limestone rock smokehouse built by Jacob in 1850 to preserve meat butchered on the farm. Several of the wooden frame walking stirring plows and half-row cultivating plows are preserved on the farm, two of which are in the antiques barn in the Pella Historical Village.

Realizing the need for a children's playground when he developed the South Pella addition, Jacob withheld an entire city block and dedicated it as a park to the city of Pella. This land was located between Main and Broadway and between Oskaloosa and Huber and is now called South Park. He also placed the two alleys of each block in his South Pella addition in parallel positions east and west in order to better utilize the interior areas of each block.

Jacob's son Dingeman married Grietje Nugteren and they had seven children including Simon DeHaan who was born in a log cabin on the "wash board" road south of Pella. Simon married Delia VanderPloeg on Apr. 2, 1902, and their two children were Delwin S. and Raymond J. DeHaan. Simon

farmed the homestead farm adjacent to Pella until he retired in 1915. He served several terms on the school board and was chairman of the building committee who built the first high school in Pella. It is now the Community Center. He also was mayor of Pella for two terms from 1927 to 1931. They were faithful in church attendance and in the responsibilities of the functions of the church. Delia was especially active in ladies' organizations.

Delia's father was Ruurd VanderPloeg who was born Dec. 5, 1836, and died Aug. 30, 1920. He came to Pella from The Netherlands in 1869 and married Johanna P. VanDriel on Sept. 25, 1863. They had two children, Christine and Delia. Johanna died Sept. 6, 1870. He then married Pietje Terpstra on Apr. 22, 1872 and six children were born to this union. Delia was born near Otley, Ia. on June 7, 1866, and died Oct. 28, 1954. Simon DeHaan was born on June 5, 1863 and died Jan. 12, 1948.

William and Janigje DeKoning VanGorp came to America on the *S.S. Maasdam* from Holland and arrived on June 10, 1891. They settled near Pella, Ia. in 1891 and brought with them their eight children. The eldest was Jacob W. VanGorp, born Aug. 30, 1870 and died Sept. 22, 1958. He married Hattie Hiemstra of Otley, Ia. on Mar. 4, 1903. She was born Oct. 17, 1875 and died Oct. 26, 1941. They farmed near Otley and were members of the Otley Reformed Church. Jacob W. always read the Bible and prayed in the Holland language before meals. The language used by the family was mostly Dutch. Hattie played a pump organ for the ladies' Dorcas Society, which was similar to the one she had in her home. To this union three children were born: Emma A., Jeannetta W., and Wilfred M. Jeannetta married Raymond J. DeHaan of Pella.

Feike Hiemstra, born May 10, 1832, left Friesland in 1853 and settled near Pella, Ia. In June 1862 he married Emptje DeHaan. Emptje, a native of Friesland, was born Nov. 16, 1844 and came to America when she was three years old. Her mother died on board ship and so she was raised by the Vonder-Meulen family in Pella, Ia. Feike and Emptje had eight children, one of whom was Hattie, the mother of Jeannetta. Feike died Feb. 4, 1892 and Emptje lived on the home farm with her son Martin until she died on Dec. 12, 1926, at the age of 82 years.

Raymond J. DeHaan was born on Jan. 27, 1905, on the original home farm in Pella, Ia. He married Jeannetta W. VanGorp on Aug. 5, 1930. Jeannetta W. (Jean) was born on May 27, 1908 on a farm near Otley, Ia. To this couple three children were born. Lorraine DeHaan Porter was born Aug. 30, 1931. Sidney J. was born on July 6, 1933, and Warren V. was born on Sept. 8, 1940. Ray and Jean also have eight grandchildren.

Ray and Jean have been members of the First Baptist Church of Pella for over 50 years. Jean had studied voice at Central College and was asked to sing for many funerals and weddings as well as in her church choir. She enjoyed the care and nurturing of her children and family and when they came home from school "Mother" was always there. Ray graduated from Central College in 1926 and attended Iowa State University for one year. He served on the various boards of the Baptist Church, was superintendant of the church school for many years, and sang in the church choir for sixty-five consecutive years. Ray has played tennis since he was ten years old and in 1986 he was ranked second in doubles and ninth in singles in the national ranking in his age division.

Ray and Jean have participated in the Tulip Time Festival since its beginning in 1935 in the programs, thru the Rotary Club in the preparation of their float and tours, and as a member of the queen election committee.

Ray and his brother Delwin operated the DeHaan Century farm from 1927 until 1954. The first Farmall tractor in the Lake Prairie Twp. was purchased and used on this farm to cultivate corn. The major crops were corn, oats, and alfalfa which were used to grow and fatten cattle and hogs.

Ray was a member of the board of the Farmers Cooperative Exchange during the depression years of the 1930's and was the president for two years. He was on the trustee board of Central College, has been a member of the Rotary Club for over 40 years, and was its president in 1960. He was chairman of the building committee, which raised the money and built the First Baptist Church in 1956.

As a young lady Jean attended the Otley Reformed church and participated in the activities of the Sunday School, choir, and young people's groups. She was a member of the Missionary Society, the Martha Firth Circle, and the Home Builders Class of the Baptist Church.

Ray and Jean live at 907 University St., Pella, Ia. in the brick home built by Simon DeHaan in 1925.

by Ray J. DeHaan

DE HAAN FAMILY

F104

Stanley E. and Lorraine (De Haan) Porter

Front, l-r: Stanley and Lorraine Porter; Back, l-r: Stanley Jr., Lianne, and Alicia

People grow up and often move away from Pella, but the charm of this Dutch community remains in their hearts for a lifetime. So it is with Loraine De Haan Porter who remembers with fondness her reign as Tulip Queen in 1949. The red brick house where she was born Aug. 30, 1931, is still the De Haan family home and stands on University St. across from Central College.

Lorraine's marriage to (then) Lt. Stanley E. Porter, U.S.A.F. (June 19, 1953) had its beginning in the 1949 De Haan family trip to California where Lorraine met Stan, a student at Pomona College. In exactly four years to the date, they were married in the chapel at Central College, Lorraine's alma mater.

Stan's duty in the air force permitted a brief honeymoon in the Ozarks en route to their first home in Houston, Texas. At the conclusion of the Korean War, Stan was discharged and the couple returned to California where he continued graduate study in music at Occidental College. Lorraine began her first teaching assignments in the Los Angeles and South Pasadena School Districts. Their first home was in the "Vets Unit", a popular form of housing for the married students who chose to return to school. They bought their first house in Long Beach as Stan began an eight-year stint as choral director at the high school in Bellflower, a predominantly Dutch community nearby. Lorraine then limited her teaching to substituting as they were expecting their first child. Stanley, Jr. arrived Nov. 23, 1956 and subsequently was joined by two sisters: Lianne Lorraine on July 16, 1959, and Alicia Janine on Feb. 18, 1964.

Lorraine has continued to substitute-teach some, but is currently involved in presenting a series of lecture-workshops in "parenting" in various churches. Stan, Sr. is now in his twenty-third year as professor of music at Cerritos College in Norwalk, Calif. He has been very active in church music as director and soloist.

Stanley, Jr. is, at this writing, completing work on a Ph.D. in theology (New Testament), at the University of Sheffield in England. He hold M.A. degrees in both English literature and theology. Lianne, a graduate of Point Loma College, is married (June 15, 1985) to Ruben Mejia and the couple resides in the San Diego area. She has worked for the Hon. George Deukmejian, governor of California, for the past five years. Alicia, a 1986 graduate of Westmont College, works for Dr. James Dobson's "Focus on the Family", an internationally known Christian organization dedicated to serving God through strengthening the family. For the past 25 years the Porters have lived in Los Alamitos, Calif.

It is the joy of our hearts that each member of our family is a committed Christian and enjoys the assurance of salvation. We are active members of the Evangelical Free Church in Cypress, California.

The family has been privileged to travel extensively throughout the U.S., Europe, the Near East, Central America, and Japan. But Pella, especially at Tulip Time, remains a

favorite with us, as it helps to renew the love for our Dutch heritage.

by Stanley E. and Lorraine (De Haan) Porter

DE HAAN FAMILY
F105

Warren DeHaan Family, left to right: Warren DeHaan, Denise Renee DeHaan and Mrs. Warren (Vici) DeHaan; Seated: Dyce R. DeHaan

Warren Verne and Victoria (Parmakian) DeHaan

Warren is a descendant of the pioneer DeHaan family who came to America in 1849. His lineage began with Jacob DeHaan who came from the Netherlands with his family in 1849. Jacob's son Dingeman was the father of Simon whose son was Raymond. Warren's parents are Raymond and Jeannetta DeHaan, and he was born in Des Moines, Ia. on Sept. 8, 1940. Warren attended the elementary and high schools in Pella, then spent four years at Long Beach, California State College, and later going to Berkeley University where he graduated with a Doctor of Optometry degree.

As a young man he was baptized and became a member of the First Baptist Church of Pella. He began his practice of optometry in 1966 in Boulder, Colorado and has successfully advanced his practice to include two partners and six technicians.

He has written several books, one of which is "The Optomotrist and Opthamalogists Guide to Pilots Vision". This technical instruction book has been widely accepted as an authority for those in the vision profession and Dr. DeHaan received special recognition as the author of this book in 1985. Because of his ratings in the aviation field of instrument instructor in both single and twin engine planes, he has become well known for his solutions to complicated pilots' visual problems.

Vici's (Victoria) parents are John and Adele Parmakian of Boulder, Colorado. John is a mechanical engineer who is known internationally as a consultant on hydro-electric installations. Adele accompanies him to many of his foreign projects.

Vici is a lady of many talents. She has taught in the elementary schools of Boulder, Colorado for 27 years and when you teach sixth graders you know what kind of job school teaching is. Vici is an author who is just completing her sixth book. She has covered a range of subjects from hiking and biking thru the Rockies, to flying to our national and historic parks. Warren has collaborated with her on some of them. Vici is also a champion runner having won first place in many races including high altitude races above 10,000 feet and the annual Tulip Time race in Pella. She has competed in several 26-mile marathon races.

Vici is also a talented musician both on the piano and vocally. She has sung with the Boulder community chorus for many years. This group includes many professional vocalists and presents programs which include numbers written by the famous composers.

Their son Dyce is a senior in the University of Colorado in Denver and is looking forward to entering law school in the fall. He is engaged to Laine Wahl and they plan to be married on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 1987. Laine is majoring in mathematics at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Their daughter Denise is finishing her last year at Metro College in Denver where she is studying to be a career pilot. She earned her commercial pilot's certificate in May and is now working on becoming a certified flight instructor. She has had some training in a Boeing 727 simulator at the United Airlines training center.

by Ray DeHaan

DE HAAN, FAMILY
F106

Left to Right: Darla De Haan, Sidney De Haan, Norma De Haan, Dawn (De Haan) Turner, and Dia De Haan

Sidney J. and Norma (De Boer) De Haan

Norma (born Feb. 11, 1940) is the daughter of Henry and Grace De Young De Boer who lived in Prairie View, Kansas. Graces' father, Peter De Jong, and his family settled in Pella, coming from Holland, and later moved to Kansas before Grace was born. Henry De Boer was a farmer and also owned and operated a grain elevator in Prairie View until his death in 1970.

Sidney (born July 6, 1933) is the son of Ray and Jean De Haan of Pella. Sidney attended the Pella Community Schools and after two years at Central College he enlisted in the army. There he served as a member of the military police force in Okinawa.

Sid and Norma met during Sid's last year at Central College. Norma graduated with a teaching certificate and a major in geography. Sid graduated with a degree in physical education and sociology. After serving two years as a Y.M.C.A. program secretary, Sid married Norma and moved to the De Haan home farm in 1962. They became the fifth generation to operate this century farm. It was homesteaded in 1849 by Jacob De Haan when he migrated to Pella from Holland. Jacob purchased a section of land (part of which is now South Pella) from Dominie Scholte. Sid and Norma live very near the spot where the original brick farmhouse was built.

In keeping with their Dutch heritage, Sid and Norma named their operation The Flying Dutchman Ranch. Through the years they have gained a national reputation for the Maine Anjou and Simmental breeding stock they have developed. They've been awarded top honors at such prominent shows as the National Western in Denver, the Kansas City Royal, the Tulsa State Fair, the North American at Louisville, Ky, and the Houston, Tex. Livestock show. Livestock producers from all over the U.S. regularly travel to their ranch in Pella to purchase their superior quality breeding stock. In 1984 they were honored by the National Maine-Anjou Association as breeders of the year. Sid and Norma have both been board members of the Iowa Maine-Anjou Association and Sid has also been the secretary-treasurer and president of the National M.A. Association.

Besides showing animals, they also produce premium quality beef for sale to the general public. Customers call from as far away as Colorado and Chicago to reserve a quarter or half of their prize lean, light meat to be picked up on their next trip through Pella.

They have produced a black purebred Maine-Anjou bull named Midas. Through the use of artificial insemination, Midas has sired a great number of outstanding progeny throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Norma managed the Day Care Center in Pella for several years, taught second grade at Webster school, and ran a weekday nursery school at their church. She shares in the many responsibilities of the farm's operations, and is an expert in grooming the cattle to be shown in national livestock shows.

Sid and Norma have three daughters: Dawn Angela (born Sept. 10, 1961), Darla Joy (born Mar. 15, 1964), and Dia Lee born Feb. 17, 1966. Dawn graduated from Northwest Missouri State University and majored in

special education. She married Bradley Turner and they presently reside in Wichita, Kan. with their two daughters Amanda Natasha and Tiffany Callise. Brad is in the restaurant management business. Darla graduated from Sioux Falls College and lives in St. Paul, Minn. There she is personnel coordinator for a restaurant chain. Dia is a junior at Sioux Falls College majoring in elementary education, and physical education. Her goal for the future is to share Christ's love with less fortunate children in missions.

First Baptist Church has been the church home for the entire family. Sid joined as a youth and Norma and all three girls became members together at Easter in 1980.

by Sidney J. and Norma (De Boer) De Haan

DE HAAN, ADRIAN AND ERMA MAY (ROORDA)

F107

Erma May Roorda was born Apr. 27, 1925, to Wigert and Reino (Borgman) Roorda at their farm two and one-half miles northwest of Pella. Her oldest sister Esther died at age seven years of pneumonia. Erma grew up with her brothers Paul, Walter, and Carl and a sister Clara. Her parents farmed with her grandparents Anne and Doertje (Buwalda) Roorda who lived just across the farmyard from them. As Erma grew up and made many visits to Grandma's house, she of course had to speak the Dutch language since her grandma had come from The Netherlands in 1847 and could not speak English. Her Aunt Flora Roorda also lived with her grandma.

The chores for the Roorda children were to bring in firewood and cobs from the hoglot for the cookstove and stumps and coal for the living room heaters for both homes. This done, they asked Aunt Flora, "Is daar noch eits anders te doen?" (Is there something else to do?). Then she would give them a piece of candy. However, if she wasn't around, they did not dare take it from the table. If they heard her chasing a mouse upstairs, they would have to laugh so hard that they would come back later for that precious piece of candy. Aunt Flora had several large jars of candy in the back room where the cream was kept for churning. Another big chore came at milking time. First one of the Roorda children went to get the 20 milk cows out of the 100-A. timber where Big Rock Park is today. Sometimes the cows were home by the time they made the circle or they would be in some back corner, especially when the family wanted to go away for the evening. The children all had to learn the art of milking on one old gentle Jersey cow "Long Legs". They had to tie the cow's back legs with a rope and sit on a small milk stool hoping all the while that the cow wouldn't kick them and the milk pail over. Then the milk was carried to the house where it was run through the cream separator which stood in one corner of Grandma's large kitchen on a bare wooden floor. The milk was brought out to the squealing pigs. The cream was sold and some made into butter. In the summer the churn had to be set in a tub of cold water and Clara and Erma often had to help Aunt Flora turn the crank for making butter. Then too, there was always plenty of buttermilk for making "buttermilk pap". Another chore was to carry water from the windmill to the house for cooking, washing clothes, drinking, and bathing.

In July came threshing time. To Erma this was an exciting time when the big steam engine came into the yard, driven by Billie Butts. Then her Aunt Dena Roorda and cousin Leona would come over and help her mother cook the meals for the large threshing crew. Clara, Leona, and Erma would pare potatoes, set up a wash stand for the men to wash up, and then clear the tables. After dinner the girls would get to look in the new Sears catalog, do some fancy work, and play with paper dolls. Then at coffeetime large baskets of sandwiches, pie or cake, and coffee were taken out to the threshing crew where they all stopped to enjoy the coffeebreak. The weather was usually very hot. In the fall, when it was molasses-making time, the Roorda children would come home from school and liked to play "king of the hill" on the discarded pile of cane stalks. They would also watch Aunt Flora and their mother stir and skim the molasses. Then in the winter they always went coasting with their sleds. They returned home with their long stockings all wet and a few cold fingers and toes, but the fun they had was worth it all.

Erma attended Lincoln Elementary School where Miss Renaud was her kindergarten teacher. She would have them skip around the room to some song that was played on a phonograph. Another fond memory of school days was the once-a-week Bible class they held during school. To prepare for this lesson, Erma would sit on her dad's lap by the dining room table, read the lesson over, and then memorize the answers to the questions while her mother was usually sewing or mending.

After school when the weather was nice, the Roorda children often walked home which was two miles. Before starting out they had to stop at the Slobe Grocery Store to make a big decision as to how they were going to spend one or two pennies. Would it be for a stick of black licorice or a lollipop? Mr. Slobe must have had a lot of patience at the old glass candy case. This store was on the northwest corner of the park where Dr. Vander Pent is today. The seventh and eighth grade were in the old Webster building and their dad usually took the children to school in the car, unless the roads were too muddy or the snow too deep. Then they would get a ride in a wagon or a sled pulled by horses.

On Dec. 11, 1937, her grandma Doertje Roorda passed away at the age of 93 and her Aunt Flora moved to Pella. Then the Wigert Roorda family moved into the larger home, which was a great improvement with five children.

Many exciting things seemed to happen in the next few years. First Paul was married to Eva Mae De Kock on Oct. 5, 1938 and they moved into the smaller home. On Dec. 7, 1941 World War II broke out and Walter was inducted into the army on Nov. 11, 1941. Also Erma's fiancee, Adrian De Haan, enlisted in the navy on Dec. 31, 1942, and was in the service for three years. Erma and her parents moved to 905 Franklin St. in 1943. Erma graduated from Pella High in 1944 and worked as a grocery store clerk at the Farmers Coop Exchange for two years with Del De Haan as her manager. She made $80 per month when she quit.

Adrian Paul De Haan was born July 10,

Adrian De Haan family, taken June 15, 1985 at Larry and Shelly's wedding. Front, l-r: Stuart De Haan and son Steven, Joann (Vink) and son Michael De Haan, LuAnn (Johnson) De Haan, Douglas and Daniel De Haan; Middle, l-r: Debra De Haan, Twyla (Van Hal) and Robert De Haan. Back, l-r: Shelly (Lininger), Larry De Haan, Erma (Roorda) and Adrian De Haan.

1922, to Tunis and Sarah (Van Steenis) De Haan at their home four miles southeast of Pella. He has only one sister Wilma, and they attended Black Oak Center School about one mile east of their home.

During the 1930's, the depression years and also a year of dry weather, Adrian would herd cattle along the roadside for Henry De Bruin for ten cents a day and he caught 30 gophers for which Henry gave him ten cents apiece so he could buy his first coaster wagon for three dollars. He walked behind a harrow and a team of horses for 25 cents a day. Adrian also worked at Bill Frundt's seed corn plant, detasseling and sorting out the seed corn, and also picked corn by hand for different farmers. He liked to help his dad work on the farm machinery.

Adrian started his boot camp training at the Great Lakes near Chicago, Ill. in Jan., 1943. Before completing his basic training, he was transferred to armed guard at Gulfport, Miss. Gunnery School. He was then assigned to sail on the *S.S. Thomas FitzSimmons*, a liberty ship, with the merchant marines. On the first trip out to sea they went through the Caribbean Sea, the Panama Canal, crossing the equator. They ran into a five-day storm around Cape Horn in South America. Then, on around Cape Cod they went. In Africa they stopped in Durbin, South Africa and on to Aden, Arabia. Adrian had his birthday on the Red Sea. Then, on to Suez Canal, Cairo and Alexandria, Egypt where he visited the Sphinx and Pyramids, and on to Algiers, Tunis and Port Said in North Africa. They saw the Isle of Capri; Versailles, France; Sicily; Rome and Naples in Italy; Rock of Gibraltar; then sailed home to the U.S. Adrian was then transferred to the *U.S.S. Quick*, a destroyer, and made several trips to England, Italy, and Greenland in the North Atlantic. Later he was sent to Honolulu, Wake, Guam, Philippines, and Japan. On Feb. 17, 1946, Adrian returned from the navy, after three years of service, having spent most of this time out at sea. Back at home in Pella Erma waited patiently for letters to come from almost all over the world, and Walter Koopman who was the mailman downtown at that time seemed just about as thrilled to bring Erma a letter from Adrian as she was to get one. While Adrian was in the navy, Erma graduated from Pella High School in 1944 and worked as a clerk in the Farmers Coop Exchange grocery store for two years.

Her brother, Walter, returned from the army, and married Wilma De Haan, Adrian's sister, on Nov. 7, 1945. Her sister, Clara, married Ray Newendorp on Aug. 15, 1946. Erma and Adrian were married Sept. 19, 1946, at the First Reformed Church in Pella by Rev. Anthony Haverkamp. They moved to his parents' farm four miles southeast of Pella, and his parents moved to Oskaloosa St. in Pella. Erma and Adrian enjoyed working out on the farm together. They raised sheep, hogs, milked cows by hand, had a flock of chickens, and fed some cattle. In the field they raised corn, oats, hay, and soybeans. Erma also helped with the field work. In 1949 Adrian bought a Ford tractor for $1,333. He sold it around 1960 for $500, and bought it back for $1,000 in 1986, intending to restore it to original condition.

In 1951 Erma's brother Carl went to the Navy.

Erma and Adrian had six children. Linda LaRue, born September 14, 1955, died Sept. 19, 1955. The artery to her heart was too small. Robert Adrian was born Aug. 22, 1956; Douglas Gene Dec. 10, 1958; Larry Trent June 8, 1960; Stuart Kent June 1, 1962, and Debra Lynn June 24, 1964. They all attended Pella schools riding on the school bus, and graduated from Pella High School.

The children always helped with the chores on the farm as well as the field work and enjoyed working on the farm machines. The Adrian De Haan family attended Trinity Reformed Church where they were members. Adrian, who loved music, always enjoyed playing the guitar and harmonica. In 1976 when everyone was celebrating the bi-centennial year, he decided to hold an all-day country gospel sing in the West Market Park in Pella for the public. There were several gospel groups on the program the first year. In 1986 there were 50 groups and it was held for two days on the second weekend in July. There is much time spent by Adrian and Erma in planning, inviting, and advertising this annual event. There are some 200 musicians and vocalists who perform on stage throughout the two days. Since so many people enjoy camping these day many people do come for the entire weekend and camp out at Red Rock Lake. Adrian and Erma have also become campers in these last few years and enjoy going to many weekend gospel sings. They also help other people plan their sings.

The four De Haan sons are married and Debra lives and works in Des Moines as a secretary for Kirk Van Orsdale Insurance Company. The youngest son, Stuart, farms with his dad and lives on the old De Haan farmstead. In 1969 Adrian and Erma bought 100 A. of land with a large home on it just west of the old De Haan farmstead. This was a great improvement. Now they farm 180 A. with Stuart doing most of the work. Adrian is the "straw boss".

This large two-story home was built for Tone Vander Waal in 1920 at a cost of $3,000.

Adrian and Erma also attend some antique tractor and engine shows where Adrian displays some of his 65 antique tractors and 80 engines.

by Erma Roorda De Haan

DE HAAN, ELVA (BRUMMEL)

F108

Elva Brummel De Haan (Mrs. Jacob J. De Haan) was born in Prairie View, Kan. on Sept. 28, 1913. She moved to the rural Leighton area with her parents, Aaron and Laura Hays Brummel, when she was a small child. She has one sister, Ethel (Mrs. Harold (De Bruin). After graduating from Oskaloosa High School, she attended Central College for two years and then taught school at Plainview and Leighton Schools. Elva began work at the Pella Carnegie-Viersen Public Library in 1963, and continued until her retirement in 1983. She served as head librarian for 8 years.

by Elva De Haan

DE HAAN, JACOB

F109

Jacob and Cornelia (Van Zee) De Haan

Jacob De Haan was born Oct. 16, 1865, in Pella, Ia. His parents, Dingeman and Grietje Nugteren De Haan, emigrated from the Netherlands. Jacob attended Pella Public Schools and Central College when it was located on West Washington St. in Pella.

Jacob was united in marriage to Cornelia Marie Van Zee on Mar. 3, 1890. They became parents of six daughters and three sons: Margaret (Mrs. Gerrit Dykstra), Nettie (Mrs. John Meyer), Marie (Mrs. Ben Fynaardt), Helen (Mrs. Herbert Fennema), Florence (Mrs. Reuben Thomassen), Mable (Mrs. Lewis Vander Wilt), Peter, Dingeman (Dick), and Jacob J.

Mr. and Mrs. De Haan were lifelong residents of the Pella community. Jacob spent most of his lifetime in farming and served as secretary of Marion Co. Mutual Insurance Company during his retirement years. Mrs. De Haan passed away Jan. 8, 1944, after 54 years of marriage. Jacob De Haan died on Feb. 4, 1952.

by Elva De Haan

DE HAAN, JACOB J.

F110

Jacob J. De Haan, son of Jacob and Cornelia M. Van Zee De Haan, was born on a farm west of Pella on Jan. 20, 1910. He and his twin, Mabel, were the youngest of nine children. He attended rural and public schools in Pella, graduating from Pella High School in 1929. Jake graduated from Central

Front, l-r: Jacob J. Haan and Elva (Brummel) De Haan; Back, l-r: Kenneth E. DeHaan, Lois (De Haan) Smith, William L. De Haan

College in 1933 with a B.S. in chemistry. He met Elva J. Brummel at college and they were married on May 21, 1935. They have three children: William L., Kenneth E., and Lois (Mrs. Dave Smith).

Jake and his family lived on South St. in Pella until 1964 when they moved to an acreage south of town. This land is part of the original farm purchased by the De Haan family a century earlier.

Jake always remained close to the farm, working for the Jasper County Soil Conservation District, Farmers Co-op, Bakker and Rus, Standard Oil Company, as well as farming and teaching agriculture classes to veterans under the G.I. Bill. He was also active in the First Reformed Church, serving as Sunday School teacher, superintendent, and elder.

Jake's favorite pastimes were attending athletic events, gardening, and traveling. He and Elva were on a trip to the New England states when they were involved in an auto accident. Jake died as a result of injuries on Oct. 9, 1983, in Pittsfield, Mass.

by Elva De Haan

DE HAAN, KENNETH E.

F111

Kenneth E. De Haan, son of Jacob J. and Elva Brummel De Haan, was born in 1939, and graduated from Pella High School. Ken and his wife Darlene live in Pella. Ken has worked at Rolscreen Company since 1964 and is now a superintendent. He has two sons; Dan, in Pella, and Dave, in Des Moines.

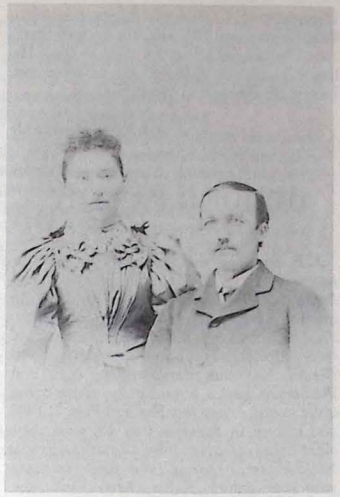
by Elva De Haan

DE HAAN, TEUNIS AND SARAH (VAN STEENIS)

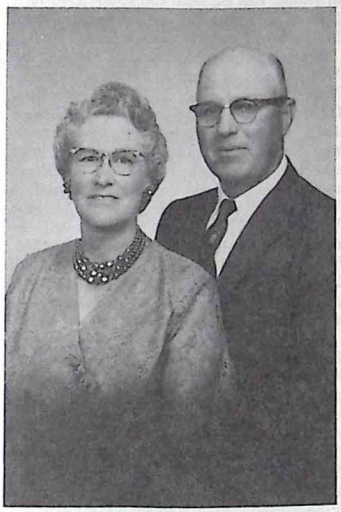
F112

Teunis De Haan (born Jan. 18, 1830, died July 30, 1906) came to America from South Holland in 1849 with his father Jacob De Haan, who was a pioneer builder and developer of Pella, Ia. Jacob purchased land adjoining the then city limits of Pella. His son Teunis was active with his father in these various building enterprises.

Then on Jan. 8, 1862, Teunis married Katalina (Lyntje) De Jongh (born Sept. 4, 1841 died 1882) who had come from Ameide, Holland, which was the same area where Teunis had lived. They lived on a 140-A. farm southeast of Pella where they brought up their family of eight children: Adrianus (born Oct. 10, 1862); Alice (born Apr. 15, 1864); Jacob (born Dec. 25, 1866); Mary (born Mar. 3, 1868); Elizabeth (born Mar. 10, 1870); Matthew (born Sept. 29, 1872); Floris (born Sept. 19, 1874); Dingamon (born Oct. 10, 1876); and one child who died in infancy. They all lived around Pella. The eldest son, Adrianus (John) De Haan, married Johanna Wilhelmina Van Engelenhoven (born Dec. 6, 1868) of Ade, Gelderland on Mar. 4, 1896.



Johanna Wilhelmina Van Engelenhoven and Adrianus (John) De Haan married March 4, 1896 by the Rev. Mann of the True Reformed Church at his home in Pella, Iowa at 1:00 p.m. A bountiful supper was served at the home of the bride on their return at 6 o'clock. At 9:30 P.M. a shivaree party made their appearance, congratulating them as the groom handed them each the usual cigars. The following day they went to their home that awaited them 3 miles south of Durham.



Sarah (Van Steenis) and Teunis De Haan.

Johanna came to America on Jan. 13, 1888 at the age of 19 years with her father and five brothers. Johanna and Adrianus lived on a farm three miles south of Durham, Ia. for one year, then moved to a 40-A. farm, four miles southeast of Pella in Mahaska Co., which his father had bought in 1896. On Mar. 22, 1897, a son, Teunis, was born to Johanna and Adrianus De Haan. This was their only child. They were the first generation of De Haans to live on this farm. Teunis attended Black Oak Center School.

On Aug. 16, 1918, Adrianus died at the age of 56 years, leaving the farming operation to his wife and son Teunis. Johanna enjoyed working outside with livestock and tending a large garden, so perhaps that is why she remained on the farm and kept the farm running with the help of her son who was 21 years old at that time. Johanna would raise 1,000 chicks per year and would have 100 setting hens to hatch out the eggs. They sold eggs, roosters, and cream to buy groceries and other supplies. She and Teunis milked eight to ten cows and also raised some hogs and calves. The first car Teunis bought was a 1919 Model T Ford Touring with two seats, quite an advancement from the horse and buggy. He paid $675.00 for it.

On Feb. 17, 1921, Teunis De Haan and Sarah Van Steenis (born July 8, 1900) were married. She was a farm girl who lived south of Pella with her parents William and Allie (Ver Ploegh) Van Steenis. Sarah and Teunis moved in with his mother Johanna, this being the second generation on this Mahaska Co. farm. They had two children: Johanna Wilma (born Apr. 3, 1921) and Adrian Paul (born July 10, 1922). They attended Black Oak Center School which was one mile east of their home.

In 1925 Teunis bought 40 A. of land just west of the original 40 A. He planted corn with a Sattley corn planter, plowed with a sixteen-inch walking plow, and cultivated with a one-row Jenny Lind cultivator which he walked behind 20 miles per day. These were all pulled by a team of horses. Then there was the corn to pick by hand. They tossed it into a high-wheeled wagon with high bang boards on the far side. It was always a pleasure to ride home on top of a load of corn but then someone had to shovel the corn up into a corn crib, which also was a back-breaking chore. At haying time the hay was cut with a horse-drawn mower, left to dry in the field, pitched on a hay rack, and hauled to the barn where it was pulled up with a large hay fork through the large barn door into the hay loft. Then someone had to fork it around or level it out, up in the hay mow. The fork-loads of hay were pulled up into the barn with a heavy hay rope which ran through pulleys and was hitched onto a horse led by someone. Sarah also helped with the field work.

In 1930 Teunis De Haan, William Van Steenis, and Gerrit V. Van Roekel built a new barn for $1,100.00 on the De Haan farm. It is still in use today, 1987. In 1936 Teunis bought a Fordson tractor. He was one of the first farmers to own a tractor on a small farm. They also put a Moline cultivator on it by removing the two front wheels and replacing them with one iron wheel. He made a canopy to put on the tractor so he could ride in the shade. In 1938 Teunis and Henry De Bruin built a truck-powered buck rake to haul hay home from the field. While the men were inventing these labor-saving devices, the young Adrian was also learning and helping. He used many of these ideas later in life.

In 1940 when the R.E.A. brought electricity to the farmers, Teunis learned from a book how to install electric wiring in homes and barns for this very new convenience. What a great improvement for a farmer to have lights in the buildings and in the yard and electric power for pumping water and running motors instead of using the gas engines for power.

Before Wilma was married, she worked at the seed corn plant and the Rolscreen.

Johanna Wilma De Haan married Robert Walter Roorda (born Aug. 2, 1919) on Nov. 7, 1945 in the Second Christian Reformed Church. Walter had been in the army from Nov. 1941 to 1945. They had two children: Lois Eileen (born Feb. 8, 1947) and Donald Wayne (born May 24, 1948).

On Dec. 7, 1941, the U.S. entered World War II. In Dec., 1942, Adrian Paul enlisted in the navy and was out to sea for most of three years. He returned home on Feb. 17, 1946, after traveling all over the world. On Sept. 19, 1946, Adrian Paul De Haan married Erma May Roorda (born Apr. 27, 1925). Erma and Walter Roorda are brother and sister.

Erma and Adrian moved out to the De Haan farm. They were the third generation to live there, and Sarah and Tunis moved to 612 Oskaloosa St. in Pella. Tunis' mother, Johanna, moved to town with them. Perhaps Johanna was a bit reluctant to leave the farm after living there for 50 years and enjoying the outdoor life so very much. She also enjoyed visiting with farmers and talking over all their farm problems. The day she was to move to town she decided to stay with Erma and Adrian that night so she could show Erma "just exactly" how to feed the chickens and soak the oats in water overnight.

While living in Pella, Teunis and Gary Van Zee, his brother-in-law, continued to do some electric wiring for farmers and businesses. Later he worked at Vogelaar's Hardware Store as a pump repairman and maintenance man, and also as a radio dispatcher at the police station. Sarah kept busy by babysitting for different people and doing various other tasks.

Johannah Wilhelmina (Van Engelenhoven) De Haan passed away on Jan. 9, 1950. She was a charter member of the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella.

Sara and Teunis were members of First Reformed Church in Pella. They have seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. They moved to Fair Haven East in Feb. 1980, and celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary February 17, 1986. Teunis passed away February 18, 1986 from pneumonia.

Erma and Adrian De Haan have six children: Linda La Rue (born Sept. 14, 1955, who lived only six days, the artery to her heart being too small, and died Sept. 19, 1955); Robert Adrian (born Aug. 22, 1956); Douglas Gene (born Dec. 10, 1958); Larry Trent (born June 8, 1960); Stuart Kent (born June 1, 1962); and Debra Lynne (born June 24, 1964).

Stuart De Haan lives on the original De Haan farm today. Stories of children and grandchildren will be found elsewhere.

by Erma and Adrian De Haan

DE HAAN, WILLIAM L.

F113

William L. De Haan, eldest son of Jacob J. and Elva De Haan, was born in 1936, attended Pella Schools, and received a degree in economics from Drake University. He now resides in Westfield Center, Ohio, where he is Assistant Vice-President of Special Risk Underwriting, Commercial Lines, for Westfield Companies. His wife, the former Maureen Donnelly of Ottumwa, died in 1985. He has 4 children: William, Jr.; Jeffrey; and Laurie De Haan; and Randall Jones.

by Elva De Haan

DE JONG FAMILY

F114

K.P. De Jong was born July 14, 1862 in Amsterdam to Klaas and Johanna Van Amerogen De Jong. On May 19, 1886 he married Pieternella den Breejen, born Apr. 25, 1865 in Haarlemmermeer, Province of Noord Holland. Her parents were Klaas and Neeltje Hartman den Breejen. K.P. and Pieternella had a large family, some dying quite young. They left Holland Feb. 1, 1909 and arrived in America Feb. 12, with their eight living children: John, Cornelius, Frans, Nick, Pieter, Johanna (who died the same year they came), Nellie (Arie) Vink, and Bessie (Conrad) Lydens.

They lived in Pella on the corner of Columbus and West Fourth for a year, then started farming in the Leighton, Otley, and Monroe areas. Later they bought the house at 1010 Columbus St. in Pella and paid $2800 for it. After that they went to the Pella Home for the Aged. Pieternella died Mar. 16, 1931 and K.P. died Sept. 6, 1938. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. During his life, K.P. attended the Second Christian Reformed Church and was on the Christian Grade School board in 1926.

Frans was born Mar. 9, 1892. He married Wouterina Soet, born in Haarlemmermeer, Noord Holland, Dec. 3, 1893. Wouterina's father was Hendrick Soet, born in Hillegom 1848 – died 1923, whose parents were Antonie and Neeltje (Hartman) Soet. Neeltje later married Klaas den Breejen. Wouterina's mother was Cronelia Van Huizen, born Jan. 9, 1852 – died 1924. Her grandfather was Willem Van Huizen who was born in Ouddorp in 1818 and then went to Texel in 1844. Willem married Jannetje Onder de Linde, born 1825 in Middelharnis, on Dec. 27, 1845, at Texel. They left Texel on Feb. 22, 1855 and went to Haarlemmermeer.

The parents of Frans and Wouterina had kept up a correspondence, so Frans started writing to Wouterina. They did not meet until Woutertina came to New York on Aug. 21, 1916, where they got married and then came to Iowa, staying with his parents until March when they started farming in the Iowa Falls area. After two years they bought a farm north of Albia. They had nine children: Pieternella Cornelia (born Mar. 2, 1920) married to W.A. Schippers (deceased) and Joe Verhulst; Cornelia Pieternella (born June 5, 1921) married to Elmer Tukker; Klazina Hendrika (born June 24, 1923) married to Albert Sterk; Hendrika Klazina (born Aug. 13, 1924) married to Carl Van Donselaar; Henry (born Oct. 30, 1929), married to Elizebeth Groenendyke; Frans (born Dec. 27, 1927), married to Anna Mae Ozinga (deceased) and, later Wilma Englsman; Johanna Cathrine (born Dec. 22, 1932), married to Howard Buwalda.

In their later years they moved from the farm to Oskaloosa, Ia. Frans died Oct. 24, 1961. Wouterina died Aug. 28, 1975. Both they and their stillborn children, Hendrick and Alida, are buried at Service Chapel Cemetery two miles north of where they lived on the farm near Albia.

by Cornelia Tukker

DE JONG, WILLIAM C.

F115

Jan and Rykje (Kolenbrander) De Jong

Jane (De Bruin) and Arie De Jong

Jane and Arie's younger children. Front, l-r: William, Mary, and Wilma; Back, l-r: Herman, Peter, Gerrit, and Ann.

Left to Right: Vernon, Wm C. De Jong, Marie (Blom), Nella, John, and Arnold.

Left to Right: Jana, Jocelyn, Jay, Joline (De Boer), and John De Jong

In 1866, Martinus and Margarieta Van Roorda De Jong arrived from the Netherlands and began the farm in the Pella area. They had six children: Peter, Arie, Gysbertha (Pothoven), Albert, Antone, and John. Arie, who was born Aug. 16, 1866, had to work for his room and board at the age of nine due to the early death of his father at the age of thirty-nine. His future wife, Jane De Bruin, born Dec. 23, 1868, was not much better off. Her parents, Jan and Rykje Kolenbrander De Bruin, also farmed in the Pella area after emigrating from the Netherlands in 1857 and 1856, respectively. Their children were: Jacob, Willempje or Wilma (Peter J. De Jong), Jane (Arie De Jong), Martha (Henry Kolenbrander), and Wilhelmina (Gerrit Kolenbrander), and Herman. As a girl, Jane earned 25 cents a week assisting a farmer's wife and at the end of the year was given a new dress. After their marriage on Mar. 6, 1888, Arie Cornelis and Jane farmed and raised twelve children: Mary (John M. Neels) 1888-1931; John (Grace Vos) 1890-1968; Martin (Lena Vander Schaaf) 1892-1920; Rev. Jacob or Jack (Julia De Boer) 1898-1951; Rev. Peter A. (Anna Vander Schaaf) 1900-1979; Wilma G. (John De Young) 1902-1982; Rev. William C. (Marie Blom) 1904; Gerrit M. (Frances Blom) 1906; Herman A. (Catherine Vander Linden) 1908; Anna J. (John Roose) 1910-1955. By the close of his life, Feb., 1938, Arie had lost all he owned in the depression. Jane lived until June 22, 1956.

William Cornelis, the ninth child, was born on a farm in the Peoria area. He attended Peoria Christian School but was prevented from finishing the eighth grade twice. First, the school was burned down by so-called patriots who confused Dutch and Deutch during World War I. He transferred to Cherry Grove School, but the teacher became ill. On the third attempt he managed to take the exam a little late, postponed by the death of his brother Martin. He worked on the family farm until Dec. of 1925, when he began attending Central Academy. He entered Central College in 1927 and graduated three years later without benefit of ceremony. An outbreak of chicken box was mis-diagnosed as smallpox, and the senior play and graduation activities were cancelled.

Bill's courtship of Marit Blom began Jan. 13, 1925, when he asked to escort her home from the church youth society. They were married Aug. 13, 1930. To this union four children were born: John Arlo, Dec. 30, 1931; Nella Mae, Jan. 24, 1935; Arnold Jonathan, Apr. 1, 1937; and Vernon William, June 21, 1944.

John Arlo graduated from Hull High School in 1949 and from Central College in 1953 after which he was drafted at the close of the Korean War. In the spring of 1955, John mustered out of the army early to start graduate school in Iowa city. On June 18, 1955, in Albert Lea, Minn., he married Joline De Boer, daughter of William and Dorothy (Muyskens) De Boer, whom he met in college. Joline worked as the bookkeeper for the University of Iowa libraries system and then served as head of serials acquisitions. Nov. 7, 1957, marked the arrival of the first grandchild on both sides of the family: Jocelyn Mardo. By 1959 John had completed all but the dissertation for his Ph.D. He accepted a one-year appointment to teach American intellectual and cultural history at Arizona State University which extended into nine years. Jay William Dec. 2, 1959) and Jana Maire (June 11, 1963) were born in Mesa. At three, Jana attended the university's preschool and Joline began her graduate studies in art education. Two years later the family returned to Pella, Ia., where John and Joline assumed teaching duties at their alma mater. All three children graduated from Central College. Jocelyn joined the U.S. Postal Service in Pella, Jay worked as an estimator for Pella Roofing Co. from his sophomore year in college, and Jana entered graduate school in Spanish literature at Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. (See also Marie Blom, William De Boer, and Dorothy Muyskens.)

by Joline De Jong

DE KOCK, ANDREW AND ELIZABETH

F116

1915 photo. Children were all orphans. Front, l-r: Jacoba, Grietje, Jantje, and Christina; Back, l-r: Andrew, Cornelis, and Willem.

De Kock family photo taken in Holland before the family came to America in 1948. Front, l-r: Abe, Andrew Jr., Elizabeth, Jenny; Back, l-r: Engel, Andrew

I was born in Herwijnen, The Netherlands on Oct. 23, 1907, to Abraham and Jantje Vander Wal De Kock and they named me Andries Heinrich. Most people now know me as Andrew. I had two brothers: Willem, born Oct. 3, 1900, and Cornelis, born Apr. 18, 1903; and I had four sisters: Grietje, born Aug. 24, 1896, Christina, born Oct. 10, 1898, Jacoba, born Aug. 25, 1905, and Jantje, born Feb. 24, 1909.

While the seven of us were still quite young we lost both parents. Our father died in October of 1914 and only a few months later, Mar. 15, 1915, our mother died and we were left without parents to care for us and guide us. But we did want to stay together as a family, so our uncle and several aunts took us under their protection and care. However, this meant that some of the family land had to be sold off to provide funds until such time as we could begin earning our own living.

In 1930 I married Elizabeth Bijl, a daughter of Engel and Wilhelmina Van Soest Bijl, who lived in Hellouw. Our first son Abraham Jan was born Sept. 6, 1931. Before he was a year old we left Herwijnen, Aug. 21, 1932, to make our home in what was once the bottom of the Zuider Zee, then the new Wieringermeer Polder. This was land that had been reclaimed from the sea by a long-awaited dike that had finally been completed. There we began to farm and although it meant long days of hard work for both of us we felt that we really had a chance to make good.

Engel Wilhelm was born Dec. 3, 1933, Jansje Grietje on June 8, 1935, and Andries Henrich, Jr. on Dec. 12, 1939.

It was in the year 1939 that I was called into the army to serve in the Coast Guard. This was before the full-scale mobilization prior to World War II, so that I was actually in the service of my country from that time until The Netherlands capitulated. After that I became a member of the Dutch underground, and from time to time we had people hidden in our home.

On Apr. 10, 1945, Hitler's army bombed the dike which protected our home and land and we had to flee for our lives. We could take only one wagon on which we loaded the family, some food, clothing, and some other small articles. And so we became refugees. We managed to survive, but because we had no place we could call home, we began to think of the possibility of emigrating to the U.S.

On Aug. 2, 1947, we began making plans in earnest and on Dec. 27, 1947, my wife and I and four children left for the U.S. We sailed on the Leerdam, half of which was given over to carrying freight. There were 350 passengers on board. During the voyage of 13 days,

we had nine days of very stormy weather. Two days the storm was so severe that no one was allowed to go on deck, as the huge waves swept across it. Both my wife and I and our son Engel were very, very seasick, so you can imagine how happy we were to arrive in New York and to see the Statue of Liberty in the harbor, even though we had only $660.00 to our name. It took us one and one-half days by train to get to Des Moines, where we were met and taken to the home of our uncle, Case Vander Wal and family, arriving there at ten o'clock in the evening of Jan. 10, 1948.

That first year I worked on the farm for Anthony Ver Meer; the next year we rented the farm of 140 A. on crop shares; the third year we rented 263 A. and in 1955 our dream came true. We bought our own farm! It was near Otley, and we farmed there until 1963 when I suffered a heart attack, I took a job at the Christian School and worked there for ten years. And now, for the past ten years I have been employed by the Pella Historical Society where I now serve in the capacity of maintenance supervisor, and I am in charge of the gardens where we plant 75,000 tulip bulbs every year. When these have finished blooming, we set out thousands of plants for the summer display.

Our son Abe married Gertrude Van Zee in June, 1953, and five children were born to them. Abe died Nov. 28, 1978. Engel married Wilma Van Ringelestein in March, 1953. They have four children. Jennie married John Veenstra Dec. 28, 1956. They have two children. Andrew Jr. married Nancy Weeve in 1972. They have two children.

by Andrewe De Kock

DE KOCK, ELIZABETH (BYL)

F117

De Kock Family. Front, l-r: Andrew, Elizabeth, Jenny; Back, l-r: Andrew Jr., Engel, Abe

Elizabeth Byl was the daughter of Engel and Wilhelmina (Van Soest) Byl. She was born Mar. 23, 1911, at Hellouw, The Netherlands. She had two brothers. Dirk Jan was born July 30, 1905 and died Nov. 26, 1976. Hendrik was born July 29, 1920. Elizabeth had six sisters: Aaltje (born Aug. 24, 1907 and died January 10, 1983), Hendrika (born March 7, 1909 and died December 28, 1986), Wilhelmina (born March 4, 1913), Jantje (born Sept. 9, 1916), Gysje (born July 31, 1918), and Engeline (born May 5, 1926). Elizabeth's father died Apr. 29, 1949,at the age of 75 years. Her mother died Mar. 20, 1966, at the age of 83 years.

See more information in the Andrew and Elizabeth De Kock story.

by Andrew De Kock

DE KOCK, PETER AND ENGELTJE (VAN ZEE)

F118

Koenraad Van Zee

Mrs. Peter De Kock (Engeltje Van Zee), daughter of Koenraad Van Zee, came from Holland with original settlers in 1847.

Peter De Kock, husband of Engeltje (Van Zee) De Kock.

Peter De Kock was born in The Netherlands on July 29, 1833, the oldest of the six children of Jan De Kock and Antonia (or Jantje) Van Arendonk De Kock. He came to the United States in the year 1854. He was married to Engeltje Van Zee on the 11th of Feb. 1859.

Engeltje was born in Herwijnen, in the province of Gelderland, The Netherlands, on July 4, 1837. She was the oldest of the seven children of Koenraad Van Zee and Mettje De Kock Van Zee. She came to the United States with her parents on the sailship Pieter Floris as a part of the migration with the Rev. H.P. Scholte in the year 1847, at the age of nine years. She is said to have already knit a pair of long woolen stockings for her grandfather, Engle Van Zee, at that time. She often told about the trip across the ocean, which took 60 days. She said there was water all around them, but the supply of drinking water became exhausted, and they went for days without a drink.

After clearing the timber, Peter and Engeltje De Kock built a two-room log cabin on a 160-acre farm which they had purchased about six miles southeast of Pella. The log cabin was later made into a frame house, with a ladder to climb upstairs, and later it was modernized. This was their home for many years. Peter De Kock died suddenly in the year 1893, but Engeltje remained on the farm for a number of years longer, with the help of some of her children to operate it.

Peter and Engeltje had seven children, namely, Antonie, who married John B. Steinkamp, Mattie, who married Herman G. Van Zante, John P., who remained single, Conrad, who married Mary Van Zante, Elizabeth, who married Aart B. Van Zee, Angeline, who married Gerrit I. Roorda, and Arie Frederick, who married Mary L. Grandia. John P. De Kock later had his name changed to John P. De Cook, and Arie Frederick De Kock later had his name changed to Ira P. De Cook.

Peter De Kock died Feb. 15, 1893, at the age of 60 years. Engeltje lived to be 85 years of age, and died Mar. 12, 1923, in the home

of her son Ira. The last one of their children, Ira P. De Cook, died on Sept. 15, 1958.

by Edith Roorda

De KOCK, S. S.

F119

Stephen S. De Kock was born in 1869, – the second oldest in a family of nine brothers and sisters. He spent his life time in Mahaska and Marion Counties. He was a farmer all of his life until he retired and moved to Pella in 1938.

He married Wilhelmina Tysseling in 1898. Both Mr. and Mrs. De Kock were born and grew up in the Pella rural area. Their first home after their marriage was located along Road 92 south of Leighton. He purchased a farm that first year on Highway 163 and moved there in 1899. They continued living there until his retirement. In rainy weather, the family went to church, visited the neighbors, and drove their hogs to market on muddy roads. A paved road in 1927 was a great change. Their son Stephen G. moved to this farm in 1938 and is still farming there at the present time.

The children born into our parent's family are; Mrs. John (Engelene) Engelhoven, Mrs. J.A. (Agnes) Van Zuuk, Mrs. C.M. (Nettie) Vroom, Mrs. Frank (Gertrude) Hiemstra, Stephen, Mrs. Gary (Gladys) Vande Haar, Albert, and Mrs. Paul (Eva Mae) Roorda. The other five live within a radius of ten miles from each other, – Gertrude and Albert in Oskaloosa, Steve and Gladys in Leighton, and Eva Mae in Pella.

Mr. and Mrs. De Kock and all of their children became members of the Reformed Church and all have served in some capacity, – either as elders, deacons, or Sunday School teachers.

by Mildred De Cook

DE KOCK, STEPHANOUS

F120

Mr. and Mrs. Stephanous De Kock

Mr. Stephanous De Kock was born in Herwynen, Provice of Gelderland, Netherlands, Dec. 14, 1838. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Jan De Kock who with their children Pretze, Stephanous (Stephen), Frederick, Jan, and Antonie came to Pella in 1856. He was 18 years of age.

On Aug. 10, 1862, Stephen answered the call of President Abraham Lincoln and volunteered for military service in the Civil War.

On Aug. 13, he was inducted into Company C., 33rd Ia. Infantry at Camp Tuttle, Mahaska Co., Oskaloosa, Ia.

On Nov. 20, the company in command of Captain Whipple, marched to Eddyville, Ia., then by rail traveled to Keokuk, Ia., and by boat via the Mississippi River to St. Louis. In Dec., they left for Columbus, Ken. and then proceeded to Memphis, Tenn.

On July 4, 1863, the company was engaged in action at St. Heleva, Ark., with 17 killed and 52 wounded.

On Sept. 10, 1863, they marched to Little Rock, Ark. and engaged in action and capture of said town. They wintered at Little Rock and engaged in numerous battles during the winter of 1863.

On Apr. 30, 1864, Mr. De Kock was wounded in his right arm at Yovo River, Ark. He was hospitalized in Little Rock, Ark., and then sent to Keokuk for further treatment. He received an honorable medical discharge at General Hospital, Keokuk, Ia., on Mar. 23, 1865.

He applied for and received his naturalization paper because of his voluntary military service. This made him a very proud American Citizen.

On Jan. 1, 1867, he was united in marriage to Miss Engeltje Van Zee. Engeltje was the daughter of Stefanus and Judith Van Zee who emigrated to America with the first Hollanders who came to Pella in 1847. Engeltje Marie was the first baby born to the Pella settlers on Oct. 20, 1847. To this happy union of almost 50 years were born 12 children. Three died as infants.

Mr. and Mrs. De Kock and their surviving children lived southeast of Pella in Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co., for 40 years.

On Jan. 1, 1903, Mr. and Mrs. De Kock moved to Pella to spend their remaining years in retirement. Mrs. De Kock passed away on Sept. 10, 1916. Mr. De Kock died on Oct. 7, 1924, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Van Zee. Both Mr. and Mrs. De Kock are buried in Portergrove Cemetery southeast of Pella.

Their children were: Antonia S. De Kock (1867-1916) who was married to Alexander De Geest (1868-1937) Mar. 15, 1894.

Stephen S. De Kock (1869-1953) was married to Wilhelmina Tysseling (1874-1966) on Jan. 27, 1898. Their children Engeline, Agnes, Gertrude, Stephen, Gladys, Albert, and Eva Mae made their homes in the same area and many descendants still live there today.

Judith S. De Kock (1872-1937) was married to Charles Frank Adair (1869-1910). They were united in marriage on Feb. 26, 1896.

John F. De Kock (1874-1960) was married to Huiberta De Jong (1878-1945) on Dec. 30, 1903.

Art S. De Kock (1879-1939) was married to Maud (the remaining information on this marriage is unknown).

Cornelia M. De Kock (1884-1917) was married to Rev. Cornelius Muller (1879-1941). They had one son, John, who is a minister in Florida.

Rebecca J. De Kock (1884-1961) and she was married to William Spraque on July 6, 1918. He was born in 1893 but date of death is not recorded.

David A. De Cook (Kock) (1886-1944) married Elsie Walcott and for many years published the *Tallamook Herald* of Tallamook, Ore.

Harry B. De Cook (Kock) (1892-1958) was never married and taught remedial physical

DeKock Family in 1939. Front, l-r: Engelene Engelhoven, mother – Mrs. S.S. De Kock, Father – S.S. De Kock and Agnes Van Zuuk; Back, l-r: Gertrude Hiemstra, Albert De Kock, Gladys Vande Haar, Stephen De Kock (S.G.), Nettie Vroom and Eva Mae Roorda.

education at Northwestern University at Evansville, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. De Kock were both loyal and faithful members of the First Reformed Church of Pella where he served as deacon for many years. He loved his home and family, his church, and his adopted country. He was very patriotic and loved band music. He could not restrain from keeping time whenever he heard a marching band.

by Paul Roorda

De KONING, WALTER AND ANNA (GEENEN)

F121

Golden Wedding Anniversary dated year: 1940. Front, l-r: Anna Geenen De Koning and Walter De Koning; Back, l-r: Johanna (Rooda), Cobie (Reynen), Jacob, Elizabeth (Slycord), Jennie (Vander Horst).

Brenda Renee Terpstra born Mar. 12, 1970, Oskaloosa, Ia., the daughter of Edward William Terpstra and Deborah Kay Slycord Terpstra. My grandparents are Walter Slycord and Dorothy Evelyn Newell Slycord. (See Slycord Story.) My great-grandfather Leonard Slycord married Elizabeth De Koning.

My great-grandmother was Elizabeth (Lizzie) De Koning born Dec. 18, 1893, Pella, Marion Co., Ia., (the third child of Walter De Koning and Anna Geenen) baptized May 6, 1894, Pella, Ia. Elizabeth married Mar. 25, 1913, to Leonard Slycord and moved to Mahaska Co. about 1932.

My grandfather Walter Slycord remembers water was always carried to the house on Saturday night for wash day was always on Monday, rain or shine using a hand-powered washing machine. Clothes were hung on the clothes line even in the winter. Frozen clothes would be brought in to finish drying at night. Starch was made on the stove. A flat iron heated on the cook stove was used to iron with and also wrapped in a blanket at nights to warm the bed. My great-grandmother made their soap in an iron kettle outside from lye and lard. She churned all their butter. They first had kerosene lamps then went to a mantle lamp (which you pumped air into). Their house was heated with a barrel stove. They had a sink to wash in but a bucket underneath caught the water. Pork was put in a barrel and salted down. This was like cured ham. Beef was put in the smoke house and smoked with hickory wood. Squirrel and rabbit were also eaten when the hunting was good.

My great-grandmother Elizabeth De Koning Slycord always had a big garden and did lots of canning. She kept their milk, cream, etc., down in the cistern before refrigeration. Before going to bed she would always set the breakfast table. She prepared all of Sunday's food on Saturday so as not to work on the Sabbath. She crocheted rag rugs. To make rag rugs she tore strips of overalls, old dresses, sheets, etc., and sewed them together, rolling them into balls as she sewed. When enough were made she would crochet them into a very durable, sturdy rug. She even made some with bread wrappers. She also embroidered dish towels but because of failing eyesight was unable to do embroidery work in later life.

On Mar. 25, 1963 my great-grandparents celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with an open house hosted by their children: Katie, Anna, Cornie, Walter, Peter, Andy, Magolena. See Slycord Story No. 2.

My great-grandmother kept a very clean home. Coffee time was a must when visitors came. There were always cookies to eat. Even the grandchildren got coffee with lots of cream and sugar. Elizabeth had gallbladder surgery in 1946 and afterward became diabetic. She spent the last few years of her life in a wheelchair. She was a member of the Good News Chapel in Oskaloosa. She died May 1, 1970, Oskaloosa, and is buried in Forest Cemetery.

My great-great-grandfather was Walter De Koning born Nov. 4, 1867, Kedichem, Zuid Holland (son of Jacob De Koning and Jannigje Den Besten) married Aug. 21, 1890, Capelle, to Anna Geenen born September 13, 1869, Capella, Sprang-Capella, Noord Brabant (daughter of Cornelis Geenen – occupation Baker, and Elizabeth Vander Hooeven. In Holland they both worked in a bakery and made bread like whole wheat and rye and cookies at the end of the week. They came to America about 1891. The boat ride took 14 days from Holland to New York. Anna was in bed seasick the whole time. From New York they went by train to Pella, Ia. They moved to Bussey, Ia. in 1892 and had a bakery in Harvey, Ia., a short time with his brother Albert De Koning and his wife Johanna. Walter De Koning farmed the rest of his life in Iowa except nine years in North Dakota from about 1916-1925. Walter enjoyed reading and Anna crocheted carpet rag rugs, did some reading, had a large garden, canned, besides taking care of her children and home.

In 1933 Walter and Anne De Koning moved to Hollandale, Minn. They celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in 1940 at Edgewater Park. Anna died Nov. 6, 1942, Walter died Jan. 28, 1952, at Hollandale, Minn. They had eight children: Jannigje (Jenny) married Walter Vander Horst; Cornelia-(1892-1903); Elizabeth my great grandmother; Jacob Dec. 11, 1896 – Feb. 9, 1897; Jacoba (Cobie) married Case Reynen; Cornelia married Jake Duim; Jacob; Johanna Marie married Henry Rooda, three children: Arene married Kenneth De Jong; Annette married Gene Dop; Sidney married Doloros Verros.

My great-great-great-grandfather was Jacob De Koning born Oct. 3, 1838, Meerkerk, Zuid Holland (South Holland), married June 3, 1862, Arkel, Zuid Holland, to Jannigje Den Besten born Mar. 22, 1839, Arkel, Zuid Holland. Jacob was a "schoenmaker," shoemaker. Jacob and Jannigje had four known children: Janna Woutrina born Sept. 22, 1862, Nederhemert; Willem born Feb. 18, 1863, Arkel; Albert born Oct. 24, 1865, Arkel; Wouter (Walter) my great-great-grandfather; Jannigje died and Jacob De Koning remarried and had one known son, Joost De Koning born Dec. 20, 1873, Nieuwendyk. Of these children, Walter, Albert, and Joost came to America.

Walter and Albert De Koning married the Geenen sisters, Anna and Johanna, in a double wedding ceremony before leaving for America.

Albert De Koning and Johanna Geenen De Koning had eight children: Jacob; Elizabeth (Veldhuizen); Jennie (Harsellar); Cornelis; Albert; Alieda (Maassen); Walterina (Van Zee); Antje Marie Jan. 12, 1910-Aug. 21, 1910).

Joost De Koning (a half-brother to Walter and Albert) and his wife Johanna came to America Feb. 16, 1900. Joe was a shoemaker in Pella, Iowa. Joe and Johanna had four children: Jacob; Pitternella (Nellie); Johanna (De Graaf); Tillie (Sheppard).

by Brenda Renee Terpstra

DE PENNING – VANDER WILT FAMILY

F122

The Leendert De Penning family and the Jan De Penning family (probably Leendert's brother) came to Pella from Westmaas, South Holland, in 1854. Leendert was a saloon keeper in Holland. It is said that the De Pennings were descendants of the Huguenots.

Leendert and Neeltje De Penning had one son, Jake, when they came to America. The rest of their children were born here: Geertje, Walter (our grandfather, born Sept. 17, 1854), Pete, Andrew and Kate. They were farmers in this country.

When the railroad came to Pella in 1866 and Walter was around nine years old, the De Penning families went to Oregon. They went by train to New York and sailed around to Oregon. They lived there two years. When Great Grandma Neeltje died, Leendert and the children came back by train as the railroad went through to Oregon by then. Some of the other De Pennings stayed in Oregon.

After Leendert came back to Pella, he married a Mrs. DeGoey who had several children. They lived northwest of Pella on a farm in the Bethel neighborhood.

We are also descendants of the Gerrit Vander Wilt family who came to America on the Good Ship Pieter Floris which left Amsterdam, Holland, in Apr. 1847, for Baltimore. They were Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Vander Wilt and their children: Dirk, Neeltje, Jan Sr., Willem, Jacobus, Jan Jr. (our ancestor), Hendrik, Antonie and Gertrudi. They got to Pella in August of 1847. They were among the first settlers of Pella. Jan A. Jr. Vander Wilt was born Nov. 4, 1831, in The Netherlands and was married to Govertje Den Burger on Febr. 25, 1853, by Rev. Scholte. Their children were: Sophia, 1855; John, 1856; Maggie, 1858; Gerridena, June 13, 1863 (our grandmother); Mary, 1865;

This is a picture of Walter De Penning family taken June 13, 1923, on Grandma's birthday. It was taken at 808 Liberty St. in Pella. 1st Row: Margaret De Penning, Alma De Penning, Wilma Vander Leest, Marion De Penning, Clifford Vander Leest, Harold De Penning, Gerald De Penning, Paul De Penning, and Walter De Penning; 2nd Row: James Vander Leest, Walter Vander Leest, Herman De Penning, Tracie De Penning, Annie De Penning, Cora Vander Leest, Gertrude Vander Leest, and Gerridena De Penning; 3rd Row, seated: Gertie (Mrs. Ed Van Hemert) and Elmer, Allie and Lane De Penning with Wilbur, Mr. and Mrs. Walter De Penning (grandparents), Gora (Mrs. Neal Vander Leest) and Lester, Trince (Mrs. Will De Penning) and Helen, Nellie (Mrs. Henry Van Roekel) and Wilma; 4th Row, standing: Ed Van Hemert, Mabel and John De Penning holding Nellie and Clarence, Henrietta De Penning, Andrew De Penning, Clarence De Pennning, Wallace De Penning, Neal Vander Leest, Will De Penning, Henry Van Roekel. These were the children and grandchildren of Walter De Penning.

Gertrude, 1868; Paty, 1869; Minnie, 1873; Cornelia and Sarah (twins), 1874; and Nellie, 1879. Gerrit Vander Wilt was a farmer and lived north of Pella.

When Walter, our grandfather, was young, he lived across the Skunk River north of Pella before there was a bridge. He wouldn't cross the river with a team of horses unless he could see a certain rock, then he knew how deep it was. Walter De Penning married Gerridena Vander Wilt in Pella on Jan. 10, 1882. Gerridena was a daughter of Jan Vander Wilt Jr., who came to Pella with his father, Gerrit Vander Wilt, in 1847, when Jan was 15 years old. Walter and Gerridena lived north of Pella about 10 miles on a farm. They had nine children: Gora, Nov. 13, 1882; Lane, Nov. 9, 1884; John (our father), Aug. 30, 1886; Nellie, July 16, 1889; Andrew, Mar. 3, 1891; William, Dec. 15, 1895; Gertie, Aug. 3, 1899; Wallace, Jan. 9, 1902; Clarence, Jan. 26, 1905. They were all farmers or farmers' wives.

My dad, John, tells about when he was a boy, he would sit by the heater and take his shoes off before he went to bed. One morning he couldn't find his shoes; they probably had fallen into the coal bucket and burned. John De Penning, who was born Aug. 30, 1886, married Mabel Hess, a school teacher, who was born Mar. 27, 1890, in Halstead, Kansas. They were married Dec. 28, 1910. Their children are: Annie (Mrs. Louie Schippers), Jan. 24, 1912; Margaret (Mrs. Paul Kiser), Oct. 20, 1914; Gerald, Feb. 21, 1917; Clarence, Sept. 29, 1919; Nellie (Mrs. Ira Veldhuizen), Dec. 3, 1921; Evelyn (Mrs. Arthur De Cook), Sept. 6, 1925; and Wallace, Oct. 12, 1927. John was a farmer but he lived in Pella the last six years of his life. Both he and Mabel are buried in Graceland Cemetery, Pella, Ia. All of their children are married and have children and we number 102 living descendants.

by Annie De Penning Schippers

This picture was taken in the spring of 1938 on a farm east of Pella. Front: Evelyn (Mrs. Arthur De Cook), Wallace; Middle: Annie (Mrs. Louie Schippers), Mabel (Mother), Margaret (Mrs. Paul Kiser), Nellie (Mrs. Ira Veldhuizen); Back: John (Father), Gerald, and Clarence.

DE PENNING, PAUL AND GERTRUDE

F123

Paul De Penning, son of Leonard and Allie Buitenwerf De Penning, was born June 15, 1918, on a farm west of Sully. He was married on Jan. 16, 1941, to Gertrude Van Dyke, daughter of Cornelius R. and Kate Bandstra Van Dyke. Gertrude was born May 16, 1919, near Albia. They farmed near Searsboro and southwest of Sully until their retirement to 1360 Orchard Drive in Pella in Dec., 1981. To this union six children were born: Barbara, Delbert, Jerry, Paula, Dale, and Donavon.

Barbara is employed at the Pella Medical Center and lives in Pella.

Delbert lives at home and attends Christian Opportunity Center.

Jerry is married to Sharon Techau and is an electrician in Marion, Ia. They have two children: Jeremy and Jody.

Paula (Mrs. Alan Driscoll) lives in Broomfield, Colo., with their two sons Aaron and Jason. She is a loan officer and her husband is self-employed.

Dale lives in Sully and works for Ver Ploeg Farm Supply.

Donavon is married to Darlys Hoksbergen and they live in Sully. They have one son, Nicholas. Donavon is employed at the Sully Cooperative Oil Dept.

Gertrude passed away Aug. 26, 1985, at the age of 66. Paul enjoys working with wood in his spare time.

by Paul De Penning

DE PRENGER, DINGEMAN

F124

Dingeman De Prenger

1860 - 1946

Dingeman De Prenger was one of five children born to Cornelius and Nellie De Haan De Prenger, who came here from Holland and settled in Pella, Ia.

Dingeman married Marie Den Burger Feb. 20, 1890.

They lived north of Leighton and had seven children. Dingeman and Marie lived in Pella for a short time where their oldest son, Con, went to Webster school.

They moved to the Den Burger farm three-fourths mile from Leighton. The family became farmers in that area except Con who owned a business in Leighton and Harry (Doc) who owned and managed a furniture store in Ottumwa. Their mother died in March, 1919, and Beulah stayed with her father and kept house for him until she married John Klein of Pella in 1935. Dingeman lived with them part of the year until John Klein died in 1940 when Beulah came to live with him one-half mile west of Leighton.

When all of them were home they were a jolly bunch. Dad taught them to work and have fun at home. In the winter they all bundled up and took blankets and hot bricks and jumped into the bobsled and away they'd go to visit friends or relatives.

They were regular attendants at church and Sunday School and worked enthusiastically for circles, programs and other service in the church.

After their mother died, Nelle, the oldest girl worked tirelessly for the family — sewing, cooking, and trying to keep them together.

Their neighbors, the Brummels and Van Maanens, lived close and visited many times and had good fellowship with one another.

When Nelle married Wm. Rempe the twins, Bess and Beulah, were left to keep house for Dad. Then Bess married A. Ernest De Cook of Pella so that left Beulah and Dad at home. Their brothers had all married and moved into their own homes.

Dingeman and Marie were good parents who taught all their family to be honest and fair in all dealings with everyone. They were truly stepping stones for others — not stumbling blocks. The example set by their Dutch grandparents lives on.

by Lillian De Prenger

DE WILD FAMILY

F125

Albert and Hendreika De Wild

Albert De Wild came from The Netherlands with his family. While on board ship to America he met Hendreika Stomhorst. The courtship started on the voyage from Holland to America. They were married, the family settled south of Pella, and they purchased land in the washboard road area. They farmed there.

They had three sons: Hendrick, Jan (John), and Albert. Hendrick married Gerritze Vander Streek and they farmed south of Pella. They had eight children. The first-born was Albert. The other children were Johanna, Henrietta, Helemina, Jeannette, John, Trynie, and Louis.

by Roy De Wild

DE WILD FAMILY

F126

Sophia and Albert De Wild. This photo was taken on the occasion of their 55th wedding anniversary.

Albert and Sophia De Wild

Albert was born May 25, 1883 to Gerritze and Hendrick De Wild. He married Sophia De Goey on Jan. 31, 1907. Early in their marriage they farmed south of Pella. Later they moved into Pella where he was employed at the Pella creamery and later at the Pella Rolscreen Company. They had two children, Roy and Grace De Wild. Albert died June 28, 1979 and Sophia Jan. 31, 1972.

by Roy De Wild

DE WILD FAMILY

F127

Charlotte and Roy De Wild. This photo was taken in 1984 prior to their 50th Anniversary celebration.

Roy and Charlotte De Wild

Roy was born on a farm south of Pella on July 12, 1910 to Albert and Sophia De Wild. When he was four years old the family moved to Pella where he attended Webster Grade School and Pella High School. After school and during vacations he was employed by the Pella Produce and the Pella Creamery. He washed hundreds of cream cans, tested cream, and assisted the butter maker.

In 1929 he was employed by the Rock Island Railroad, American Express, and the Andeweg Transfer. This was a combined job. After a few years Roy took a job as car clerk for the Rock Island and the Wabash Railroad at Keokuk, Ia. Soon after that the 1930 depression brought him back to Pella where he worked in a clothing store.

In 1934 he married Charlotte De Jong of Leighton, Ia. Charlotte and Roy had two children, Alvin and Marla.

In 1940 he became a salesman for F. Brody and Sons company of Des Moines and took a territory which he held for 18 years. In 1959 the J.C. Penny store closed out in Pella and he and A.F. Tysseling opened the T & D Department Store in the vacated building. After a few years Roy bought the Tysseling interest. A short time later his son Alvin became a partner with him in the business. Roy retired from the business in 1978.

by Roy De Wild

DE WILD, ALVIN AND MARLYS KORVER
F128

Alvin and Marlys DeWild

Alvin was born in Pella on July 18, 1935 to Roy and Charlotte (De Jong) De Wild. He attended Webster and Lincoln Grade Schools, Pella High School, and graduated from Central College in 1957. Throughout his high school and college days he worked as a part-time draftsman at the Pella Rolscreen Company.

Upon graduation from Central College, Al was hired as an advertising salesman at the *Pella Chronicle* . He left the *Pella Chronicle* to go into business with his father, Roy, at the T & D Department Store. At that time, he also added De Wild Studio to T & D where it still is located on the third level. In 1978 when Roy retired, Al and Marlys became the owners of T & D.

Marlys (Korver) De Wild, the daughter of Henry M. and Grace (Muyskens) Korver, was born on a farm northwest of Orange City. She attended a country grade school in Floyd Twp. and Newkirk High School. Marlys graduated from Central College in 1956. Following graduation she taught for two years in the New Sharon High School.

Al and Marlys met while attending Central College. They were married on June 8, 1957 and lived in New Sharon for the first years. In 1958 they moved back to Pella. In 1960 they moved to 1429 Broadway into a home which they had designed and had built.

Al and Marlys have three children: Michael, born Apr. 9, 1958; Machelle, born Dec. 1, 1959; and Millicent, born Nov. 19, 1965. All of their children presently live in Pella. All three attended Lincoln Grade School, Pella High School, and Central College.

Mike married Ruth Nieuwsma, the daughter of Gelmer and Teresa Nieuwsma on Aug. 24, 1979. Both Mike and Ruth are employed at the Pella Rolscreen Company. They have a daughter, Megan, born July 7, 1983, and a son Bradley, born Nov. 4, 1986.

Machelle married Rick Bloodsworth, son of John and Sherrie Bloodsworth, on Sept. 6, 1980. Rick is the owner of the Ulrich Meat Market. Machelle is employed part-time at T & D. They have a son, Aaron, born Apr. 16, 1984, and a daughter, Jordan, born Mar. 26, 1986.

Milli De Wild is attending Central College and works part-time at T & D. She plans to graduate from Central in 1988. Her fiance is Todd Toom. They plan to marry in the spring of 1988.

It is interesting to note in the *Souvenir History of Pella, 1847-1922* that Al's great, great grandfather, Hendrik De Wild, and Marlys' great grandfather, Willem Korver, both arrived in Pella in 1856.

by Marlys De Wild

DE ZWARTE, ABRAHAM AND JACOBA VAN OENE
F129

Abraham and Jacoba De Zwarte.

Abraham De Zwarte was born on Mar. 25, 1913, on a farm south of Pella to Marinus and Jennie Goemaat De Zwarte. Marinus (1882-1973) and Jennie (1885-1965) were born and raised on farms south of Pella and, in married life, lived on the farm of his father, Michael De Zwarte, four miles south of Pella until they moved to Pella in later years. Abe and his brother Henry M. grew up on the farm and attended Pleasant Grove and Pella Christian Grade Schools. After graduation Abe continued farming with his father. The depression years in the 1930's were hard, and with the drought in 1934, Abe sought work in the coal mines south of Pella. Abe married in 1934 and farmed the family farm. His bride was Jacoba (Cobie) Van Oene. She was born on May 16, 1914, south of Pella.

Jacoba's parents were Henry (1871-1956) and Sientje (1887-1973) Wouterse Van Oene. They were born in Heerde and Amersfort, Holland, and came to America as young adults. They married in 1911 and also farmed south of Pella. Their five daughters, Elizabeth (Mrs. Murry Sytsma), Jacoba, Anna (Mrs. Henry De Jong), Cornelia (Mrs. Edwin Vander Ploeg), and Elsie (Mrs. Cecil Terpstra) attended South Porterville School.

Abe and Cobie continued farming for twenty years, but since they were near the Des Moines River they were frequently flooded in the spring. The family was especially hard hit in 1947 when flood waters reached the doorstep of their home, and the family was evacuated by boat.

In the 1940's Abe started working at the Marshall Canning Company during the summer tomato season. In the spring of 1954 they moved to Pella with Abe working at the canning company. It later became the Pella Canning Company and produced Hi-C fruit drinks. He retired in 1987. Cobie also worked at the company for 21 years before retirement.

Abe and Cobie raised four children: Marvin, Marilyn, Connie, and Linda. They attended Pleasant Grove and Pella Community Schools. They were reared in the First Christian Reformed Church in Pella and continue to live in Pella and the neighboring areas. Marvin, born 1934, works at Rolscreen Company and married Mary Vis in 1955. Their three children are: Michael, who lives on the family homestead south of Pella; Gayle, Mrs. Roger Wyma of Pella; and Sandra, Mrs. Michael Schippers of Monroe. Marilyn, born 1937, married Gerald Van Sant in 1958. They farm south of Tracy, Ia, and have four children: Steven of Tracy, Ronald and David of Knoxville, and Susan at home. Connie, born 1944, married Gerald Rowe in 1961, and they have three sons: Kevin, Douglas, and Eric. Gerald works at Rolscreen Company. Linda, born 1947, married Patrick Brown in 1973. They reside in Knoxville, Ia. Linda works for Rolscreen Company, and Pat works for the City of Knoxville. He has three children: Elvin, Annette, and Laura.

by Connie Rowe

deBOOY, HUIBERT
F130

Huibert deBooy (1825-1911) was born in Noordeloos, Holland. He came to America in 1847 on the Scholte colonist ship "Catharina Jackson" with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Matthys deBooy, brothers Cyrenus and Matthys, and sisters Hendrika (Cole) and Heiltje (Slob).

Antje van der Linden (1835-1922) was born in Vueren, Holland. She came to Pella in 1853 and married Huibert deBooy Aug. 25, 1854. They had ten children.

Early in the 1850's Huibert and Pieter Barendrecht opened a general store two blocks east of the square on Franklin St. Later Mr. deBooy put up a brick building on West Washington St. to house his store, then after a few years bought the Willem van Asche house just west of this building. That became the deBooy home. He later attached the house to the store so they looked like one large building. The home portion eventually was the first location of Central College, and the combined buildings are now known as the Strawtown Country Store.

The deBooy Property. Now Strawtown Country Store. Left to Right: unknown, Antje deBooy, and Huibert deBooy.

Huibert and Antje deBooy were among the founding members of Pella's First Reformed Church, and Huibert was a deacon there many years. He also served several terms on the city council. Well educated, he was a prolific writer and a very public -spirited citizen.

Of the ten deBooy children, two girls (both named Adriana, incidentally) died when less than two years old. A son John died at age five. Matthys lived to be only 16, and Anna was nearly 29 when she died.

This left only Cornelia (Kate) Carl, Suzanna (Sue) Cully, Berdina (Dena) Burris, Hendrikus (Harry), and Carolina (Carrie) Bootsma Welle. One by one these four left Pella, and the only one who returned to live here later was Kate. Following the death of her husband, she moved back from northwest Iowa and lived in an apartment in the big Scholte home on the north side of the square.

Sue Cully lived in Des Moines. Dena Burris and Harry both settled in California. Carolina and her husband, William Bootsma, moved to Newton but maintained close ties with Pella particularly so long as her mother and sister Kate were here, and later when her son Jack made Pella his home.

Carolina Marie (Carrie) deBooy was born Mar. 7, 1877, at Pella. She married William H. (Will) Bootsma Nov. 11, 1900. A few years later they moved to the nearby town of Newton. There Will was general manager of Newton's "Big Store" (the Iowa Mercantile Co.) at the time of his death in 1917. He was not quite 42 years years old.

Will and Carrie Bootsma had one child, Jack William, born Jan. 19, 1913, at Newton. He was just over four years old when his father died. Left on her own with a child to raise, Carrie rented rooms and "boarded" school teachers in their comfortable home.

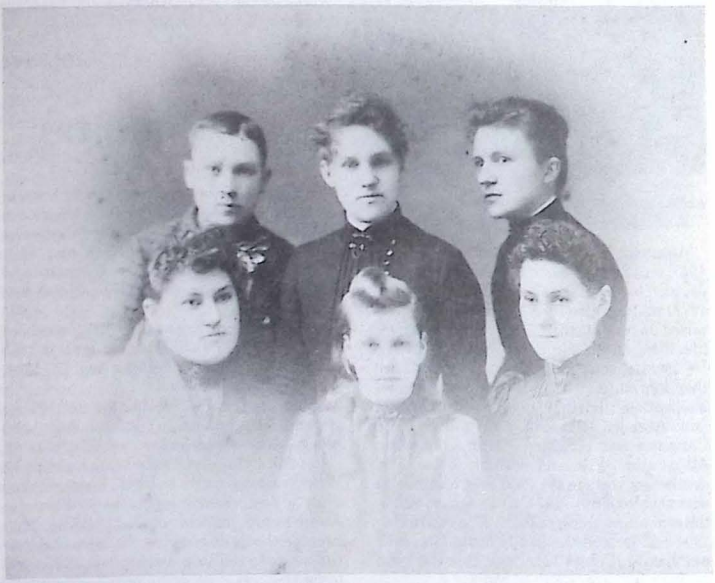
In 1920 Carrie married Herman Welle, a Newton bachelor son of John and Cornelia Groeneweg Welle. From a family of ten, Herman grew up on a farm near Newton but soon after their marriage went into the bulk gasoline business.

Carrie was active in the United Presbyterian, then the Methodist Church, belonged to a number of social organizations, enjoyed gardening and even found time to do some china painting. Without lessons, she taught herself to play the piano. She was an energetic, active woman. It was typical of her that when in her 80's she frightened her neighbors by climbing a ladder to wash her second-story windows. She spent her final years in a rest home but until she was about 94 continued to attend church and club meetings and call on friends. She died at the age of 96.

Her son, Jack Boatsma, had moved to Pella, married a college classmate, Zelda Green, and provided Carrie with a granddaughter, Beverly. Jack lost both his mother and his wife within a six-week period. Beverly is married to Des Moines attorney, Don Muyskens, and is the mother of Carrie's three great-grandchildren.

In 1974 Jack married Beth Firman Murphy of Newton, and they are the only Boatsmas in the Pella Directory. There are no deBooys listed at this time.

by Jack Boatsma



The deBooy children still living in approximately 1892. Front, l-r: Dena (age 24), Carrie (age 15), and Anna (age 28); Back, l-r: Harry (age 19), Sue (age 31), and Kate (age 35).

DeBRUIN, JACOB C.
F131

Jacob C. (J.C.) De Bruin, son of Cornelius (1844-1921) and Johanna Reuvers (1846-1909) De Bruin, was born Aug. 15, 1870, on a farm approximately five miles east of Pella, the original Cornelius De Bruin farm, later occupied by Thomas C. and Roy De Bruin.

J.C. (1870-1959) as a young man was at the parental home during the winter months. During the summer months he hired out and labored for various people and farmsteads. At one time while still a young man at home he made a swift horseback ride to Pella to get medicine for his ailing 19 year old brother Will who died of appendicitis shortly thereafter.

In 1894 J.C. was married to Henrika W.

Front: Frances; Middle, l-r: Mrs. J.C. (Johanna), twins Arnold and Harold, and J.C.; Back, l-r: Rev. Dr. C.A. (Cornie) DeBruin, Grace (Mrs. Gerrit Vis), Albert, Henry, Clara (Mrs. Bill Blom), and Edna (Mrs. Gerrit Van Roekel).

Tysseling (1872-1903), daughter of Teunis Albert (1845-1926) and Edje De Jong (1849-1937) Tysseling. Their first farming operations were started on a farm approximately four miles east of Leighton. From there they moved to the Walnut Grove Farm approximately three miles southeast of Pella where two of their children, the Rev. Dr. Cornelius A. (Cornie) De Bruin who has been a missionary of the Reformed Church in India for 40 years and Edna Josephine (Mrs. Gerrit Van Roekel) were born. In 1899 they moved to the Black Oak Center (Spite House) farm where son Henry W. was born. The mother Hendrika died Apr. 22, 1903.

Later, on Apr. 27, 1905, J.C. married Johanna (Josie) Bieshaar (1876-1966), daughter of Teunis (1843-1912) and Jennie (1852-1922) Veenschoten, both of whom came to Pella as young people with their families from The Netherlands. Johanna worked for the Redman family as a hired girl before her marriage.

Six children were born to this couple: Jennie Grace (Mrs. Gerrit Vis), Albert John, Clara Johanna (Mrs. William Blom), Arnold Harold and Harold Arnold (twins), and Frances.

J.C. retired from farming and moved to Pella at 613 Independence St. in 1936. In 1937 they moved into their newly-built brick home at 216 Union Street and lived there until their deaths.

J.C. was a charter member and elected director of the Farmers' Savings Bank, Leighton, Ia., when it was organized on Mar. 10, 1911. On Mar. 17, 1914, J.C. was elected vice-president and in 1921 was elected president of the bank and served in that capacity until 1957 at which time he resigned due to advanced age and physical infirmities. He was the only surviving charter board member.

He served as a member of the board of trustees of Central College ever since its inception as a Reformed Church school in 1917 and was an honorary member of the board at the time of his death.

He served in consistories of the Ebeneezer Reformed Church of Leighton, Ia., and Third Reformed Church of Pella for a total of 53 years. He was made an honorary elder of the latter church when he was no longer able to serve.

J.C. lived at his home on Union St. until his death Nov. 6, 1959; Mrs. J.C. De Bruin continued to live in the family home until her death on July 4th, 1966. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery.

by Frances De Bruin

DeGEUS, C., SR.

F132

Cornelius DeGeus, Sr. was born in Maasdam (De Maas), South Holland (The Netherlands), on July 26, 1836. His parents were Willem and Jozena (Dekker) De Geus. He came to Pella in 1855 along with his parents and sisters, Sija and Eva.

Cornelius was married on Nov. 11, 1863, at the age of 28 years to Neeltje Van Vliet, daughter of Jacob Van Vliet and Neeltje (Scherpenzaal) Van Vliet. They settled on a farm five miles northeast of Pella. There they raised a family of 13 children. He retired and moved to Pella in 1903.

As the boys grew and were able to take care of the chores and field work, the father (Cornelius, Sr.) had time to help with community affairs. At the time of election, he would walk to Peoria to help at the voting booth. While there, several of his acquaintances would give him money so he could pay their taxes when he went to Oskaloosa, the county seat, at a later date. So, late at night after the votes were counted, he would walk home again — carrying perhaps thousands of dollars in tax money in his pockets.

The family consisted of these children and their spouses: Jozena and Evert Borgman; Nellie and Henry Roovaart; William and (Huyser); Geertje and Antonie DeJong; Sarah and John M. Gosselink; Jacob and Bertha

C. DeGeus, Sr. Family. Front, l-r: William, Cornelius, Sr., Mrs. C. DeGeus, and Jozena; Middle, l-r: Geertje, Gerrit, Cornelia, Nicholas, and Sarah; Back, l-r: Eva, Cornelius Jr., Nellie, Jacob, and Maria.

(Werner); Eva and Julius Uitermarkt; Cornelius and Jennie (De Heer); Nicholas and Maggie (Westercamp); Gerrit and Emma (Uitermarkt); and Maria and Evertt Van Rees. Cornelia died at age two; another Cornelia died at age 21.

In 1913, a great sadness came to the family, as well as to the whole community, when their youngest child, Cornelia, age 21, was drowned at Lake Geneva, Wis., where she was attending a Bible conference. Two of her friends, Della King and Gertrude Gezel, also drowned. This happened on Aug. 28, 1913. A memorial service was held at the Central College Campus in September. The bodies were recovered in December, when separate funerals were held.

Mrs. C. De Geus passed away Sept. 26, 1920, at the age of 73 years. Mr. De Geus passed away on Wednesday morning, Aug. 27, 1930, at the age of 94 years, after having been stricken with paralysis the previous Saturday, while working in his garden at 827 West Franklin St.

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

DEKKER, JOHN

F133

John Dekker, his wife Letitia, and children, Jeanette and Fred, on porch at 1203 West Second St., Pella. About 1909.

John Dekker (1869-1918) was one of eight children born to Frederik and Maartje (Tensen) Dekker in the Harlemmermeer in the Netherlands. On May 2, 1893, he came to America. He worked for a short time in Mississippi, where his parents and three sisters joined him in 1895. In November of that year they came to the Pella area, where Frederik became a farmer, that having been his occupation in The Netherlands. He worked for a time on a farm which is now submerged in the Red Rock Dam area. In later years they lived near Eddyville, where Frederik died on June 7, 1929, and his wife died two days later. A double funeral was held at the Eddyville Reformed Church, which seemed fitting since on May 17, they had observed their 62nd wedding anniversary.

John remained in the Pella area and on Jan. 1, 1900, he married Letitia Meyer (1874-1944) daughter of Jan G. Meyer who emigrated to Pella from Dokkum in Friesland in 1857. Letitia grew up in the Bethel neighborhood northwest of Pella. She had three brothers and three sisters, besides three sisters who died in infancy. John and Letitia had two children: Fred born on Sept. 24, 1904, and Jeannette born on Jan. 15, 1906. They lived for a time on a farm west of Pella. Later they moved to Pella where John, in partnership with J.P. Klein, operated a shoe store on the east side of the square. In about 1911 he sold his interest in the store and moved to a farm near Eddyville. Two years later he purchased a "general store" in Yetter, Ia., which is in Calhoun Co. where they lived until John's death on May 6, 1918. After her husband's death, Letitia moved her family back to Pella. In April of 1925 she married Wm. Van Baren who preceded her in death. She died on July 14, 1944 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

On April 11, 1926, Fred married Helen Gaass, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gaass. They had four children: Vera Jane (1928), now Mrs. Floyd Johansen, living in Friend, Nebr.; Robert Overkamp (1930), who with his wife lives in Bellevue, Nebr.; John Douglas (1934), who with his wife lives in Lyons, Nebr.; and Fred David (1935) who with his family lives in Mobridge, S. Dak. In 1942 Fred moved his family to Bellevue, Nebr. where he worked in the Martin Bomber plant during the war, and later at Koley Plating in Omaha. Later, and until his retirement, he was superintendent of the Bellevue Water Department. Fred was always a sports fan and in later years he played golf as long as his health allowed. He was a great Tulip Time booster and came back to Pella for that occasion as often as he could. He had parts in several early Tulip Time operettas and other productions and was the "Schaaren Slijper" in Tulip Time parades while they still lived in Pella. Fred died on Mar. 15, 1978, and Helen died on Mar. 22, 1986. They are buried in Bellevue Cemetery, Bellevue, Nebr.

Jeannette taught at Warren and Silver Grove Rural Schools after she graduated from Pella High School. She then attended Central College for a year and graduated from Iowa State College in 1930 with a degree in home economics education. From 1930 through 1934 she taught in the Reformed Church Jicarilla Apache Mission School at Dulce, N. Mex. where she started their home economics department. On Jan. 1, 1935, she married Francis C. Huyser. Their story appears elsewhere.

by Jeanette Huyser

DEN ADEL, DONALD L. AND CORNELIA (DE JONG)

F134

Donald LeRoy Den Adel, son of William and Johanna Van Engelenhoven Den Adel, was born on Apr. 22, 1935, north of Pella. He attended Bell School or European I through the eighth grade. On Aug. 21, 1946, he married Cornelia De Jong, daughter of Floris and Agnes Huyser De Jong of Sully. Cornelia was born south of Sully on Jan. 23, 1928, attended the Chester School and graduated from Sully High School in 1946.

Donald and Cornelia are the parents of four children: Corliss, Judith, Kayla, and Harlan. Corliss Kay was born Dec. 26, 1946. She attended European School III and Sandridge School through eighth grade and graduated

Cornelia and Donald Den Adel

from Pella Community High School. She married Melvin Andresen and they have a son Bradley John and a daughter Andrea Jean. Later Corliss married Charles Harang who has a daughter Julie and a son Mathew. They are living in Franklin, Wisc.

Judith Ilene was born Oct. 1, 1949. She received her education at European School III, Sandridge School, and Pella Community High School. She married Gerald Roose and they have a daughter, Brenda Lyn. Gerald has a son Greg and daughter Kelly by a previous marriage. They are living in Pella.

Kayla June was born July 2,1954. She received her education by attending grade school in Pella and graduating from Pella Community High School. She married Herbert H. Muir and they have three children: Michele Dyanne, Lisa Marie, and Michael John. They live north of Chariton.

Harlan Jay was born June 4, 1961. He attended school in Pella and graduated from Pella Community High School. Harlan married Charon Kane and they are living in Pella.

Donald began farming in 1946 on his father's farm north of Pella. He later bought the farm from his father and they are still residing there.

Donald and Cornelia are members of Third Reformed Church in Pella. Donald has served as a deacon and is presently serving as an elder.

Cornelia is an active member of the Christian Opportunity Center Volunteer Corps and a part-time employee of the Pella Community Hospital.

Donald has served as a board member of Farm Bureau, Soil Conservation Services, Farmers Cooperative Exchange, and Christian Opportunity Center. He is presently serving on the board of Pella National Bank.

by Donald Den Adel

DEN ADEL, PETER
F135

Peter Den Adel (1844-1900) and Grietje Cornelia Blom (1857-1952) were married Mar. 31, 1876. They had ten children: Abraham (1877-1962), Henry (1879-1894), Johanna (1881-1977), Dick (1883-1975), John E. (1886-1887), John W. (1887-1968), Nellie (1889-1971), Frank (1891-1944), Leonard (1893-1959), and Reinus (1899-1909). In the year of their marriage on May 2, 1876, Peter purchased the lot at 403 Washington Street for $100 and built a two room brick house which still stands. However, by July 25, 1881, it was necessary to place a $300 mortgage against the property bearing eight per cent interest. It was renewed July 25, 1896, for a similar amount at six per cent. Due to his failing health it was deeded to his wife in Mar. 17, 1900, with the mortgage still intact. He died that same year. The mortgage was finally satisfied in Dec. 30, 1912.

The house has undergone many changes over the years. As the size of the family grew, more rooms were added, porches added and subtracted. The lean-to became a large kitchen. The last major addition was a bathroom. The house was purchased by granddaughter Margaret in 1970, who made extensive renovations after the death of Nellie, the last living resident. It was a century house during the 1967 Centennial.

The family suffered many hardships. Their son Henry was killed at 16 when a load of coal he was hauling upset and crushed him as a culvert in the road gave way. Their son Reinus died at age 10 and Grandma was left a widow at age 42 with eight children, the youngest a year-old baby. Abe became head of the household until his death. The house remained Grandma's home during her long and useful life. She was President of the Dorcas Society at the First Reformed Church for many years.

by Margaret Hoeksema

DEN ADEL, VERLAN AND KAREN
F136

Verlan John Den Adel was born May 15, 1940, in Pella, Ia. Verlan's parents were John and Nellie (De Geus) Den Adel. He graduated from Battle Ridge country school in 1954, Pella High School in 1958, Central College in 1962, and the University of Ia. (M.S., 1965).

He married Karen Westerveld from Markesan, Wis., on June 15, 1963. Karen was born on Oct. 10, 1940, and her parents were Willis and Mildred (Prange) Westerveld. Karen graduated from Central College in 1962. Karen has been an elementary teacher at Washington, Ia.; State Center, Ia.; Plymouth, Wis.; and Pella.

Verlan has been a high school mathematics teacher in State Center, Ia.; Sheboygan Falls, Wis.; and Pella. Since 1972, he has been employed at Rolscreen Company, currently serving as Marketing Research Manager. Verlan has been a member of the Pella City Council since 1982.

Their four children are Mark Alan born on Sept. 2, 1966; Kevin John born on Jan. 24, 1969 in Pella; and Sara Lynn born on Nov. 27, 1971. in Pella; and Jennifer Ann (not pictured) born on Sept. 26, 1979, in Korea. Jennifer joined the family on Apr. 3, 1987.

by Verlan Den Adel

Left to Right: Mark, Verlan, and Karen Den Adel, Kevin, and Sara.

DEN ADEL, WALTER
F137

Walter (Wouter) Den Adel, son of Abram Den Adel (Feb. 4, 1818) and the former Neeltje Willemstijn (Feb. 18 or 19, 1824), came to Pella with his parents and siblings in the spring of 1868 at the age of four and one-half years. The youngest of eight children, he was born during the night of Oct. 30-31, 1863, at Vuren, Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands. The family came to Pella mainly to seek better economic opportunities, and Walter in time distinguished himself

Front, l-r: Walter Den Adel (father), John, Wm. and Jennie (mother); Back, l-r: Abraham, Ben, and Walter.

as a successful farmer on two farms north of Pella. On Mar. 7, 1887, he married Jennie (Janigje) Vos, born on Nov. 30, 1863, to Bastiaan Vos (born at Klaaswaal, The Netherlands, Nov. 24, 1821) and Grietje Kamp (born at Westmaas, The Netherlands Nov. 8, 1821, and married there on Dec. 28, 1848, before coming to the U.S. in 1849). The Den Adels were active in the Bethel Reformed Church, five miles northwest of Pella, where Walter served on the Consistory. Upon retirement in 1924 to their newly-built home at 802 Liberty St., they were members of the Third Reformed Church in Pella. Walter died on Nov. 19, 1927, at the age of 64, and Jennie on July 26, 1949, at the age of 85. Walter's father had died on Jan. 15 or 16, 1892, at the age of 73, and his mother on Jan. 30, 1884, at the age of almost 60. Jennie's mother died on Apr. 8, 1895, at the age of 73, and her father on Feb. 13, 1899, at the age of 77. Children born to Walter and Jennie Den Adel were Abraham, Ben, Walter W., John, and William, all born on farms north of Pella.

Abraham W., named after his paternal grandfather, was born north of Pella on Dec. 9, 1887, and died in Pella on Sept. 24, 1983, at the age of over 95 years. He married Wilhelmina Van Hemert on Mar. 12, 1914, and she died on Dec. 29, 1959, at the age of 66. His career was in farming north of Pella until he and Minnie retired to Pella in the mid 50's.

Ben (Bastiaan), named after his maternal grandfather, was born north of Pella on Aug. 8, 1889, and died in Pella on May 22, 1975, at the age of 85. He married Nettie De Goey on Feb. 23, 1922, and she died on Nov. 4, 1985, at the age of 92. Ben and Nettie lived on a farm seven miles northwest of Pella, until they retired to Pella in 1959.

Walter W. (Wouter), named after his father, was born north of Pella on Nov. 4, 1891, and died in Oskaloosa, Ia. on Sept. 8, 1962, at the age of 70. He married Grace Zylstra on Feb. 23, 1916, and she died on Oct. 3, 1942, at the age of 47. He later married Ellen Comstock McCombs on June 24, 1945, and she died on Jan. 1, 1961, at the age of 45. To the union of Walter and Grace were born Jeanetta (Mrs. Cornie Dahm) of Oskaloosa, Charlotta (in succession, Mrs. Clarence Van Roekel, Mrs. Virgil Paxton, and Mrs. William Bowen) of Des Moines, and Irvin of Oskaloosa, who married Elsie De Young. To Walter and Ellen were born sons, Phillip Lee and Thomas Walter, who later became foster children of Mr. and Mrs. James Jackley of Caroll, Ia. Walter first farmed south of Pella and in 1933 moved near Oskaloosa. He left the farm after a few years and moved into Oskaloosa, from which he commuted to work at the Pella Rolscreen Company.

John (Jan), named after his mother, was born north of Pella on Feb. 11, 1896, and died in Pella on Dec. 9, 1983, at the age of 87. He married Nellie (Neeltje) De Geus, named after her grandmother, Neeltje Van Vliet, who came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Van Vliet, on the *Pieter Floris* ship, which sailed from Amsterdam to Baltimore in 1847. The marriage occurred on Feb. 26, 1925, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. William De Geus, five miles east of Pella. Nellie died on May 30, 1984, at the age of 87. They lived on a farm in the Bethel neighborhood, close to the Bethel Reformed Church and five miles northwest of Pella, from 1925 to 1963, when they retired to their newly-built home at 701 Broadway (next to the home built by Walter) in 1963. They resided there until 1983, when both became residents of Hilltop Manor in Pella. John died in the Pella Community Hospital and Nellie in the Pella Community Nursing Home, where she had been six days. During their marriage they were members of the First Reformed Church of Pella, where John served as Elder and Vice-President of the Consistory and Sunday School Teacher, and Nellie was active in the Ladies' Aid. To this union were born Raymond Lee on Apr. 23, 1932, on the family farm north of Pella, and Verlan John on May 15, 1940, at the Vander Meulen Maternity Hospital in Pella. Verlan married Karen Westerveld at Alto, Wis., on June 15, 1963, and his family story appears elsewhere in this edition. John and Nellie, as well as his parents and grandparents, are buried in Graceland Cemetery, north of Pella, as are Nellie's paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Cornelis De Geus.

Raymond, son of John and Nellie, was graduated from Battle Ridge School (rural) in 1946, Pella High School in 1950, Central College (B.A.) in 1954, the Army Intelligence School in Baltimore, Md., in 1956, the University of Ia. (M.A.) in 1959, and the University of Illinois (Ph.D.) in 1971. His career has been in high school and college teaching in Ia. and Illinois in the fields of Classics, English, Archaeology, and History. For several years he was on the Governing Board of the National Archaeological Institute of America, for which he also served as a National Lecturer. He was also involved in organ and piano playing in various communities of his residence. Since 1967, he has been Chairman of the Classics Department at Rockford College in Rockford, Ill., where he also has been an active Rotarian in local and district activities and a Paul Harris Fellow. He served, as well, in the capacity of Elder in the Hope Reformed Church of Rockford.

William, fifth son of Walter and Jennie Den Adel, was born north of Pella on Aug. 2, 1901. He married Johanna Van Engelenhoven on Mar. 6, 1924. She died on Jan. 18, 1985, at the age of 81. William and Johanna lived on the "home place", seven miles northwest of Pella, until they moved to Pella in 1946. To this union were born Donald L., who married Cornelia De Jong, Ruth L. (Mrs. Peter Fazio of Greater Kansas City); Joyce V. (Mrs. Robert Brown of Villisca, Ia.); and Fern L. (Mrs. Kenneth Uitermarkt of Pella).

by R. L. Den Adel

DEN ADEL, WILLIAM AND JOHANNA (VAN ENGELENHOVEN)

F138

William, the fifth son of Walter and Jennis Vos Den Adel, was born north of Pella on Aug. 2, 1901. He received his education at Bell School or European I. He married Johanna Van Engelenhoven on Mar. 6, 1924, at the home of her parents which was at the top of the big hill and called the Langerak farm. Johanna, the third daughter of Benjamin and Tryntje Tol Van Engelenhoven, was born Aug. 4, 1903. Johanna received her education at Richland School near Otley.

William and Johanna lived on the "home place" seven miles northwest of Pella. During this time they had four children. Donald LeRoy was born Apr. 22, 1925; Ruth LeAnn was born Oct. 9, 1926; Joyce Verniece was born Oct. 13, 1928; and Fern LaRue was born Mar. 29, 1939.

They attended the Bethel Reformed Church near Pella, the Otley Reformed Church, and later became members of the Third Reformed Church.

William and Johanna moved to Pella in the fall of 1946. They bought the Ed Plette home located at 838 Franklin. Will was active in A.A.A., later Agricultural Stabilization Conservation Service (A.S.C.S.). Johanna died on Jan. 18, 1985, at the age of 81. Will moved to Midtown Apartments in Dec. 1985.

by William Den Adel

DEN BESTEN, CORNELIUS

F139

Gerrit Den Besten and Elizabeth Den Hartog Den Besten of Te Nieuland, Zuid Holland, The Netherlands were the parents of Kornelis (Cornelius), Jakobus, Klaas, Maaike, Cornelia, Pieter, and Dirkje. The two sons Cornelius and Jakobus, along with Cousin Jakobus, migrated as young men to Three Oaks, Mich. Brother Jakobus did marry but died early in life without children. Cousin Jakobus soon left the area, moving to the South, probably Florida. As far as known, the other family members stayed in The Netherlands. Cornelius soon found work felling trees, chopping wood, and working on the railroad, and by association, he learned the English language. After six years he managed a return trip to The Netherlands to visit his parents and family. Upon his return visit he still donned the knitted wool socks and clothing which were made by his mother and sisters who had supplied them in abundance.

Returning to the States, Cornelius was accompanied by the Piet Ravenstien family whose young son later would marry Lizzie, the eldest daughter of Cornelius. They now took up living in the South Holland, Ill. area which had become a sizeable Dutch settlement. South Holland was originally settled in 1846 and many came later from Zuid Holland and Gelderland in The Netherlands. The settlement was first called "de Lage (low) Prairie" as distinguished from "de Hooge (high) Prairie" in Roseland. In reality, South Holland was higher, but it was hard to measure in those days. The settlement along the Calumet River grew and land prices became to expensive at $200 per acre by 1874. The city of Chicago needed produce, so the farmers divided the land into plots, and gave them to their sons who began a truck garden type of farming.

On Apr. 1, 1875 Cornelius Den Besten (1838 – 1913) married Huibertje Hansum (1851 – 1939) in the Christian Reformed Church in South Holland, Ill. and settled on a 15-acre farm for gardening and pasture. He also worked in a factory during the winter months. Huibertje Hansum's parents were Teunis Hansum (1825 – 1911) and Lyntje Ver

The family of Cornelius and Huibertje (Hansum) Den Besten. Front, l-r: Teunis, Della, Cornelius, Huibertje, Bessie, and Edward; Back, l-r: Lena, Lizzie, Gerrit, Annie, Maggie, and Cora.

Steeg (1828 – 1902) who were married Nov. 29,1850 at Hardinxveld, Zuid Holland, The Netherlands. This family with eight children came from The Netherlands to South Holland about 1877 and lived there some six or seven years. By 1880 many of the Dutch settlers began to move West to Pella and Sioux Co. in Ia. Homesteading became available in the Dakota Territory.

In 1882 Cornelius Den Besten and Teunis Hansum went to the Dakota Territory to look for homesteads offered by the government. They each took a 160-acre. claim on which they would have to erect all their buildings and live the allotted time to become legal owners. The claims were in Douglas Co., Clark Twp. sec. 14, and two east quarters between two and three miles south of what is now New Holland, on the west side of the road. In the very wet spring of 1883 the Den Besten and Hansum families went by train to Plankington, S. Dak. with lumber, cattle, horses, wagons, and furniture. They moved with horses and wagons over what seemed unending prairie, to their claims about 35 miles to the south. Life for the homesteaders was beset with many hardships and trials, but their strong faith in God helped them survive.

A sister of Huibertje Hansum Den Besten named Teuna, born 1865, married Heine S. Keuning in 1884 at Plankington, S. Dak. where Heine had come to investigate homesteading. Heine S. Keuning had worked in Pella on the railroad and at various jobs prior to his marriage. Heine and Teuna did go to Pella soon after their wedding to live and farm and they became parents of 11 children who were all born in the Pella area. Many of the descendants of this family still live here as of this writing and are involved in a wide variety of business enterprises as well as farming.

The Dakota "kolonie" grew rapidly and by 1885 some 3000 people were there. Eight of the ten children of the Den Besten family married and settled in Dakota as did many of the Hansum family. They were pioneers indeed, experiencing abundant and lean years along with devastating floods, drought, prairie fires, and the dust bowl days. Our ancesters lived close to the land and their God, establishing Reformed and Christian Reformed Churches upon their arrival in Harrison and New Holland, S. Dak. They were Calvinists holding to the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession, and the Canons of Dort. The years from the mid 1880's to the mid 1930's proved the uncertainty of Dakota's climate. Land prices varied from ten cents per acre to $35 per acre, depending on conditions.

It was the devastating drought and dust storms of the mid-1930's that drove the families of the third Den Besten child Gerrit, and sixth Den Besten child Ed, to seek new horizons in Pella for their families. Gerrit had spent 1920 to 1929 in Holland, Mich. but had moved back. It was while these brothers were "harvesting" Russian thistle for hay during the drought in the mid 1930's that they decided "enough", and moved to Pella in the years 1936 and 1937.

by Harold Den Besten

DEN BESTEN, EDWARD

F140

Edward (Ed) was the sixth of ten children of Cornelius and Huibertje (Hansum) Den Besten born Oct. 8, 1885, two miles south of New Holland, S.D. He grew up on the farm his parents homesteaded in 1882 and attended school in winter months.

On Jan. 26, 1910, Ed was married to Jennie Keuning, the tenth and youngest child of Sjoukes and Minke (Buisma) Keuning, born July 28, 1891, on a three-room barge, Province of Vriesland, The Netherlands. In 1893 the entire family came to America and eventually to New Holland, S.D. Jennie was only five when her father died. She attended school up to the fifth grade. At a very young age she did housework outside the home and often referred to the "sugar jar" where the day's earnings were kept for the mother to use, because they were very poor.

Ed and Jennie moved on his parents' farm following their marriage. While buying the farm, improvements to the buildings were done. When the drought of the 30's came and the closing of the Corsica State Bank, they lost just the amount of money to make the final payment on the farm. Just prior, Ed's mother discouraged the final payment so they would not short themselves. The final payment was completed sometime after the move to a farm near Otley, Ia., in 1937.

During the hot summer of 1931 the tenth child was born in the home and, the cold winter of Jan. of 1932 we as a family will never forget. The mother took sick with what a doctor treated as flu for about a week. A second doctor diagnosed it as a ruptured appendix. It was a Sunday, but soon the truck made the ten mile trip, and the surgery equipment, a hospital bed, and a special nurse were brought to the home. The younger children were farmed out to nearby relatives for several weeks. Her recovery was truly an answer to prayer for a family where she was so needed.

The drought continued; eggs, bread, and milk became a regular evening meal. Wheat was exchanged for flour to mix up the bread dough for 30-35 loaves of bread, enough for a week. The boys would hunt rabbits and feed the meat to the chickens, which provided a good protein for laying hens. Milking cows was a daily chore for the family before and after school. The Summer of 1934 a tornado reduced the beautiful round-roof barn to kindling. In 1936 the dust storms and hot summers continued. The grain bins were depleted, no garden produce to fill the rows of empty jars in the cellar; harvesting was only wild Russian thistle for hay and bedding. In August a visit to Pella with the Keunings, cousins of Ed, took place. The crops looked terrific to the visitors, and they soon looked into the possibility of renting a farm.

It was some time before word came via telephone that a farm belonging to A.B. Van Howeling northeast of Otley, Ia., was available. The next concern was, how could they afford such a move. A local trucker agreed to move five loads in exchange for the threshing machine. One load stands out in our memory with two big incubators perched on top to be used to hatch chicks in the spring. The egg and cream checks went a long way to supply the essentials needed. Two children were married. The oldest daughter Helena and husband moved on the home place; son George and wife farmed near by. In Feb. of 1937, Cornelius, Franklin, Minnie, Alfred, Ralph, Lawrence, Violet, and Gladys, with their parents, made the move to Otley, Ia. The cattle were shipped by railroad, so Ed and one son traveled with them. The family traveled by night so the children could sleep on the trip. In May 1937 the eleventh child, Leroy, was born.

Ed and Jennie continued farming until Feb. of 1944, when their son George and family moved from South Dakota to the Van Howeling farm. The parents moved to Pella

Front, l-r: Alfred, Jennie, Leroy, Edward, George. Back, l-r: Minnie, Helena, Lawrence, Franklin, Ralph, Cornelius, Violet, Gladys.

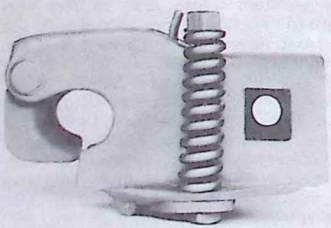
where Ed did a variety of jobs until he suffered a stroke in 1951. Jennie worked for Jaarsma Bakery for several years. Through the years church activities were of great importance for the family — serving on consistory, teaching a Bible lesson, and having the children attend the Christian Schools. Ed died Mar. 10, 1961; Jennie died July 26, 1979. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Their children pursued various interests — farming, teaching, business, ministry, medicine, and homemaking. As this goes to print, Helena, Franklin, Alfred, Ralph, and Gladys are deceased. One daughter, Minnie (Mrs. Edgar Roorda), is the only remaining member still living in Pella.

by Minnie Roorda

DEN BESTEN, GERRIT
F141

Gerrit Den Besten (1879 – 1957) married Fredricka Van Zee (1887 – 1935), daughter of



A "Den Besten" safety hitch for use between tractor and plow.

Gerrit Den Besten in 1948, Inventor and Entrepreneur.

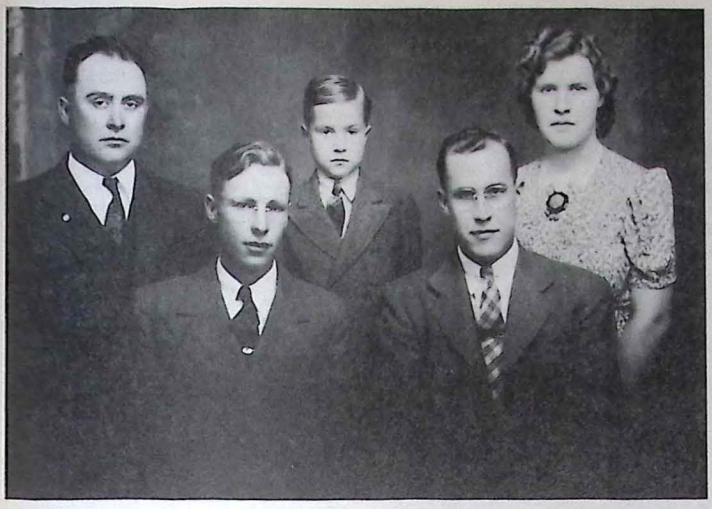
Fredrick and Janntje Van Horsen Van Zee on Dec. 27, 1906, at New Holland, S. Dak. They were parents of Cornelius, Frederick, Jeannette, Harold, and Ivan, who were all born in Douglas County, S. Dak. The Gerrit Den Besten family was first engaged in farming two miles south of New Holland, S. Dak. Soon his inventive qualities began to surface and he spent many a late evening devising a simple, but effective, hitch for horse-drawn agricultural equipment. The year was 1910, patents were issued, and a company was formed between Gerrit Den Besten, Albert

Fredricka (Van Zee) Den Besten taken in mid-1920s.

Hulsebos, and Henry Ketel. Practical and compassionate, these men were determined to create a coupling device that would automatically disengage itself whenever the plow came in contact with a solid object, such as a tree stump or buried rock. By doing so, both the harnessed animal and plow would be protected from undue strain and harm. The company began in Corsica, S. Dak., but it soon became apparent that raw material and finished product had to be shipped to far. A move to Holland, Michigan was undertaken in 1920 and the Holland Hitch Company was born. The company was successful, but Den Besten again felt the "call" to farm in Dakota and so moved back in 1929, hoping to draw the royalties on the hitch volume. As things worked out, the timing was bad. The depression of 1930 swamped the firm, and Gerrit was persuaded by Henry Ketel to bail out to Ketel and associates for a paltry figure. Yes, the Holland Hitch Company of Holland, Michigan had a rebirth and business again flourished, largely on acquired patents of Gerrit Den besten. It is significant that the world's leading manufacturer of fifth wheels and coupling devices can trace its beginings back to the days of horse-drawn plows and steam-powered locomotives.

While farming in Dakota, Gerrit's mind was again turning inventive, and he designed a coupling device that would extend under stress and disengage the clutch of the tractor. In 1935 Gerrit's wife Fredricka aged 47, died which proved most unsettling. He moved temporarily to Holland, Mich. and back and then decided to move to Pella in 1936. The move was undertaken with daughter Jeannette and sons Harold, a teenager, and Ivan who was three years old. Daughter Jeannette who was in her late teens, took on the housekeeping duties of the family along with some secretarial work. Harold completed his high school while Ivan began his schooling in Pella.

The move to Pella was not accomplished with out contacts. The family of Heine S. Keuning, who were Gerrit's cousins through his mother, were helpful, as were the cousins of his deceased wife, the Fred Van Zee and



Children of Gerrit and Fredricka Den Besten taken in 1942. Front, l-r: Fredrick and Harold; Back, l-r: Cornelius, Ivan, and Jeanette.

the Henry J. Van Zee families. Soon after coming to Pella, Gerrit Den Besten found a spot to set up shop in a part of the building known as the Old Feeder Works and there, after much trial and error, a product was produced which provided the safety coupling device between the farm tractor and plow. The small firm, named Tractor Safety Stop Company, began production in 1938 with main distribution being done through the retail catalogs of Sears Roebuck & Co. and Montgomery Ward & Company. During its time of hitch manufacture the shop moved to space in the O.K. Tire & Welding Shop on East First St. so that necessary welding could be done there. It was also at this time that cousin Henry Keuning aided financially and worked in the shop. It had always been Gerrit's hope to recapture some of the success of selling to the original equipment manufacturers attained while he was part of the Holland Hitch Company, but this was not to be. Again the timing was a factor. Plows were soon operated with new hydraulic systems which were changing the whole field of tractor and plow-coupling combinations. After this development, the hitch business diminished to replacement market and thus became a slow field. Soon the market dried up. In an effort to keep the wheels turning, Gerrit did manufacture and sell a lawn swing with a unique overhead fan. A market could not be sustained, so this venture came to an end. In the late 1940's and early 1950's Gerrit Den Besten's inventiveness produced a prototype of fifth wheel with his patented lock used as coupling between truck tractor and trailer. Once again Gerrit had hoped to produce a product like that which had launched Holland Hitch Company into world wide sales today of 100 million, but it was never manufactured before he died in 1957. Gerrit and Fredricka are buried at New Holland, S. Dak.

Gerrit was self-educated in the world of pattern-making out of wood. This was his pride and joy and is now all but a lost art. Gerrit was last employed at the Parsons Company in Newton where he retired and operated an apartment house in his later years. At this writing, daughter Jeannette Jansen lives in Newton, son Harold resides in Pella, and son Ivan lives and teaches in Bowling Green, Ohio. Son Cornelius operates a seed firm in Platte, S. Dak., while son Fred retired in Holland, Mich. The son Harold operated "Den Besten Pella Food Route" for many years and is part of Pella's business history. Gerrit Den Besten was truly identified as an inventor and as such made Pella and the world a better place in which to live. Gerrit believed that all things are in the providence of God and thus learned to be content to honor Him in all of life.

by Harold Den Besten

DeWINTER, ELMER AND CARRIE

F142

Born June 29, 1918 to Wilbur David and Jennie (Fowler) Van Wyck in the Wallkill, New York, area, Carrie first came to Pella as a student at Central College in the fall of 1937. After graduation and several jobs later, she returned to Pella as a bride of Elmer John DeWinter in 1948. Carrie taught grammar one year at the Junior High in the old Webster building before retiring to have and to raise two sons, Allen (1950) and David (1953).

Very little is known about Elmer's family tree. Records either were not kept or destroyed. Elmer's grandparents, William (1850-1924) and Anna (Vander Linden) (1851-1924) DeWinter, came from Holland about 1882-84 to Pella. They raised a family of seven children – Nickolas (1875-1944), Henry (?), Jake (?), Minnie (1883-1941), Tunis (1885-1945), Neal (?), and John (1892-1954). Elmer is the son of Nickolas and Wilhelmina (Minnie) (Klyn) DeWinter. Nickolas and Minnie had eight children – Anna Mae DeWinter Roorda (1903-1978), Andrew (1904-1975), Willard (1906-), Arthur (1909-), Charles (1911-1970), Viola DeWinter Butler (1914-), Elmer (1916-), and Ota DeWinter Champagne (1919-). Nickolas and his brother-in-law, Arie Klyn, operated the Klyn-DeWinter meat market located in one of the stores on the west side of Main Street between the Fowler Telephone Co. and the square.

Elmer's great grandparents on his mother's side, Arie Ariese (1811-1889) and Neeltje (Klein) Klyn (1816-1902), came to Pella from Holland in 1856. They had five children – Gerrit (1842-?), Arie Adrianus (1844?), Hendrieka (1846-?), Adrianus (1847-1932), and Jana (1854-?). Adrianus married Dirkie Boland (1855-1945) and had eleven children – Neeltje (1878-1973), Wilhelmina (Minnie) (1879-1967), Arie (1881-1978), Dena (1882-1945), Hendrieka (1884-1885), Hendrieka (1886-1959), Josena (1888-1975), Jana (1890-1894), Johanna (Anna) (1893-1975), Hendrik (1895-1951), and Andrew (Brooks) (1897-1986).

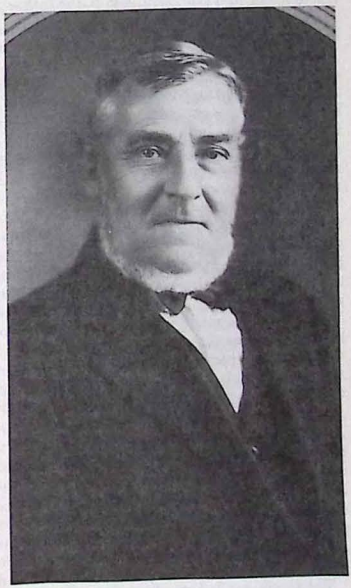
After serving in the Armed Forces from 1942-1945 in Iceland and India, Elmer became a postal employee in the Pella postoffice as a city carrier and later a rural carrier. He was in the postal service 1946-1980. Elmer and Carrie are now Pella senior citizens with two sons, Allan and David, living elsewhere. Other than the Forest and Viola (DeWinter), Butler line, Elmer and Carrie, the DeWinters have all left Pella.

by Elmer DeWinter

DAHM, JAKOB (DAM)

F143

The recorded history of the (Dam) Dahm family traces back to the late 1500's when there lived in the Town of Dordtrecht in the



Jakob Dahm (Dam).

50th Anniversary. The Dahm's 50th Anniversary in the United States. Front, l-r: Jacob, Peter F., Joe, Henry; Middle, l-r: Helen, John, Nellie, Stella; Back, l-r: Leonard, Cornie, Arie, and Bert.

province of South Holland a man named Jan Dam. Nothing is known of him except that he was the father of a son, Hendrik, born in 1620. Hendrik owned a windmill used to grind grain called "The Bakerienne" in Dordtrecht. He was a Mennonite. The next five generations, including most kinfolk, owned windmills and were grain millers. The whole South Holland area was saturated with Dam millers. In about 1840 Arij Dam, the sixth generation miller, sold his mill in Numansdorp to a cousin and became a baker. His son, Jan, and grandson, Jakob, the father of the twelve children that migrated to Pella in 1911, also were bakers.

Jakob was born in Zuid Beijerland in 1866 and in 1890 he married Styntje Groenenboom. He moved to Nieuw Beijerland where he started his own bakery. As his family increased (nine boys and three girls) he sensed it would be difficult to set them all up as bakers so they decided to come to America, the land of opportunity.

In Apr. 1911, they arrived in New York on the steamship Ryndam with the following children: Henry, Nellie, Helen, Jacob, Joe, Stella, Peter, Leonard, Cornie, and Arie, and a brother, Jan. His sons, Bert and John, were already living here. Upon arriving in New York, the press made much of this family's arrival. Newspaper reporters pressed them for stories and pictures and followed them all the way into Pella. News articles appeared in the papers such as the *New York Times, Baltimore Sun, Chicago Tribune, Grand Rapids Press,* and *Des Moines Register.* The reporters' following this family was very exasperating even though they were well compensated. The reason for all this publicity was that there had been a popular stage play in New York in the prior years and many cartoons named, "The Whole Dam Family." Now the actual family had arrived!

The family settled on a farm five miles east of Pella where they lived for one year, Jakob doing farm labor. They then moved east of Eddyville where they farmed for three years. In 1915 the family settled two miles southeast of Peoria where they rented a large farm. A few years later Jakob purchased the farm and built a complete set of new buildings, except the house. He rented nearby cropland and was among the first farmers to have a gas tractor. His wife died in 1926. He continued farming for four years and held a public auction in 1930. He then moved to the Home for the Aged in Pella where he died in Oct. 1936.

by J.B. Dahm

DIELEMAN, WILLIAM
F144

Garret and Josie Dieleman receiving the Master Swine Producers Award from WHO Radio Farm Editor Herb Plambeck about 1951.

To the Dutch Dieleman is an old name. In southern Holland the name was common already in the 13th century. There are two known Coats-of-Arms, both bear the inscription "Dieu et le soleil" ("God and the sun or sunshine," in French).

In 1839, William Dieleman, born in the Netherlands, Oct. 8, 1809, was married to Susanna Boeje (or Boeve). She was of French descent. She was born Aug. 26, 1813. At age three her Huguenot parents were killed and she went to live with the Van Dommelen family.

In 1849 the Dielemans migrated to America. They first settled in New Amsterdam, now New York. Their children were: Renier (1841-1928) who married Teuntje Den Hartog; Willem Jr. (1844-1896) who married Adrijaantje (Janey) Stek; Kaatje (Kathryn) (1846-1879) who married Jacobus Den Besten; Susanna (1847-1874) who married Jacob Kegel; Daniel (1849-1919) who married Maria Scharf; Jonanna (Johanna) (1852-1930) who married Jacob Maasdam; and Elizabeth (1857-1935) who married Jacob Kempkes. The last two were born in New York. The second eldest child, Willem Jr., is our ancestor. He was born Sept. 27, 1844, in Axel, Zeeland, Netherlands. On Apr. 23, 1872, he married Adrijaantje (Janey) Stek. He died June 10, 1896, and is buried in the Graceland Cemetery north of Pella. Their children were: William (1873-1952) who married Marie Ippel; Cornelius (Case) (1874-1947) who married Dirke (Delia) Rietveld; Susanna (1876-1962) who married Conrad (Koen) Vander Leest; John (1879-1967) who married Sarah Meyer; Daniel (1880-1928) who married Alida (Lyde) Terpstra; Gertie (1881-1907) who never married; Rennier (1894-1935) who married Sarah Vander Leest; Cornelia (Kate), (1886-1966) who married Lambert Moes; Johanna (1888-1974) who married Tony B. Vanden Hoek; and Adrijaantje (Jennie) (1892-1975) who married Peter DeJong.

The eldest child, William, born May 2, 1873 in Pella, is our ancestor — our grandfather. On Mar. 19, 1903, he married Marie Ippel (Jan. 29, 1874 – Aug. 22, 1958) born in Werkendam, Noord Braband, Netherlands.

William and Marie had three children: Wilmina Adrianna (May 19, 1904) who married William E. Vander Voort (Jan. 19, 1904). Their children are: Christina Marie (Apr. 26, 1933.) She married Joseph Franklin Broyles III on July 15, 1975, in Dallas, Tex. No children. William Everett (Aug. 15, 1935,) who married Ann Gilday Sabin Aug. 18, 1967, in Washington D.C. They had one daughter, Amy. Ann died June 30, 1982, in Houston, Tex., where they made their home. On Nov. 17, 1984, William (Bill) married Carolyn Foshee Durham. Daniel Renier (Jan. 10, 1935) who married Janice Lea Beyer (Mar. 19, 1938) on May 2, 1958. They have two children, Laurie and Jeffrey. Gerdena Mae (Mar. 24, 1944) who never married.

William and Marie's only son, Garret Jan (Feb. 11, 1906 – Apr. 23, 1969), married Jozena De Geus on Feb. 12, 1930, in a double wedding with Jozena's (Josie's) brother Andrew and Anna Van Zante. Garret and Josie's children are: William Wilbur (Jan. 19, 1931) who married Emily June Langstraat (Dec. 29, 1930) on Aug. 30, 1951, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Their children are: Wendell Earl (Aug. 2, 1951); Cynthia Elaine (Aug. 17, 1954) who married Dennis De Young; and Kristen

Josie Dieleman and her children. Back, l-r: Delores and husband Gary Meadows, Marvin (his wife, Marlene, seated in front on the left), Emily and Bill Dieleman, Stanley Bruxvoort (husband of Reuvena, seated in front on the right), Bob and his wife Florence. Front, center: Mother Josie. Taken 1984.

Eileen (Oct. 8, 1961) who married Francis (Frank) Gandrow. Reuvena Marie (May 15, 1932) who married Stanley Harold Bruxvoort on June 14, 1951. Their children are: Keith Eugene; Michael Jay; Jacki Rae; and Kent Allen. Marvin Garold (Sept. 25, 1934) who married Marlene Ann Marlenee. They have two adopted children, Mary Ellen and Mark Eugene. Robert Dwayne (Jan. 1, 1938) who married Florence Joyce Dryfhout May 21, 1964. Their children are: Joel D., Jill Ann, and Chad Erin. Delores Jean (Feb. 14, 1943) married Gary James Meadows on May 29, 1964. Their children are Lyle Jon and Leanne Joy.

Gertrude Susanne Dieleman (June 7, 1911) married Cyrus Henry Faber (Mar. 15, 1907 – Jan. 28, 1983) on Nov. 25, 1936. They had one son, Robert Dean (Oct. 29, 1941 – Mar. 9, 1945).

William Dieleman died Nov. 15, 1952. Marie Dieleman died Aug. 22, 1958. They are both buried in the Sully Cemetery.

William and Marie lived most of their married life in Jasper County. Mr. Dieleman was well known in the Sully area where he was a farmer and a township assessor and later he sold insurance. He was a tall stately man with an excellent memory for facts, dates and details. He was very interested in world events as well as governmental issues. He was a kind man and he cared for his wife who was badly crippled with arthritis until his health failed and they moved to a nursing home in Pella where he died.

Garret Dieleman was a farmer most of his life in Jasper, Marion and Mahaska Counties. He won many awards and ribbons including Master Swine Producer for his Duroc hogs. In 1956 he and Josie moved to Pella and he worked at Vermeer Manufacturing Company until his death in 1969. They were faithful supporters of the Pella Christian High School basketball teams. They attended most of the games.

by Emily J. Dieleman

A Dieleman family gathering about 1947. Left to right: Cyrus and Gertie Faber, Garret and Josie Dieleman, William and Wilmina Vander Voort, and William Dieleman.

DIELEMAN, WILLIAM W. AND EMILY J.

F145

The William W. Dieleman family. Back, l-r: Emily J., William W. (Bill); Front, l-r: Kristen (Kris), Cynthia E. (Cyndi), and Wendell E.

William Wilbur (Bill) was born to Garret and Jozena (Josie) De Geus Dieleman on Jan. 19, 1931, in the Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia. They were farmers living in Jasper, Marion, and Mahaska Counties. Bill has the distinction of attending the rural schools that both his parents attended. They are McKinney School in Jasper Co. and Warren School No. 10 in Mahaska Co. where his mother attended. This school was formerly known as Bushy Bend School. He graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1949. In 1950 he enlisted in the Iowa National Guard.

On Aug. 30, 1951, he married Emily June Langstraat (Dec. 29, 1930) daughter of Henry John and Petronella (Nellie) Kelderman Langstraat. This couple assumed they would be farmers as both their parents were. However, the Korean Conflict put this family on a different course. The first of many changes occurred when Bill was drafted into the Regular Army. Their son Wendell Earl was six months old. Bill was sent to Camp Polk, La. Emily and Wendell followed and lived in De Ridder, La. When Bill was sent first to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., and then to Fort Riley, Kan., Emily and Wendell continued to follow. While they lived in Kansas, Cynthia Elaine was born. Upon his release from active duty, the draft board in Knoxville told him he had been the only father to be drafted from that county during the Korean Conflict. In Feb. 1955 we returned to Iowa for a few months, working on the farm for Mr. William De Boef.

In Sept. 1955, we moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., where Bill enrolled in Calvin College. He graduated in 1959 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Education. We moved to South Holland, Ill., where Bill taught History and American Government in the Calvin Christian School. In 1961 Kristen Eileen was born.

In 1963 we moved to Pella and Bill started teaching at Pella Christian High School. At the end of his first semester there as a teacher, the school burned down. The remainder of the year was spent having classes in the Christian Grade School and several churches. The new school was ready the next year. Bill also has a Master's Degree in Political Science from the University of Iowa. From 1963 to 1969 our lives evolved around our church, Calvary Christian Reformed, and Pella Christian High and Grade Schools.

In Aug., 1969, Emily entered Central College. She graduated in 1972. For several years Bill and Emily were both teachers in the Christian Schools of the area.

Wendell Earl, born Aug. 2, 1952, graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1970. He attended Calvin College in Mich. and Santa Barbara City College in Cal. In 1976 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He spent most of his time in Cal. He graduated from the Naval Sonar School in 1977 and was assigned to the U.S.S. Cook. Wendell was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Cynthia Elaine (Cyndi) was born Aug. 17, 1954, in Fort Riley, Kan. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1972 and from the Blodgett School of Nursing in Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1975. On Dec. 28, 1974, Cyndi married Dennis Ray De Young from Whitinsville, Mass. They have two daughters, Justine Rene, born Aug. 12, 1980, in Worcester, Mass., and Eleanor Lorraine, born Mar. 18, 1986, in Savannah, Ga. Dennis is a Latin teacher and a debate coach in the Savannah Country Day School. Cyndi is the school nurse and teaches the sex education classes.

Kristen Eileen (Kris) was born Oct. 8, 1961, in Hammond, Ind., while we were living in South Holland, Ill. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1980 and from Central College in 1985 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communications. In 1984 she spent her junior year studying in London, England. After graduation she returned to London where she was employed until returning in Nov. 1985. On June 28, 1986, Kristen married Francis (Frank) William Rocco Gandrow from Granville, N.Y.

The course of our lives turned again in 1970 when Bill was elected to the Pella City Council. He was elected to a second term but resigned that position on Jan. 1, 1975, to begin his newly elected position as a State Representative for the 70th District. He continued to be re-elected to that House seat until the 1982 election when he was elected to the Iowa State Senate, District 35. He was re-elected to the Senate in 1986. For a number of years we commuted to the Capitol in Des Moines together as I was his secretary.

In 1984 I became a Dept. Manager at the new Wal-Mart store in Pella.

We enjoy researching our families' histories and traveling. This has given us some very interesting experiences, such as, going to the Netherlands and visiting with the Dielemans there with whom we have been corresponding. Other highlights are going to the White House in Washington, D.C., for a party given by President Jimmy Carter on Jan. 19, 1978, and attending a Garden Party and Reception in Chicago for Queen Beatrix and Prince Klaus from the Netherlands in 1982.

by Emily J. Dieleman

DINGEMAN, DANIEL AND RUTH (HOAGLAND)

F146

Daniel Dingeman was the oldest son of William and Ella (Hols) Dingeman. He was born Mar. 29, 1901, at Pella. At the time of Daniel's birth William was employed by the City of Pella. He worked there for 13 years. After an injury forced him to quit he went into farming. They lived on farms near Des Moines and Galesburg and north and west of Monroe. While living on a farm west of Monroe Dan met Ruth Irene Hoagland the daughter of James Franklin and Laura (Hevlin) Hoagland. Ruth was born Dec. 25, 1904, at Fairmont, Ia. in Jasper Co., where her family lived on a rented farm. They lived on this farm until her father had saved enough money to buy his own farm near Monroe. This is where they lived when Dan and Ruth met.

On Dec. 25, 1922 at Newton, Ia., Dan and Ruth were married. They went to live near Fairmont, which at that time was a thriving town between Monroe and Prairie City. While they lived here Marvin William (Bob) was born. Muriel Jean was born after they moved to a farm near Colfax. Hershel Wayne (Squirt) was born in Monroe where Dan was working at the Rendering Works plant. By the time Betty Lorene was born Dan was hauling coal into Monroe. Uella Mae was also born in Monroe. From Monroe the family moved to a farm near Howell Station south of Pella. Here Dan farmed with his brother-in-law Jake Vander Veer who was married to Ruth's sister Marguerite. James Harold, their sixth child was born here in 1931. Then they moved to Pella and Dan drove a truck for Charles Dykhuis. Priscilla Irene, Daniel Duane, and Paul Eugene were all born in Pella. By this time Dan owned and drove his own truck which he continued to do and formed Pella Construction Company in 1939. All five of his sons and one son-in-law were associated with the business at one time or another until, in 1975, James took over sole ownership of Pella Construction. Daniel died on Oct. 28, 1961, at the age of 60 years. Ruth is still living in Pella.

Marvin (Bob) married Betty Beaman on Mar. 10, 1947, at Columbia, Kan. Their three children are Ruth Christine, Marvin Gordon, and Gary Daniel. Ruth married Gary Kendall and they have three daughters: Tammy, Teresa, and Teri. M. Gordon married Connie Blanke and they have three sons: Marvin Bob, Thomas, and Rick. G. Daniel married Mary Benes and their three sons are: John, Jeremy, and Jeffrey. Marvin (Bob) died on Sept. 13, 1974. At the time of his death he was associated with Pella Construction Company. Betty still lives near Pella.

M. Jean married Donald Thomas at Central College, Pella, on Aug. 8, 1947. They have one daughter De Lynn and one son Donald Craig. De Lynn is married to Peter Kemp and they have three children: Donald, Nicholas, and Rachel. Don is a retired school teacher and he and Jean live in Winterset.

Hershel (Squirt) married Gene Leon Nov. 28, 1946, at Ottumwa. They had one son, David, who died in 1968 at the age of 18. Squirt owned and operated Pella Precast

All nine children ready for the parade, 1938.

until he sold it in 1980. Squirt and Gene still live in Pella.

Betty married Thomas Carlson on Dec. 13, 1947, at Pella. Their four children are Joan Diane, Olaf Michael, Susan Lea, and Marianne. Marianne is married to George Thomas. Betty and Tom live at Evanston, Ill., where Tom is employed as Deputy City Manager.

Uella Mae and William (Bill) Peters were married Apr. 2, 1948, at Pella. They had six children: Robert Danny (Bobby) died at the age of 19; Kurtis Wayne died at birth; Kathleen Ann married Steve Lensch and they have three children: Trisha, Robert, and Susan; LuAnn is married to Dwight Steenhoek and their three children are: Lisa, Bradley, and Kristin; Sandra and Vince Kyln have a son, Lucas; Mary Ellen and Kirk Kaalberg have two daughters Kathryn and Kourtney. Bill and Uella live in Pella where Bill is engaged in land development and real estate sales.

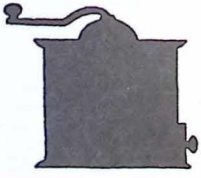
James (Jim) married Nancy Van Mannen at Pella on June 15, 1951. Their three children are: Dennis James who is married to Jane Vande Haar and they have one son, James; Barbara Jo and Barry Mathes also have one son named Scott; Janice Lynn is married to Stephen Ver Meer. Jim owns Pella Construction Company and he and Nancy live in Pella.

Priscilla Irene married Duane Steenhoek at Nashua, Ia. on July 19, 1951. They have ten children: Beth Ann has a daughter named Emily; Ruth Ellen is married to Dave McClure and they have two children — Patrick and Melissa; Steven Paul married Linda (Bea) Baker and their three children are: Jeffrey, Caleb, and Miranda; Daryl Edwin married Niki Jergensen and has two boys named Justin and Derek; Julia Elaine Worrall has four children: — Cory, Stacey, Lucas, and Joey; Jerold Duane and Mishell (Cannon) have two sons — Gabriel and Wesley; Martin Eugene married Kim Ann Camp; Alice Marie and Steve Parker are parents of Lisa and Crystal. The last two children of Priscilla and Duane are Wade Eldon and Timothy Lee. Duane is employed by Gibbs/Cook of Des Moines. He and Priscilla live at Winterset, Ia.

D. Duane and Goldie Gritters were married Dec. 4, 1954, at Waynesville, Mo. They have three children: Diane Jean, Debra Jo, and Daniel Wayne. Debra is married to Byron Bruxvoortand they have two children, Leah and Matthew. Daniel is married to Kamala Dunham. Their two children are Clinton and Jessica. Duane and Goldie live in Pella. Duane owns Pella Excavating and Foundation and is engaged in farming.

Paul Eugene married Laura Smit at Big Bend, Minn. They have three sons named Jeffrey Daniel, Dean Alan, and Michael Anthony. Paul owns Gosselink Builders and lives in Pella.

by Goldie Dingeman



DINGEMAN, JAMES H. AND NANCY (VAN MAANEN)

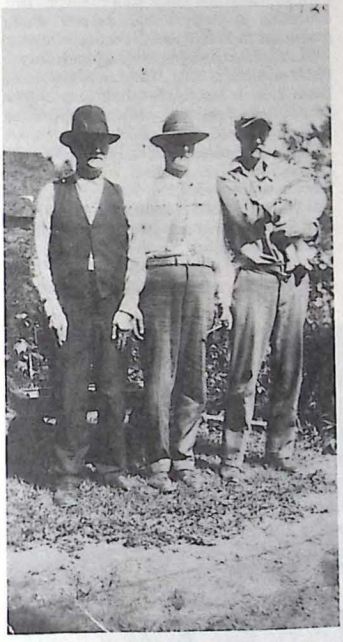
F147

Jim was the sixth child born to Daniel and Ruth (Hoagland) Dingman on Jan. 3, 1931. Nancy was the only child of Reuben and Luella (Vander Linden) Van Maanen. She was born on Nov. 10, 1932. They are the parents of three children: Dennis James Dingeman born June 14, 1956; Barbara Dingeman Mathes (Mrs. Barry) born Sept. 20, 1958; and Janis Dingeman Vermeer (Mrs. Stephen) born Apr. 23, 1963.

by Nancy Dingeman

DINGEMANS, WOUTER JAN

F148



Daniel Dingeman, William Dingeman, Daniel Dingeman, and Betty Dingeman, 1928.

Wouter Jan Dingemans was born in Hurwenen, Gelderland, Holland, on Dec. 5, 1804, and died in Dec. of 1880. He is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery at Pella. His parents were Hendrick and Jenneke (De Fones) Dingeman. They were of the Roman Catholic faith. His birth was recorded in Roman Catholic records and later in Reformed Church records, indicating a change of religion. In 1835 he left the Reformed Church at Hoenza-Driel and started to worship with a group of people in the area. In 1845 they asked to be recognized by the government as a new church, which became the Christian Reformed Church.

While he lived in Holland, Wouter was a miller and a farmer. In 1826 he married his first wife Cornelia Van Zollen, daughter of Gerrit and Hendricka Wolfe Van Zollen, in Tiel, Holland. She died June 24, 1838, in Rossum. His second wife was Elizabeth Hoogland, who was born in 1814. Date of death and place of burial are unknown.

By Cornelia, Wouter had three children. Hendrick, who was born about 1830, came to America alone in 1847 on the *Catharina Jackson*. He died by drowing in the Skunk River near Pella in 1849 in a boat accident. Hendricka was also born about 1830; not known if they were twins. She married Hermans Kraay in 1851. Gerrit was born in 1833 and he married Aaflje Overcamp and ran a store in Pella. By Elizabeth, Wouter had 9 children. Jan Willem was born in 1843 and married Louisa Renaud in 1860. Jenneke was born in 1844. She first married Dick Sterrenberg in 1864. Later she married William Vogelaar. Cornelia, born in 1845, married Francis Mak. Daniel was born in 1847, and married Peternella Jacoba Keegal. Peter Mathys was born in 1847. He married Katherine Kersbergen. The sixth child of Wouter and Elizabeth was a baby boy who died at sea in 1848. In 1848 Wouter and his family went to join Hendrick in America. They lived on a farm Hendrick had readied for them and Wouter worked again as a miller and a farmer. After they arrived in Pella, Wouter and Elizabeth had three more children. Maria E. married Casey Van Nimwegen. Meintze was born in 1854. The last child was Hendricka who was born in 1859 and married Alfred Popma in 1875. Wouter and the family had left Holland for economic betterment and religious freedom.

Daniel Dingeman was the fourth child to be born to Wouter Jan and Elizabeth (Hoogland) Dingeman. He was born June 17, 1846, and died in 1928 in Corsica, S.D. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Pella. On Aug. 29, 1870, he married Peternella Jacoba Keegal who was born Feb. 17, 1853, in Pella. She died Nov. 26, 1906, and is buried beside her husband in Oakwood Cemetery. Daniel and Nellie had nine children. William Dingeman married Aalje (Ella) Hols. Elizabeth Dingeman married Martin Vander Heiden. Jacob Dingeman married Nellie Koopmans. Hattie Dingeman married John Hoogenakker. Nellie Dingeman married Ed Blom and later married Bert Van Ee. Walter Dingeman married Ann ?. Peter Dingeman married Maggie Hols (this is a sister to Ella Hols). Henry Dingeman was married to ?. Louise married Henry Krull or Croll.

William, the first son of Daniel and Peternella Dingeman, was born Nov. 29, 1878. He died Mar. 26, 1940. He married Aalje (Ella) Hols, daughter of Jacob and Cornelia (Wickhart) Hols. Ella was born in Oosterbek, Holland, June 23, 1878. She died at Monroe, Ia. on Mar. 24, 1926. To this union seven children were born. Daniel Dingeman married Ruth Irene Hoagland. Jacob married Ivy Woods. Then Bill and Ella had a son named Peter who died at birth. The fourth son was also named Peter and he married Doris Scheffers. Cornelia Dingeman first married Bill Wells and later was married to George Johnson. Nellie Dingeman was the sixth child and John Dingeman was the

Family reunion at Pete Dingeman's camp on Skunk River, 1927.

youngest. He married Eleanor (Crystal) Lundy.

by Mrs. Duane (Goldie) Dingeman

DOUWSTRA, DONALD
F149

Donald Douwstra married Helen Marie Vandenberg Nov. 1, 1939, at Otley Reformed Church by his uncle, Reverend Richard Douwstra. He worked as bookkeeper at Vander Meulen Hardware Store, 818 Main St. He was called into the service in 1943 and served until 1946. He began working for his father-in-law, Cornie Vandenberg, at Klyn and DeWinter as a meat cutter. In Oct., 1953, he started managing the meat department for V & R Grocery at 707 Franklin, until 1960 when he went into business for himself. He made Douwstra Bologna and also had a wholesale candy and tobacco business until he retired in 1975.

Two children were born to the couple, Donna Kae (Mrs. Gene De Heer) Oct. 1, 1942, and Stanton Craig born Jan. 31, 1947, both both at Knoxville. They both received their education at Pella Public Schools. Craig graduated in 1970 from Ia. State University.

Donna married Gene De Heer born July 1, 1938, on Dec. 1, 1962. They have two sons, Blain E. born Jan. 2, 1967, first baby of new year at Pella Community Hospital and Brice E. born Sept. 16, 1974, also at Pella.

Craig married on Apr. 20, 1968, to Beverly Blinco born Mar. 19, 1947, at Sioux City. They have three children, Jeremy Craig born Jan. 17, 1971; Chad Allen born July 22, 1975, and Kristi Lynn born July 24, 1979. They reside in Mesa, Ariz.

by Helen Douwstra

Helen (Vandenberg) Douwstra, Donald Douwstra, Stanton Craig Douwstra, Donna Kae (Douwstra) De Heer. Taken in 1952.

DOUWSTRA, HAARM
F150

Margaret (De Haan) Douwstra and Simon Douwstra

Reverend Haarm Douwstra, born May 16, 1851, in Groningen, Hollandied At the age of 20 he made the journey to America in 1871. He settled in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he married Sept., 1875, to Froeka Lakestra born Dec. 22, 1853, in Hollandied

He worked at the cobbler's trade to earn money to enter Calvin College, completed his theological education and entered the ministry of Christian Reformed Church in 1880, continued in this denomination for 12 years.

Their two sons were born in Grand Rapids, Mich. Reverend George born August 14, 1876, died June 7, 1950; Simon born July 3, 1880, and a daughter who died in infancy.

Reverend Haarm's first pastorate was at Callondoren, Mich. 1880-1892. In 1892 they moved to Pella, Ia. where he was minister in Dominie Scholte's Church at 707 West First Street, built in 1855. The parsonage was at 813 Liberty Street. Third Reformed Church called him in 1894 and he accepted the call. He was ordained Dec. 2, 1894, and served the church seven years until Nov. 25, 1901. Under his leadership the congregation grew and the greatest harmony prevailed in every department. He was called to Third Reformed at Kalamazoo, Mich. for two years 1901-1903. He moved to Middleburg, Ia. where he served the congregation of the Free Grace Reformed Church for 17 years, 1903-1921, known affectionately as "Old Dominie Douwstra." He resigned in June, 1921 because of the deteriorating health of his wife. They moved back to Pella where they built a new home at 1011 West 1st, and Mrs. Douwstra died at home on Dec. 28, 1922, of Bright's disease and heart trouble. Reverend Haarm was supply pastor at Eddyville for seven years. He died at his home Feborn 12, 1930. He had a sister, Mrs. Kate Doornbos of Grand Rapids, Mich. and a brother, Reverend Richard Douwstra.

Simon Douwstra received his education in the Pella Schools and Central College. He had a general merchandise store in Chicago, then moved to Middleburg, Ia. in 1904. Where he had a general merchandise store with two huckster wagons where they peddled groceries and other supplies to farmers in the Sioux County area.

On Oct. 25, 1905, he married Margaret De Haan born Mar. 7, 1879 daughter of Dingeman and Grietje Nugteren De Haan at Pella, Ia. who was also educated in Pella Schools and graduated from Central College in 1904.

Their three children were all born at

Middleburg, Ia; Frances (Mrs. Ben Vander Hoek) born June 22, 1907; Herman born Sept. 2, 1910, died Feb. 27, 1947, and Donald born Apr. 29, 1913. All were educated in Pella Schools. All attended the First Reformed Church and were very active in its work. Simon served on the consistory off and on for 21 years and Margaret was secretary for Women's League for 25 years.

He managed the pickle factory for the Heinz Co., which was located across the railroad track from the present Canning Factory at 213 South Street.

Simon died at his home 1015 West 1st on Oct. 8, 1950; and his wife Margaret on Mar. 27, 1976.

by Helen Douwstra

DOUWSTRA, RICHARD

F151

Reverend Richard Douwstra, Lenna Braam Douwstra, and Janet Douwstra.

Reverend Richard (Dick) Douwstra born Oct. 19, 1874, at Groningen, Holland, came over to America with his parents when he was six years old in 1880, and settled by their son Reverend Haarm in Grand Rapids, Mich. He received his education in Michigan schools, graduated from Central College in 1901, and received his seminary training in Holland, Mich. His brother Haarm helped him financially to receive his higher education. He was married June 29, 1904, at Pella to Lena Braam, born Nov. 10, 1874, in Pella. They adopted a daughter Janet Cornelia, born Sept. 20, 1910, graduated from Chicago as a nurse in Aug. 1931 and died soon after on Apr. 8, 1932 at Mercy Hospital in Oskaloosa of strep throat.

Reverend Dick served several Reformed Churches: Chicago, Ill., 1904-1910; Newkirk, Ia., 1910-1919; Boyden, Ia., 1919-1923; Westfield, N.D., 1923-1929; Rock Valley, Ia., 1929-1935; Otley, Ia., 1935-1938.

He retired in 1938, bought his brother's home at 1011 West First, and later moved to Holland, Mich. In 1939 he deeded his farm to Central College and a cash gift for a total of $100,000. In 1945 he gave his home at 1011 West First and all transferable property to Central College, which aided in construction of Douwstra Chapel, now called Douwstra Auditorium.

Lena died July 15, 1955, and Rev. Richard died Mar. 15, 1962.

by Helen Douwstra

DuPREE, ED AND MARY

F152

Edward DuPree and Mary Meulpolder were married August 30, 1942. For the first three years of their marriage, Ed was in the Army ,going all the way from Africa to Germany.

Ed and Mary were both born and raised in Pella and after the war, Ed said he never wanted to leave Pella again.

Ed and Duco Zylstra started the Pella Engraving Company which serviced not only the *Pella Chronicle* but newspapers all through the Midwest. Ed was able to use his artistic talents in his business.

In 1949, Ed and Mary ordered a Lustron home which was erected in Scholte Heights. The family outgrew it after six years and moved to 1305 Broadway.

The DuPrees had three sons: Dan Edwin, born Nov. 25, 1946; David Allen, born Apr. 27, 1951; and Thomas James, born May 6, 1953.

As a family, the DuPrees were actively involved with Second Reformed Church, scouting, music and sports. Dan's specialty was baseball; Dave's was wrestling; and Tom's was football and music. Golf was everyone's forte. Those were the days of leaving keys in the car and never locking doors of the house. Every year the family went on vacation and had to search for all the keys to our home of many doors. One year we were so thorough in locking it up but forgot the keys inside. We had to "break in" our own bedroom window!

Dan is married to a local girl, Nancy Hugen, and has two sons, Scott and Jason. He loves the outdoors, plants and trees which he comes by naturally from both grandfathers. He graduated from a turf management college and is a golf course superintendent in Florida.

Dave was always interested in repairing things and seeing what made them work. He graduated from Iowa State University with an electrical engineering degree and lives in Milwaukee, working for an engineering consultant firm. He is married and has a daughter, Marie.

Tom lives in Dallas, working as a district sales manager for a computer company. In 1986 he married a girl from Omaha. Tom enjoys music and his talents with drums helped financed his way through Iowa State University where he graduated with a degree in sales and marketing.

In 1971 Ed and Mary teamed up with Marion DeZwarte to build an apartment building, Mid-Town Homes. When the building was completed, they sold their home on Broadway and moved to one of the apartments.

Ed's hobby is mostly golf and photography. Mary enjoys nature, birdwatching in particular, and she enjoys reading and swimming. In 1979 Ed retired from the Pella Engraving Company. After enjoying a short career at the Carnegie-Viersen Public Library, Mary also retired so more time could be spent traveling and enjoying the "good life".

by Mary Du Pree

The Ed DuPree family. Front, l-r: Mary, grandsons Scott and Jason, and Dan's wife Nancy (Hugen); Back, l-r: Ed, Tom, Dave, and Dan. 1978 photo.

DYKHUIS, ARNOLD GLENN AND GERALDINE MAE

F153

Arnold Dykhuis Family. Front, l-r: Debora, Jeanne, Arlen, Geraldine; Back, l-r: Arnold, Linda.

Arnold Glenn Dykhuis was born May 30, 1934, the son of Andrew and Gora (Steenhoek) Dykhuis. He lived on farms North of Pella most of his life and attended Pella Schools. In 1959 he married Geraldine Veldhuizen who moved to Pella with her parents Jacob and Marie (Van Zee) Veldhuizen in 1953. Geraldine was born on Mar. 3, 1939, in her farm home in Mahaska Co. near Taintor. After their marriage on Apr. 3, 1959, they farmed land along the Skunk River originally owned by Hendrick Peter Scholte in 1848. Their farm home is located six miles North of Pella on T-14. Groceries and utilities were bought with income from four cows (milked by hand) and 200 chickens. Corn and beans were grown and as the years passed more hogs were raised and some cattle fed.

On July 22, 1982, Arnold Glenn died suddenly of a heart attack while harvesting oats. His wife and children continue to live on the farm.

In 1960 Linda Kay was born and in 1982 she married Richard Wayne Groenendyk and they have one son Amos Henry born Mar. 11, 1985. Debora Lynn was born on July 15, 1964, and is a senior at Central College majoring in business management. Jeanne Marie was born on May 17, 1969, and is a senior at Pella Community High School. A son, Arlen Glenn, was born on Sept. 28, 1973 and is a seventh grader at Pella Middle School.

The wooded area and pastureland provided hours of entertainment for a growing family. Favorites were playing fox and geese in the snow and riding a pony.

by Geraldine Mae Dykhuis

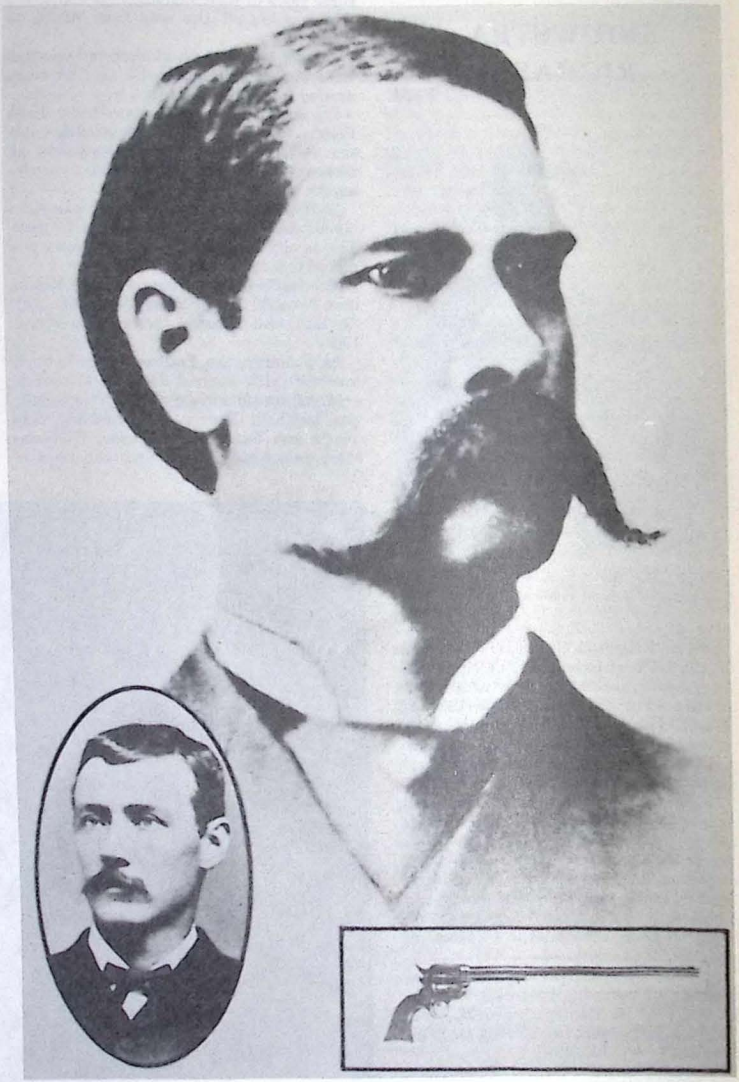
EARP FAMILY

F154

A Pella Paradox

A paradox . . . the gun-slinging lawmen of the Old West, Wyatt and his brothers, and their association with the little Dutch town of Pella. Wyatt Earp was not really "immortalized" locally nor was his role in Pella's history really recognized until a television series in the late 50's was responsible for bringing the Earp name into national fame. Somewhat simultaneously, the fate of the large brick house which had been the Earps' boyhood home came into focus. Owner of the old home, Ben Vogelaar, had planned to tear the structure down when his new brick house was completed to the rear, and east, next to the "Earp Building." The Pella Historical Society perked up their collective ears at the thought of preserving the place once inhabited by the Earps. It became the nucleus, that one old house, to what is now a half-block historical complex. The building is designated the Wyatt Earp Boyhood Home although minimal display material is Earp memorabilia. The "fighting Earps" are actually quite far removed from the environs of Pella.

Father of the Scots-English clan was Nicholas Porter Earp, born in North Carolina on Sept. 6, 1813. He first married Abigail Storm on Dec. 22, 1836, in Hartford, Ky. She



Wyatt Earp (both pictures). Wyatt lived in Pella from 1850-1864 when he left for California with a wagon train.

bore two children, one who lived to become an adult, Newton Jasper, born Oct. 7, 1837. An infant, Mariah, died soon after birth and her mother died within the same year, Oct. 8, 1839. Nicholas then married Virginia Ann Cooksey on July 30, 1840. She was the mother of Wyatt and his brothers and sisters.

The Earp children of the second marriage were: James Cooksey, born June 28, 1841; Virgil Walter, born July 11, 1843; Martha Elizabeth, whose birth was Sept. 25, 1845; and Wyatt, born Mar. 19, 1848. The three oldest children were born in Hartford, Ky., and Wyatt in Monmouth, Ill. The next son, Morgan S., was born in Pella on Apr. 24, 1851. Baxter Warren was born in Pella Mar. 9, 1855. Sisters Virginia Ann and Adelia Douglas were born in Pella Feb. 28, 1858, and June 16, 1861.

The Earp family came to Pella in 1850 when Nicholas purchased farmland. During part of that time, Nicholas served as U.S. Provost Marshall in Marion Co. Nicholas had fought in the Mexican War and during the Civil War had trained troops for the Union Army. He decided to separate his family from the super-patriotic Dutch who didn't appreciate his ideas that freeing the slaves was wrong. However, the Earps were loyal Union men, however, the older boys fighting in the war. Wyatt ran away from home at age fifteen to join but encountered his father who sent him back home to Pella.

Civil War records show that Virgil enlisted, leaving Pella, with the Union Army Co. C. 83rd Illinois Infantry on July 26, 1862. James served in Company F Seventeenth Illinois Infantry and was wounded at Fredericktown, Mo. He was home in Pella, Mar. 2, 1863. Half-brother Newton J. served in the 4th Cavalry Company F and by July 1, 1862, was sixth Sergeant.

In 1864, after the war, Nicholas organized a wagon train of forty families to go to California. They left behind two small graves of daughters Martha Elizabeth who died in 1856, and Virginia Ann, who died in 1861.

There were other Earp families who lived in Pella and farmed and their descendants still live in the area.

Nicholas Earp lived a long life and died Nov. 12, 1907, in the Soldier's Home at Sawtelle, Calif. His wife died in 1893.

The Earps called their jobs "lawing." Virgil was a U.S. Deputy Marshall; Wyatt was elected the first constable of Lamar, Mo., in Nov. 1870, was appointed policeman in Wichita, Kan., in 1875 and in 1876 was put on the police force at Dodge City, Kan. By October of that year he was elected Deputy Marshall and served in that capacity until 1879. In Tombstone, Ariz., he was shotgun guard for Wells Fargo before becoming Deputy Sheriff in 1880. Morgan was a policeman at Tombstone.

Actually, the Earps thought of themselves as businessmen . . . at least Wyatt, Virgil, and Jim did. Morgan and Warren just 'helped the other brothers out' when the businessmen of the Earps needed help. They were saloon-keeping and gambling entrepreneurs which at that time were respectable professions. Researcher into the Earps, Glen G. Boyer states that the fact of respectability of saloon-keeping and gambling is not appreciated today. Wyatt owned the Oriental, a renowned gambling establishment and hired his brothers to be dealers. Glen Boyer states they were not basically gunmen, but they knew what guns were for!

Wyatt's famous (or infamous) role in the Gunfight of O.K. Corral in Tombstone, Arizona Territory has become legend. Before the legendary gunfight, the *Tombstone Epitaph* carried a note of news interest that the five Earp brothers were tall, gaunt, intrepid, and this caused considerable comment when they first arrived. Wyatt already had quite a reputation as a peace officer in Dodge City. Cattle rustlers in Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, and western Texas feared Wyatt. The Earps and Doc Holiday faced the McLaurys and Clantons on Oct. 26, 1881, and blazed themselves into Western fame.

Wyatt left Tombstone after the shoot-out and eventually went to Colorado where he turned to prospecting. The Earps spent much time finding and filing timber rights, water and mineral claims, and owned much property. Later, in San Bernardino County, Calif., records indicate the Earps filed about one hundred claims in that area. Wyatt, later in life, went to the Klondike and when his interests were liquidated was a very wealthy man. He ranched for a time on the Mojave Desert, in Yuma and Cibola where his interest in ranching ended when the water wells failed.

Brother James Earp lived until 1926 and is buried in Mt. View Cemetery, San Bernardino, Calif. Virgil Earp was crippled in an ambush at Tombstone but lived until 1905. He is buried in Portland, Ore., in the Riverview Cemetery where his daughter, Nellie Jane, had his body committed. (Nellie Jane was the daughter of Virgil and his first wife, a Pella Dutch girl, Ellen Rysdam. There is some contention regarding the marriage which may have been annulled by the Rysdam family. A book recently published, *Gerrit . . . A Dutchman in Oregon* by Toni Rysdam-Shorre narrates this story with great interest.)

Ellen Rysdam, fifth child of Gerrit Rijsdam and Magdalena Catrina Van Velzen, came to Pella with her parents from The Netherlands in 1847. Ellen's name was actually Magdalena and her birth was Oct. 25, 1842. She died May 3, 1910. The marriage to Virgil Earp was Sept. 21, 1861, . . . just before he left to go to Monmouth, Ill., to enlist. Ellen, it is said, was later duped into believing he was killed in action. Virgil believed that Ellen had died. Her Dutch father had not approved of the marriage, according to family historians. The daughter of the marriage, Nellie Jane, was born Jan. 7, 1862, married Levi Law in 1880, and had three children. She was divorced in 1899. In 1904 she married Louis Bohn.

Ellen married John Van Rossum, Feb. 24, 1864, and had another child. She married Thomas J. Eaton in 1866, and with him had four children.

The most enduring relationship in the Earp/Pella paradox is that of the romance, ill-fated as it was, between Virgil and Ellen. Although Ellen's father, Gerrit, moved to Oregon, her mother, Magdalena, remained until her death in Pella. (She had planned to join her husband after he settled in Oregon but died before she could join him.) The couple owned considerable holdings of land in the Pella area and were well-known. Many descendants remained in the Pella area, some of them still living here.

Wyatt's sister, Virginia Ann, died in San Bernardino, Calif., Jan. 14, 1893. Warren Earp was killed July 6, 1900. Adelia outlived all of her brothers, living until 1941. Morgan was killed Mar. 18, 1882, while playing billiards. Wyatt avenged Morgan's murder by coming with a posse and killing the half-breed accused of the act.

Virgil married three times, as did Wyatt. Wyatt first married Rilla Sutherland who died in childbirth as did the infant. His second wife, if indeed he was married to her as no documentation has confirmed it, was Celia Ann Blaylock who lived as Mrs. Wyatt Earp in Tombstone. She committed suicide in 1888 in Pinal, Ariz. His third wife was Josephine Sarah Marcus who was with him from Tombstone days until his death. They did a great deal of wandering about during their marriage. Glen Boyer tells in his book *I Married Wyatt Earp* (1976) that Wyatt and "Josie" had thirteen separate California addresses between Oct., 1920, and the January, 1929, death of Wyatt, none of them owned by the Earps. They did own a retreat cabin in Vidal, Calif. Wyatt and Josephine called California "home" from 1885 on, though they traveled in many regions. They had traveled in the Southwest gambling circuit in mining boom towns in the 1880's, with gambling being their livelihood. Wyatt had also been bodyguard, in 1882, for William Randolph Hearst. Tom Mix and William S. Hart, Western movie stars, were good friends of Wyatt and Josephine.

Wyatt and Josephine are buried in a small Jewish cemetery, The Hills of Eternity Memorial Park in Coloma, near San Francisco. Wyatt died Jan. 13, 1929, leaving no descendants. According to relative Martha Chapman Lentz, who lived in Sun City, Ariz., Wyatt died a wealthy man.

Cochise County, Ariz., is called "Wyatt Earp Country", for there he fought bloody battles that made him a folk hero. Glen Boyer, who lived in that county, says, "Wyatt Earp was a helluva good man to have around provided you were not a crook or a phony. The same can be said of his brothers, Jim, Virge and Morgan."

The TV creation was figmented from imagination and was myth-making in nature. The theme song, sung before and after each show, went something like this, "Wyatt Earp, Wyatt Earp . . . brave, courageous and bold. Long live his fame and long live his glory and long may his story be told!"

And the story is told when tourists visit the Earp Boyhood Home . . . not as it is told at museums in the West, however. Tourists in Pella are told that it was here Wyatt received his first gun, a combination rifle-shotgun, used later for hunting game when he accompanied his family to California in 1864. There are no guns in the gun room of the museum that were owned or shot by Wyatt Earp. There are only some pictures of the shootout at the O.K. Corral and a letter written by Nicholas Earp. Wyatt remains the proverbial paradox . . . a bit out of place in the peaceful little town.

EGGERLING, ARLEN AND JANET

F155

Upon purchasing Frundt Seed Company, later to become Hawkeye Hybrids, Arlen and Janet Eggerling moved to Pella from Williamsburg, Ia., in Oct. 1975. They had three daughters, Jennifer and Leisa (twins), age three and one-half at the time, and Karen, age one and one-half.

Arlen was born at Utica, Neb., Aug. 8, 1940, and moved to Williamsburg at the age of six. He went to grade school and high school in Williamsburg. During his teen-age years he worked for Holden's Foundation Seeds, a corn research facility where his father and mother also worked. This fostered his intense, life-long interest in seed corn. After high school he attended Iowa State University where he studied to become a plant breeder. He worked at Hulting Hybrids in Geneseo, Ill. during 1965 and 1966. In June of 1966, he accepted a full-time job with Holden's Foundation Seeds as a plant breeder and remained there until he and Janet purchased Frundt Seed Company in 1975.

Janet was born on Jan. 19, 1945, in Branch, Ark., where her mother lived with her parents while her father was overseas during World War II. After several moves in between, she spent most of her school years in Wood River, Ill. and graduated from Roxana High School in 1963. She then attended Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Ill. and received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in mathematics. She also took education courses and acquired her teaching certificate. After her marriage to Arlen on Dec. 29, 1966, she moved to Williamsburg, Ia., and began teaching mathematics at Williamsburg High School in Sept. 1967. She taught three years before quitting to start a family.

Jennifer and Leisa were born on Arp. 6, 1972, at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City. The birth of twins was a surprise. Arlen is a twin and Janet has twin brothers but when she asked her doctor during her fifth month of pregnancy whether there was a chance of having twins he assured her that there wasn't as she wasn't big enough. However, when Jennifer was born on Apr. 6, 1972, three weeks before the due date, the doctor looked and said "I think there's another one," and two minutes later Leisa was born. Karen was born on May 21, 1974, also at Mercy Hospital in Iowa City.

by Arlen Eggerling

Anna Elsloo Family. 1st row, l-r: Bertha, Cornelius, Tymen (Tim); 2nd row (seated), l-r: Anna, Dora, Grace; 3rd row, l-r: Bessie, Elizabeth, Henry, Artie, Minnie, Alle. Photos on wall, l-r: Tymen, Foeke.

Tim Elsloo Family: Front, l-r: Jeanette and Tim; Back, l-r: Eunice Arlene (DeJoode), Tim, Dorothy Ann (Nunnikhoven).

Wedding Photo, Feb. 11, 1932: Tim and Jeanette Neels Elsloo.

ELSLOO FAMILY

F156

Anna Elsloo was born Apr. 29, 1864, in Holland and came to America with his parents Foeke and Mrs. Elsloo. They came to live in Pella.

Sheiyke (Dora) Kamstra was born on Apr. 1, 1865, in Holland and came to America with her grandmother. Anna and Dora met in Pella and married on Sept. 13, 1888, and moved to Galesburg, Ia. where their first daughter, Grace, was born June 30, 1889.

Then they moved to Mahaska Co. and another daughter, Berska (Bessie), was born June 28, 1890. She died of spinal meningitis Dec. 4, 1891. Another daughter, Artie, was born on Sept. 9, 1891. She was born west of Lacey, Ia., near the Crookham Bottom and lived there until she was eight years old. Artie often speaks of when she was a young girl living west of Lacey that some Indians found one of their steers stranded on the ice and that her father gave it to the Indians for food and in return, some time later, the Indians brought the family some beaded necklaces.

A son Tymen (Tim) was born Nov. 11, 1892; another son, Alle, was born Feb. 13, 1894; Mar. 21, 1895, Bessie (2nd) was born; Minnie was born Apr. 19, 1897; Henry F. was born June 8, 1898; Elizabeth, Aug. 1, 1899; and a stillborn baby was born in 1901.

The family moved to a farm west of Oskaloosa, which is now known as the Overbergen farm. it was here they had a house fire at night while the children were all in bed. They all escaped. It was early spring and cold so the family stayed with neighbors and then moved to Pella near the depot. It was here Bertha was born July 13, 1902. The family lived in the area for three more years and then moved to Elk City, Kan. They lived on a 1300-acre cattle ranch. While living there the young Tim was killed by lightning while mowing hay July 18, 1905. A son, Cornelius, was born Jan. 14, 1905, and Tymen (Tim 2nd) was born Apr. 25, 1907. After living in Kansas for about six years they moved to Butler, Mo. They had a hotel there and lived there for a few years. When Artie was 17 years old they moved to Kansas City, Mo. where the family ran a boarding house. Artie later met Benjamin De Rooi whom she married Feb. 3, 1915.

Their mother, Dora, died July 17, 1918 of cancer and father, Anna, died Jan. 27, 1919, of severe flu. Henry died Sept. 24, 1955, from a heart attack and Tymen (Tim 2nd) passed away June 30, 1962, also from a heart attack.

Grace passed away July 26, 1967, Cornelius died Jan. of 1973, and Alle passed away Nov. 24, 1979.

Tymen (Tim 2nd) was 11 years old and Cornelius 13 when their parents passed away and they were left orphans, so Tim went to Iowa to live with his sister, Artie, on the farm and Cornelius stayed in Kansas City to live with sister Minnie. Tymen (Tim 2nd) was married Feb. 11, 1932, to Jeanette Neels and together they had three children: Dorothy Ann was born Nov. 30, 1932; Eunice Arlene was born Nov. 22, 1934; and Timothy, Jr. Apr. 28, 1937.

Dorothy Ann married Marvin Eugene Nunnikhoven Dec. 24, 1951. A daughter Martha Jean was born Dec. 19, 1952, but died a few hours after birth. A son Randall Eugene was born Oct. 4, 1954; Bruce Lynn, May 20, 1956; Daniel Wayne, Oct. 8, 1957; a daughter Becky Sue, June 26, 1961; and another son Russell, Oct. 24, 1966.

Eunice Arlene married John Edward De Joode, June 27, 1957. A son Arlin Dean was stillborn Aug. 1, 1958. A daughter Rita Louise was born Oct. 14, 1959; a son Bryan Joel, Feb. 15, 1961; daughter Jolene Beth, May 21, 1963; Douglas Edwin, Feb. 2, 1965; Lori Ann, Aug. 20, 1967.

Timothy, Jr. married Mary Doris Van Haaften Aug. 23, 1957. A son David Allen was born Sept. 3, 1958; Steven Jay, Apr. 28, 1960; daughter Sherril Lynn, Aug. 12, 1963; and Craig Dean, Nov. 16, 1964.

To these unions there are fourteen living grandchildren.

by Tim Elsloo

EMMERT FAMILY
F157

Keith Emmert

Keith Warren Emmert was born near Killduff, Ia. to Theodore Emmert and Lillian Elscott Emmert on July 12, 1922. He attended rural school and graduated from Sully High School. In the fall of 1941 Keith moved to Pella to attend Central College. During World War II he served as a pilot in the Army Air Corps.

After his discharge in 1945 he married Patricia Ann Collins and to this marriage four children were born. Jan Elaine married Bill Van Zante and to this union two daughters, Carrie and Katie, and one son, Drew, were born. Jan lives in Indian Harbour Beach, Fla. with her three children and is export control administrator at the Harris Corporation. Jo Ellyn is married to Joe Julian and they have two sons, Douglas and Davidied They live in Loveland, Colo. Jeffrey Collins is single and is a math teacher in Austin, Tex. Jo Ellyn and Jeff are twins. James Andrew teaches art at Pella High School. He is married to Diane Gosselink and they have one daughter, Jill, and a son, Luke.

After graduating from Central College in 1949, Keith accepted a teaching position in the Pella schools where he taught 8th grade math and drafting for 35 years. In 1950 he contracted polio which left him partially paralyzedied In 1984 he retired from teaching and is now active in his wood-working shop. Keith married Nola Fern Monsma Vande Krol in 1971.

by Keith Emmert

EMMERT FAMILY
F158

Keith and Nola (Monsma) Emmert

Keith and Nola (Monsma) Emmert

EMMERT FAMILY
F159

Nola (Monsma) Emmert

Nola Fern Monsma was born near Taintor, Ia. on Jan. 13, 1920. She was the daughter of Dirk L. and Anna Elscott Monsma. Nola attended rural school and graduated from Lynnville High School. On Feb. 14, 1939, she married Glen Vande Krol. To this union four children were born. Dorothy Mae is married to Merlyn Vander Leest and lives in Pella. She teaches at Pella Middle School. They have three children – Mark, Lori, and Craig. Keith Dwayne is married to Joan Ver Hoef and lives near Pella. He is regional manager for Precision Pulley. They are parents of two children – Dwayne and Teri. Jerry Lee and July Ann are twins. Jerry married Connie Woods and lives in Des Moines. He is an architect for Brooks, Borg, and Skiles. They have three daughters – Sarah, Rachel, and Molly. Judy Van Der Kamp lives in Ames. She is a student records coordinator at Ia. State University.

At the time of Glen's death in 1960 they were living on a farm southeast of Sully. Nola served as Lynville-Sully board secretary for six years. She also worked at the Veterinarian Diagnostic Lab at Ames. In 1969 she moved to Pella where she was employed at the Pella Medical Center until her marriage to Keith Emmert.

by Nola Emmert

ENGBERS, LARRY AND VIOLA (VANDER MOLEN)
F160

Larry Engbers was married at the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella to Viola VanDer Molen (daughter of Ben and Christine) on August 5, 1964. Larry was the son of Wm. and Pearl (Vande Haar) Engbers. He was born on Dec. 26, 1941. For the first few years of their married life the couple rented a farm house on the Ray Newendorp farm. Larry helped his father on the farm while Viola worked at Pella Super Valu. Lora Elaine was welcomed May 16, 1967. In 1969 Larry and Viola moved to the home place. Larry and his brother Jim were in partnership in the grain business and the farming operation. On Aug. 18, 1970, Lynda Lee was born. Three years later a third daughter was born, Victoria Lynn, on Apr. 19, 1973.

Just like with any family living on a farm with three little girls, there is always that chance of danger. So it was with a little girl playing on a hayrack in Nov. of 1974. Lynda was doing just that. She fell off and broke her arm. Slight as it might seem, it was a big thing for a four-year-old. In Sept. 1976, Lora entered the Pella hospital because of pneumonia. Only five days after her dismissal, a baby sister was born. The last of four girls, LaVon Kay, was born on Sept. 24, 1976.

It seemed like it wasn't long before the girls were in Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High. Viola then began working at Stravers Hardware. During this time there was the normal type sickness as well as Larry's kidney stones; his neck vertebrae surgery at Ia. Methodist on June 24, 1983; Viola's surgery in 1985; and Vicki's shoulder surgery on July 11, 1986.

But probably the most exciting event was when Lora was married on Sept. 20, 1985. All the sisters were bridesmaids and finally there was a boy in the family! Lora was united in marriage to Rick Bandstra at the First Christian Reformed Church. Rick was born on Sept. 19, 1964 to Larry and Linda Bandstra. The couple rented and remodeled an old home located south of Pella. Rick farms with his father while Lora works part time at Vander Ploeg Bakery. The family participates in school and church activities with Lynda also working part time at the Dutch Buffet. Spare time hours are spent enjoying camping, fishing, hunting, or just a hike to the back pasture to see what might be found.

by Christy VanDer Molen

Larry Engbers family. Front, l-r: Lynda, LaVon, and Vicki; Back: Larry, Lora, Rick Bandstra, and Viola.

ENGBERS, MARVIN AND MARIE

F161

Marvin Engbers Family: Front, l-r; Becky, Marvin, Beth; Back, l-r; Marie, Pat, Debbie.

Marvin N. Engbers was the third child born to Arie Engbers and Gertrude Bensink Engbers on Dec. 1, 1928. Gertrude and Arie lived most of their lives around Pella, except for a time in Ames and Tracy. To this family was born five sons: Henry John, who was stillborn; John Henry; Marvin N.; Arie, Jr.; and Ernest Glen. Arie, Sr. died in1974 and Gertrude passed away in 1985. Many are the stories of Marvin and his three brothers. They were very close, all born within a five-year span. Life was exciting for them; most of the time it was of their own making.

Marv attended high school in Tracy and began working at Montgomery Ward in Oskaloosa. In 1948, he married his high school sweetheart, Marie J. Beekhuizen (born Oct. 1929), daughter of Arnold J. and Bertha Jansen Beekhuizen. Marie worked as a secretary in Oskaloosa until their first child was born. She was Patricia Ann (Mrs. Douglas De Jong), whose children are Nicole and Jessica; Debra Kay (Mrs. David Vermeer), whose children are Jason, Lisa, and Christa; Becky Jo (Mrs. Brad Weyers), whose children are Joann and Benjamin; and Beth Ann Engbers.

In 1957 Marvin's brother, Ernie, convinced him to move to Pella and be his assistant at managing the local Farmers Co-op. This team, interested in building a bigger and better co-op, worked well together for 30 years. What a sad time when Ernie decided to pull up stakes and move to California. Those years together were very rewarding years.

The family was very active in their church, Calvary Christian Reformed, and the girls attended the local Christian grade and high schools. All were busy in community events as well. Marv served on the Pella Chamber board, was president of Christian Grade and Christian High school board, and served many years on the church council.

Sports have been a big interest in the family, but especially for Marvin. Golf is number one, and in earlier years, basketball and softball were enjoyed too. The family had many picnic lunches on the way to Lower Grove for a ball game. Marie's hobbies are many; mainly quilting, refinishing furniture, flowers, and both like to go antiquing and attend auctions.

Each summer the family vacations at a cottage at Crystal Lake in Beulah, Mich. All the family looks forward to it: Marv, Marie, children and grandchildren.

Marvin battled cancer for two years. He passed away Good Friday morning, Apr. 17, 1987.

by Marie Engbers

ENGLE, VERLAND AND JEAN

F162

Verland and Jean Engle Family. Front, Sandy; Back, l-r: Randy, Jean, Verland, Rus.

Verland Dean Engle was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. on June 28, 1942, the eldest son of Harry and Pauline Terpstra Engle. During his preschool years he lived in Sully, and later in Newton, after which the family moved back to a farm near Sully where Verland lived and went to school. He graduated from Lynnville-Sully High School in 1961. At that time he was employed at the Sully Coop Creamery. He was a member of the St. Andrew's Lutheran Church of Galesburg. Verland has one brother Dennis, married to Kathy Schafer, who lives in Newton with their two children. He has one sister, JoLynn, who is married to Randall Renaud, and they live by Grinnell with their two children. His mother, Pauline, passed away in 1986 following a lingering illness.

On Sept. 20, 1963 Verland married Alice Jean Nikkel, daughter of Henry Nikkel and Bertha Sjaardema Nikkel. Jean's dad, Henry, had passed away on Apr. 25, 1962. Jean was born on Nov. 5, 1944, in Newton, Ia., and was raised on the family farm north of Sully where the family has lived since 1925. Jean attended the Sully Christian School and graduated from eighth grade in 1958. Her high school years were spent at Pella Christian High School where she graduated in 1963. Jean was employed by Doane's Insurance Office in Newton, Ia. Jean has two sisters, Joyce Bandstra (Gilbert, deceased); Kathleen Fopma (Charles); and three brothers, Dewey, of Sully, Ia.; William and Robert, both of Pella. Jean's mother, Bertha, married Dick Hugen on Dec. 1, 1966, who is from Pella. Jean has five step-brothers: Harold; Bert; Henry; Bob Hugen from Oskaloosa; and Melvin Hugen of Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Milly Hugen Hoeksema of Pella. Jean's step-father, dick, passed away on Sept. 27, 1981. Dick was a loving father and grandfather to Verland and Jean and their family.

After their marriage in Sept. of 1963, Verland and Jean lived in Pella where their family was born and raised. Verland became an employee of Rolscreen Company in 1963,

where he still works today. Three children were born into their family: one daughter, Sandra Jean, who was born on Mar. 26, 1964; two sons – Randall Dean who was born May 5, 1965; and Rustin Jon, born Apr. 24, 1970. On July 5, 1986, Sandra was married to Kevin Kuyers, from Milwaukee, Wis. They live in Houston, Tex. where Sandy is a secretary and Kevin has a management position with Marriott Hotels. Randy is a graduate of Calvin College where he majored in music. He is presently a student at Calvin College Seminary. Rus is a senior at Pella Christian High School and is employed at Hawkeye Hybrids. The children all attended and graduated from Pella Christian Schools.

Verland and Jean have lived at North Prairie since 1968. Jean is employed at Pella Christian Grade School in food service. Verland works at Rolscreen Company. The family enjoys walking, music, traveling, gardening, and landscaping. They are involved in many church and school activities. They are members of Calvary Christian Reformed Church.

by Jean Engle

Joan Farver

Daughter Suzanne Farver and family: George Berky, Suzanne, and Louisa.

FARVER, MARY JOAN (KUYPER)

F163

I was born Nov. 17, 1919, at home – at 1003 N. Main St. – in the home that my parents built and moved into when they were married. I had one brother, Stuart H. Kuyper, born Oct. 14, 1921, who attended Pella High School; graduated with honors from Iowa State College in Ames, Ia., with an Engineering degree; served in the Army during World War II at Ft. Belvoir, Va., as Lieutenant; and later, Captain in the Corps of Engineers. After about four years in the army, he started working at Rolscreen Company, where he was later in charge of production and served as president of the Rolscreen Company, for three and one-half years until his untimely death at age 58, on July 5, 1980.

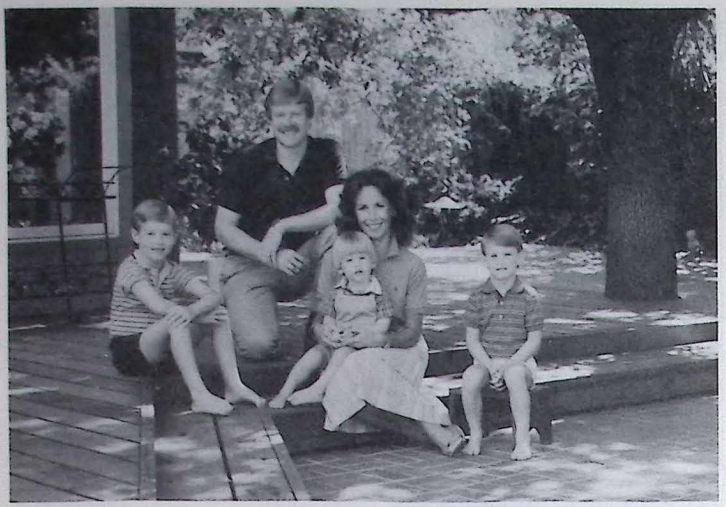
My early childhood was pleasant. I attended Pella High School and was active in band, orchestra, and glee club. I graduated from Grinnell College, Grinnell, Ia., in 1941 with a B.A. degree in music (piano major.) At Grinnell, I was active in Glee Club, mixed chorus, and was a house chairman my senior year. After graduation, I worked at Central National Bank in Des Moines (now First Interstate Bank) starting at $75.00 per month as a secretary. I moved to Washington, D.C. in 1943 to be near my brother Stu, and was secretary in the TWA Executive office near the White House. I was living in Washington when President Roosevelt died. I met my husband, Paul Farver, through my brother Stu, when both were stationed at Ft. Belvoir.

Paul and I were married in Pella, Ia., Oct. 1945, with my brother, Stu, and cousin, Emily Kuyper, in attendance at a home wedding. Paul was then a Captain in the Engineer Corps, and we lived a year at Ft. Warren, Wyo., until he was separated fromt he Army. We moved back to Pella, and Paul worked at Rolscreen Company until 1976, and served as President of the company from 1966 to 1976. Paul was an active community worker and supporter: member of Kiwanis, served on the Pella Library Board, Central College Board, Federal reserve Bank Board of Chicago, Tulip Time Steering Committee, Iowa Power & Light Company (Des Moines) Board, and Pella Historical Society Board. He was awarded an Honorary degree from Central College.

Our home in Pella was 501 Lincoln Street – a lovely house designed by Des Moines architect, Stan Ver Ploeg, who was born and raised in Pella, and built by long-time Pella builder, Rich Lautenbach. The home served us well for over 25 years.

Our three children, Mary, Charles S., and Suzanne, were all born in Pella and attended Pella High School. Mary was a high school cheerleader, Homecoming Queen attendant, and 1966 Tulip Queen. Charles played basketball, was a member of the high school golf team, and Thespians. Suzanne played French horn in the high school band and Des Moines Symphony, and was high school band drum major. Mary and Suzanne were both musical and in glee club and small choral groups. All attended Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colo. Mary was there three years until her marriage on June 28, 1969, in Pella, to James William Griffith, Jr., of Minneapolis, and a graduate of Colorado College. Mary and Jim have three children: Chip (James W. III), age 17; Amy Frances, age 12; and Mary Elizabeth (Meg), age 8. They live in Golden Valley, Minn., a suburb of Minneapolis. Charles graduated with honors (Business Major) in 1972 from Colorado College and later received his MBA degree from Denver University. Charles was married Jan. 27, 1973, to Elizabeth Romaine Wickes in Aspen, Colo., at Prince of Peace Chapel. They

Daughter Mary (Farver) Griffith and family. Back: Chip, Mary,and Jim Griffith; Front: Meg and Amy.



Son Charles Farver and family. Left to Right: Adam, Charles, Betsy, Benjamin, and Jacob.

Herman H. Fennema and Artie Van de Lune married February 15, 1906.

presently live in Denver and have three sons: Adam Paul, age 10; Charles Jacob, age 8; and Benjamin Wickes, age 4. Suzanne attended Colorado College one year, then graduated from Grinnell College in 1977 with honors and was awarded Phi Beta Kappa and Mortar Board. Suzanne married George Berky in Aspen, Colo. Nov. 24, 1978, and they presently live in Denver and have one daughter, Louisa, one year old. Suzanne has a law degree from Denver University and practiced law for a year before their daughter was born. Three wonderful families with seven grandchildren!

After my brother Stu died in 1980, I was elected Chairman of the Board of Rolscreen Company, and am still serving in this capacity (1987). Charles S. Farver and Peter C. Kuyper serve on the Board of Directors. In 1978, after my divorce from Paul Farver I moved to Colorado Springs, Colo., to make my home, but I still spend a good bit of time in Pella. I served as president of Chapter BU, P.E.O. (and other offices); President of Pella Garden Club; was an active Republican and attended the Republican National Convention in San Francisco in 1956 as an alternate delegate when President Eisenhower was re-elected and President Hoover attended. I'm a member of Second Reformed Church in Pella, where I taught Sunday School and was a choir member. I was also the church organist for a couple of years. I have enjoyed traveling to Europe (especially Holland), China, Japan, and Africa. My hobbies are golf (first ladies champ at Pella Golf Club), gardening, bridge, and skiing in Colo.

Since the death of my mother, brother, and father, I have enjoyed being able to be a part of making grants from the Pella Rolscreen Foundation and the P.H. Kuyper and E. Lucile Kuyper Foundation to many worthwhile Pella Community projects – in most recent years to include grants for the Klokkenspel and Franklin Place; restoration of the Fire Station; remodeling of the Community Center including the P.H. Kuyper Memorial fund toward the third floor restoration; Golden Age Van for senior citizens; and in the near future, to contribute to the planned new sidewalks in the Pella business district. I presently am a member of Iowa College Foundation Board, Iowa Public Television Foundation Board, and Executive Board of Central College.

by M. Joan Kuyper Farver

FENNEMA, HARM

F164

Harm (Fokkema) Fennema and his wife Grietje De Kraaij about 1890.

Harm, patriarch of the Fennema family, was the first family member to carry this surname. He was born Jan. 12, 1833, Harm Joukes Fokkema, fourth of five sons, to Jouke Kornelus Fokkema and Dieuwke Jans Hoekstra at Kollum, Friesland. Harm's father, Jouke, born about 1795 at Morrha, Friesland, died Jan. 13, 1872, at the age of 77. Jouke was the son of Kornelis Joukes and Antje Jans de Jong. Harm's mother, Dieuwke, christened Oct. 22, 1801, at Engwierum, Friesland, was the daughter of Jan Jacobs Hoekstra and Jauneke Drieseune. Harm's brothers were: Kornelus (1827), married to Aaltje Spends van Zuiden; Jan (1829), married to Grietje Wiersma; Harm (1831-1832); and brother Anne (1835-1848). Jan also changed his name to Fennema when he came to America. He lived in the Pella area for a while and in 1870 joined the group that moved on to Sioux County.

Harm came to America at about the age of 18, finally settling in the Pella area. On June 8, 1863, Harm was married to Grietje De Kraaij by Rev. John Nollen. Harm and Grietje had ten children, seven sons and three daughters, all born at Otley. They were: Walter (1863-1940), married to Catherine Van Iperen; Jacob (1866-1929), married to Sarah Van Iperen; John (1869-1945), married to Minnie De Jong; Alice (1871-1963), married to Jake Tuinstra; Gerrit (1874-1957), married to Eldora Dykstra; Bassil (1876-1894), never married; Jane (1879-1919), never married; Chester (1881-1964), married to Jeannie Kaldenberg; Herman (1883-1964), married Artie Van de Lune; and Madge (1886-1968), married Roy McIntyre.

Grietje, born Oct. 8, 1844, at Putten, Gelderland, came to Pella in 1855 with her widowed father, Wouter, and brother, Bessel. Wouter De Kraaij was married twice. First he was married to Bessel's mother, Jannetje Besselsen van den Hazel, who died Feb. 29, 1842, then to Jannetje's sister, Aartje Besselsen van den Hazel (Grietje's mother), who died Feb. 7, 1851. These two sisters were the only children of Bessel Hendriksen van den Hazel and Geertje Jansen Bakker.

When Harm died June 3, 1896, he was a prosperous farmer, leaving each of his sons a farm. Grietje later sold the "home" farm and bought a house in Pella where she lived until her death Jan. 30, 1915. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Grietje was later re-

membered by her daughter-in-law, Artie Van de Lune, as being a truly kind and sweet-tempered woman.

The youngest son, Herman, born Mar. 8, 1883, attended Central College Academy where he played on the basketball team. Herman married Artie Van de Lune on Feb. 15, 1906. Herman and Artie first, lived in Otley where their four children were born. Later, they lived in Pella and for several years had a farm near New Sharon. Their children: Ruth, born Jan. 24, 1907, married to Chester Van Zee; Gladys, born Mar. 27, 1910 – died Aug. 13, 1985, married to Benjamin A. Davis; Herman Lawrence, born May 2, 1913, married to Alice L. Wilson; and Gretchen Elma born Jan. 13, 1915, married to Norman T. Langerak.

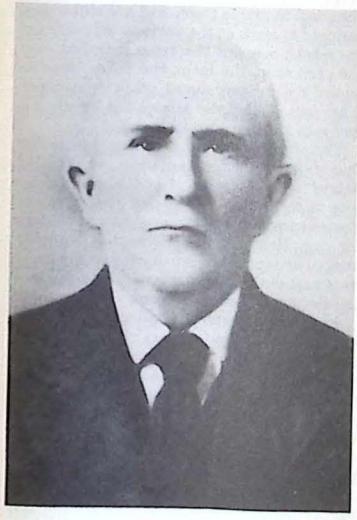
Herman H. Fennema died Aug. 10, 1964, in Pella. Artie Van de Lune Fennema died June 12, 1965. They are both buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

by Juli Wilson

FISK FAMILY

F165

Harvey and Eva Fisk and their children.



James Wesley Fisk

The Fisk family is traced back to forefathers in England. The grandfather of J.W. Fisk, John R. Fisk, was born in or near London. His father was Lord Richard Fisk. He married Mahola Kemp, daughter of Lord William Kemp, who was in the mercantile business in London in 1780.

John Fisk came to New York state in the early 1820s and eventually turned to the West.

Henry Charles Fisk was the father of J.W. Fisk, who later came to Pella. J.W. Fisk's mother was Julia A. Stites. James W. was born Nov. 1839, and in 1841 the family came to Iowa to the southwest corner of Jefferson County, two miles north of the Des Moines River. They were later joined by Grandfather Fisk and his three youngest sons, their wife and mother having died.

In 1856 the Fisks moved to Marion Co., Iowa.

J.W. Fisk first married Rachel Price and second married Elizabeth Harmsen of the family who had immigrated to Pella with Dominie Scholte. The Fisks were well known in Pella's tile industry.

Henry C. Fisk died Aug. 24, 1893, and his wife died May 3, 1897. John Wesley Fisk, after some time in Kansas, returned to Iowa and bought some land in Story Co. It was there his family was born, four sons and three daughters. (Harriet Vander Ploeg of Pella is of this line of Fisks that settled in Collins, Ia.) Henry C. and his wife are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, as are Harvey (1843-1925 GAR) and his wife, Eva (1857-1922), and their daughter, Louella (1877-1908); Henry M. Fisk (1844-1916 GAR) and his wife, Mahala (1844-1915), and H.G. Fisk, who died at 83 in 1893, and his wife, J.A., who died in 1897.

In 1915, when he lived in Des Moines, John Wesley Fisk wrote his memoirs, from which much of this story has been taken. John Wesley and his wife are most likely buried in Des Moines.

FOX, CHARLES I.

F166

Charles I. Fox, physician and surgeon, served professionally for over 45 years.

He was born in Corydon, Ia., Mar. 18, 1873. He was the eldest of three sons of James H. Fox and Ellen McIntire Fox.

His greatest desire in life was to become a doctor and he threatened to go West and become a cowboy unless his folks agreed to help him finance his education.

He graduated from Central Normal U, Humeston, in 1896; he then taught two years in a country school to help pay for his education. He graduated from Keokuk Medical College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1901. This medical college was moved to Iowa City, Ia.

On Aug. 10, 1899, he married Eliza Sharr in Corydon, Ia. Of this union six children were born: Dr. Ray A. Fox, Omaha, Neb.; Roy E. Fox, who died in infancy; twin girls, Ila M., Mrs. David Loetscher of Padre Island, Tex., and Olive I., Mrs. J.E. Schultz of Pella, Ia.; and twin boys, Keith B. Fox of Cedar Rapids, Ia., and Kenneth V. Fox of Azusa, Calif.

From 1901 to 1903 he practiced medicine in Promise City, Ia. From 1903 to 1916 he was in Callender, Ia. Here he served as mayor

Picture taken of Dr. C.I. Fox when he began his practice in Pella – 1917.

from 1910 to 1914, as a member of the board of education from 1910 to 1912, and president of the board from 1912 to 1916.

In 1916 he bought a practice and small hospital in Del Rio, Tex.

The U.S. was having trouble with the revolutionist Poncho Villa. Villa, of Mexico, had cavalry squadrons stationed along the border and ready to attack the U.S. at a moment's notice, and our border towns had many military troops protecting them from a surprise attack.

Del Rio at that time was a town of 12,000 people and had an emcampment of 9,000 soldiers. Their families lived there with them, so the town grade children could only go to school one-half days, sharing the time, school rooms, and teachers with the soldiers' children.

Wanting to give a good education to all five children prompted him to leave Texas in spite of the fact he couldn't sell his practice and hospital in such a short time, and he dreaded to return to the severe winters and mud roads of Iowa. He chose Pella because of the good educational system and Central College being located there.

Because Pella didn't have a hosptial and the nearest one was in Oskaloosa, he performed many operations in the country on kitchen tables, with Dr. Aschenbrenner giving the anesthetic and Louise Gaass Bruce as the nurse. He was the first doctor to perform a caesarean operation in Marion Co. It was performed in the country home because muddy roads made it impossible to move the patient to the hospital.

He retired in '46 at the age of 73. He had wished to retire earlier, but the other physicians requested he stay, as there was a shortage of doctors in Pella at that time.

In 1952 the Chamber of Commerce in Elma, Ia., requested he become the town doctor until they could get one to come and practice there. He had to remain over a year and was almost 80 when he retired for the second time.

His wife Eliza, whom he called Sally, died

in 1960. In 1961 he had a cataract operation and lost the sight in his eye. Having lost the sight in the other eye a few years before, this left him totally blind. At this time he was living with his daughter Ila Loetscher on Padre Island and passed away there Jan. 12, 1963, at the age of almost 90.

His hobbies were fishing, wildlife, finding and classifying mushrooms, and scientific reading. He was a member of Marion County and Iowa State Medical Societies, the American Medical Association, Chamber of Commerce, K.P. Lodge, 100 F, and Kiwanis Club.

by Olive Shultz

FRAHM, MARK LAURENCE AND VESTA LOUISE (SABIN)

F167

Vesta Louise was born Nov. 27, 1952, in Estherville, daughter of Luverne and Louise Sabin.

Vesta went to school in Pella, graduating in 1971. She had always wanted to be a nurse and went to Marshalltown for her LPN. In 1972 she worked at the Pella Community Nursing Home and Hospital; in 1973 she moved to Des Moines and worked at Lutheran Hospital where she met Mark.

Mark Laurence Frahm was born Oct. 27, 1953, in Ottumwa, Ia. He went to the University of Iowa and became a pharmacist, graduating in 1978.

Vesta and Mark were married in Des Moines, Aug. 16, 1975, moving to Iowa City where Mark finished his schooling. Vesta worked at University Hospital and Mercy Hospital.

When Mark finished his schooling, they moved to Ottumwa, where he works at the South Side Drug Store, while Vesta worked at St. Joseph Hospital.

Mark and Vesta are the proud parents of four children: Leah Marie Frahm, Jan. 11, 1979; Emily Louise Frahm, Mar. 23, 1980; Andrew Mark Frahm, July 1, 1983; and Hope Joan Frahm, June 28, 1985.

Vesta likes to take care of her family and cook; she went back to school to become an RN.

Mark likes to fish and hunt when he has time.

by Louise (Gezel) Sabin

FRANK, JAMES E. AND TERRI L. (TOOM)

F168

James Edward (Jim) Frank was born second son of John and Leone (Montgomery) Frank, July 13, 1950, in the Yocum Hospital, Chariton, Ia. He was welcomed home by big brother, Tom, age seven years. Jim grew up in Chariton, graduating from Chariton Community High School in 1969. In Feb. 1974, he started working at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Knoxville. In his spare time

Terri and Jim Frank.

Jim started refereeing football — later expanding to basketball, baseball, softball, and track. Also, in his very limited spare time, he found time to coach local little league teams for fifteen years.

Aug. 8, 1980, Jim married Terri Lynn Toom. Terri was born the first child of Melvin and Beverly Toom of Pella. Graduating in 1977, she worked at De Jong Floral. After marriage they moved to Chariton. Jim continued work at the Veterans Administration. Terri worked at Clark's Greenhouse and the Hy-Vee bakery.

July 1, 1983, they bought De Jong Floral, moving back to Pella where Terri runs the business. Jim remains very busy with his hospital work and officiating.

by Terri Frank

FREDERICK FAMILY

F169

Robert Frederick family, taken in 1972. Left to Right: Robert, Verlin, Tena, Kevin, and Leon.

Life began on Tuesday, July 13, 1924, for Robert Riley Frederick, in a backwoods mountain home, four miles south of Osage, Ark. on a place called "slate hill." He was the first of five sons born to Jasper Monroe and Alice Melrose (Mitchell) Frederick. The mountain homeland where Robert grew up was virtually impossible to reach by car.

Due to the circumstances of the '30s, and '40s, Robert had to assume the duties of the home and farm work. His father had to hire out for wages, while his mother was bedfast for three years. Being the oldest of the five sons, Robert became responsible for the preparation of the food and the housework. He along with help from his brothers was also responsible for the chores and the farm's operation. Robert used a one-horse plow to cultivate the stoney soil. The family, being quite occupied, stayed close to home.

On July 13, 1931, Robert, age seven, began school at Pleasant Valley #2. The school was located in narrow valley approximately one mile east of where he lived with his family. In that first year of school he completed kindergarten and first grade. Due to his mother's illness his dad, Jasper, took him out of school to help at home. As a result Robert had to spend two years each, in the second and fourth gardes. When Robert started the fifth grade he was the only pupil in that grade. After one week his teacher moved him into the sixth grade where he was able to keep up with his new classmates. During this time the teacher allowed Robert to take the tests that were in the seventh and eighth grade workbooks. Due to the teacher letting him do this, at the end of the school year when the county superintendent was issuing the tests for eighth graduation, Robert was allowed to take them. To his own amazement and the eighth grade students he passed the exam with higher marks than the rest of the graduating class of his school.

The following year Robert began high school at The School of the Ozarks at Point Lookout, Mo. The school overlooks Lake Taneycomo on the White River. This school is under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church. The school caters to young people who are unable to pay their tuition and, at that time, lived too far from a public school. Dormitory and campus life at the school were supervised under a very strict discipline. As an example, it was a penalty to walk across the grass. Students were, and are still today, assigned to work at the various industries of the school. Some of the areas included were the print shop, the farm, the dairy, maintenance, the cannery, yard work, and many other jobs. Today the school has an airport and various other new industries.

The advancement Robert attained in the first days of his first summer, working at School of the Ozarks, placed him on three jobs in three days. He ended that summer doing construction work on a new dormitory for girls. Robert along with other students worked under trained adult contractors, who were part of the workforce of The School of the Ozarks, on the new dorm.

After classes began the Fall of 1942, Robert was assigned to the Cannery. He spent most of his remaining four years working there. It was here, at the Cannery, that he became the student foreman. Robert worked with the canning of beans, tomatoes, hominy, sauerkraut, and spinach. He later was promoted to the grader and buyer of green beans when they came in from the farmers.

After the 1946 graduation Robert farmed near Ridgedale, Mo., for two years. After the second year when the family's crops were burned by drought, he came to Pella, Ia., to work in the tomato fields. In 1949 he worked in the construction business and on Dec. 29 moved, along with his family, to Pella.

It was while working with the tomatoes in 1948 that Robert made the aquaintance of

Leonard J. Kuiper. In this way, he learned about the Open Bible Church. Robert later started attending this church and after a time became a member.

Robert met Leonard's sister, Tena, at this church where she was a Sunday School teacher for the younger students. Tena was the daughter of Ralph J. and Hattie Kuiper who lived just west of Pella on a farm for 27 years.

Tena, born May 15, 1929, on a farm near Beacon, Ia., was raised under the guidance of a Christian home. She worked for Frundt Seed Co., now Hawkeye Hybrids, both in the fields and in the plant. Later she was employed by the Rolscreen Co. where she worked when Robert courted her.

After three years of courtship Robert and Tena were united in marriage on Sept. 16, 1954, at the Open Bible Church. They were married by Reverend Chas. O. Anderson who was assisted by then Pastor of the church, Cy Coller.

Robert was owner-operator of the Sinclair Oil station, in Pella, for three and one-half years, 1952 to 1956. Leonard, Tena's brother, operated the station while Robert and Tena were on their honeymoon.

After a honeymoon at Niagara Falls and the Smokey Mountains, Robert and Tena settled down in their first home at 1014 Columbus Street, Pella, Ia. They lived at this address for eight years. It was at this home that two of their three boys were born. Their first, Verlin Eugene, was born on Feb. 4, 1959, and the second, Kevin Ray, was born on Mar. 18, 1961. The two sons were both born at Still Memorial Hospital, in Des Moines, Ia., and delivered by Dr. Robert Martin, then of Pella.

Robert and Tena built a new home at 307 West 4th St. still in Pella, and in Mar. of 1963 they moved into it. They have lived there since.

Their third son, Leon James, was born on Oct. 22, 1964. He was born in the Mahaska County Hospital, in Oskaloosa, Ia., and delivered by Dr. Kenneth Lemon who was on staff at the Mercy Medical Clinic, in Oskaloosa.

All three sons graduated from Pella Community High School. Verlin joined the United States Navy where he spent six years and nine months as an Electronic Technician. He served over three years on the USS *Nassau*, LHA-4, as their Calibrations Technician and as back-up technician on the ship's surface search radar and IFF systems. Later he served for 18 months in Kingsville, Tex., as the base's IFF technician and one of the back-up air search radar technicians. Kevin also served two years in the Navy as a Radioman on the USS *Clark*, FFG-11. He was medically discharged in the middle of his term. Kevin then went on to graduate from Brown Institute, Minneapolis, Minn., and has worked in radio since his graduation in 1983. On Nov. 27, 1982, Kevin married Cheryl J. Cline. They had twin girls, Holly Ann and Stacey Rachelle, born on Jan. 7, 1985. Leon continued his education by going to Iowa State University. There he is studying the computer engineering field, where he hopes after graduation to help advance that field in some capacity. His main interest is to go into the repair, installation, and maintenance of computers.

In 1963 when the Berean Baptist Church was formed in Pella, Robert, Tena, and their family started attending. Church was first held at the Pella Christian Grade School. They became charter members of the church and have attended there ever since. Tena has taught Sunday School, Daily Vacation Bible School, and has helped in other areas. Robert is an usher, has taught Sunday School, edited a monthly paper for the church's youth group, and has helped in other areas. Verlin has substituted as a teacher for his mother, on occasion, and is also an usher.

Robert lost his father, Jasper Monroe, on Aug. 29, 1978, and his mother, Alice Melrose, on Sept. 12, 1986. Tena lost her mother, Hattie, on Dec. 28, 1966. Tena's father is still living and resides at Fair Haven East, in Pella.

Tena worked at the Rolscreen Company prior to her marriage. From that time on, being mother to her children kept her quite busy, especially when Robert was working as a painter away from home quite often. After the boys left high school Tena was employed by the Pella Historical Society where she works cleaning the village and as a guide.

Some of the family's hobbies include photography, going to antique shows, and dealing in collectible items at flea markets. Robert enjoys building and selling small cases for displaying different items, with the luxury of having them under glass. Tena delights in quilting activities, collecting historical items, and Dutch nostalgia.

by Robert A. Frederick

FREDERICK FAMILY
F170

James Riley Fredrick was born in Tennessee on Oct. 7, 1871. The correct names of his father and mother are not known for certain. Hand written segments from old books and Bibles contain names and birthdates of family members. They fail to identify the geneology. He was born with a "hair-lip" and always wore a mustache to hide this fact. J.R. moved with his family from Tennessee to Arkansas early in his childhood. Contact was lost with part of the family, and it is not known to this date where they went or moved to.

Two brothers and one sister are known. They are Adam and George Frederick and Jane Plumley. The known family all lived in northwest Arkansas.

James R. Frederick was married to Rachel Ann Baughman on Feb. 1, 1891. It is known that her mother's maiden name was Crouch. But little else is known of her family other than her brother Mack lived nearby in Arkansas. Rachel Ann was born June 6, 1874.

An interesting note was the height difference between Rachel Ann and her husband. She was only 4 ft. 2 inches tall and J.R. was 6 ft. 3 inches. She was also rounded and plump while he was tall and slender.

Nine children were born to this union: Jasper Monroe, June 29, 1895; Otto; Charley; Pearlie; Gracie. A pair of twins and a son, "Little Johnny," died as infants. There seems to also have been one miscarriage.

They lived in Carroll, Johnson, and Madison counties in Arkansas. From the government, they homesteaded land in Johnson Co. Farming to them was a means of survival more than a business. Rachel Ann canned fruits and vegetables, and she dried apples and peaches for winter food.

In Dec. of 1918, they moved back to Carroll Co., four miles south of the town of Osage, the area they lived in until J.R. Frederick's death. He had built onto their cabin and added a flagstone fireplace for their heat. Their kitchen had a wood burning cookstove, a table, and a dish shelf. The pots and pans were hung on nails that had been driven into the wall. The wall was papered with catalog pages.

Along with farming, J.R. Frederick was a circuit preacher for the United Baptist Church. Many times his pastorates included four rural churches, one Sunday a month at each church. He often walked or traveled by horseback to his pastorates. The "Elder" J.R.

Front, l to r: Elder J.R.; Pearlie; Rachel Ann; and on lap: Gracie Jane. Back, l to r: Otto; Jasper; and Charley.

Frederick was a caring pastor. He occasionally pulled teeth along the way to his churches, and he did the job without using any pain killers. His grandson, Robert Frederick of Pella, Ia., still has his old tooth pullers.

One interesting note from Elder Frederick's ministry is related here. It seems that at one of his churches some of the people wanted him to preach on the subject of "Liars". Mr. Frederick did not wish to commit himself to any specific topic, and told them so, thus trying to discourage their urging. But they persisted, at which time he agreed with a condition, they were to read the second chapter of Jude before he returned. They all agreed.

Upon returning to this particular congregation and when it came time for his sermon, Elder Frederick asked for the show of hands of those who read the chapter assigned. Several hands were raised. This gave him the grounds to proceed with his sermon on "Liars". You see, Jude has only one chapter.

In 1937, Elder J.R. Frederick passed away due to cancer of the liver. This problem had been troubling him for quite some time. He was buried in a pine board coffin, built by neighbors, and laid to rest in the Plumley Cemetery near Compton, Ark. His eldest son, Jasper Monroe, years later built and placed a cement and sand headstone on his grave. He embedded the inscription into it with plastic letters. The headstone was then painted with a fleck epoxy paint by J.R. Frederick's grandson, Robert, who was also Jasper Monroe's son.

Rachel Ann Frederick continued to live in their family home until 1947. At this time she moved to live with her youngest son, Charley and his wife Isabell (Mitchell) Frederick, in Chico, Calif. Rachel Ann had a heart condition that required prescription medication of grain of strychnine to stimulate and stabilize her. She passed away on May 20, 1963, and is laid to rest in Chico Cemetery.

Memories of Mrs. Frederick include her ability to sort mail from a community box and to count money accurately, even though she could not read or write. One time, her daughter-in-law, Alice (Mitchell) Frederick, Jasper Monroe's wife, was helping her put some canned goods into their cellar, which was under the house. Rachel Ann, had such a strained back that she could hardly walk. She was sitting at the top handing the jars down into the cellar, when Alice noticed several copperhead snakes coiled a short distance away from her mother-in-law. Alice told her about them. Rachel Ann jumped up from where she was sitting and ran outside to get help. Her back was fixed by the sudden action, and later on she was razzed alot for it.

Jasper M. Frederick family moved to Pella, Ia. Dec. 29, 1949, where they lived until Jasper and Alice passed away.

Gracie Frederick Seals moved to Pella in the summer of 1956, with her two daughters, Virginia and Barbara. They later moved to Washington State in 1959, where they presently reside.

by Robert R. Frederick

FREDERICK, JASPER MONROE AND ALICE MELROSE

F171

On June 29, 1895, Jasper Monroe Frederick was born. He was the oldest son of James Riley and Rachel Ann (Baughman) Frederick. Jasper Monroe was born four miles south of Osage, Ark. in Carroll Co. He lived in Madison and Johnson Counties. It was in Johnson Co. where his father James homesteaded. "Monroe", as he was known in childhood, spent the last six months of World War I as a company cook at an Army camp near Little Rock, Ark. Difficulty later plagued him in obtaining military assistance, because Monroe had been discharged a day or two under the needed requirements.

Later the family returned to Osage where his parents bought 100 acres and settled down. When they had to make their moves, they had to use a wagon and team, sometimes having to make more than one trip. This was very difficult since most of the time they had to move over rough and rocky terrain.

Alice had four brothers and four sisters: Forrest, Percy, Joe, Jim, Isabelle, Effie, Ann, and Elizabeth. She also had a half brother, Will, and a half sister, Lou. The Mitchell family lived for a time around Stillwater, Okla. Alice was about two when they returned to Madison Co., Ark.

Monroe soon met his wife to be, Alice Mitchell. She was the eldest daughter and second child of Robert Tatum and Rosie Alice Mellissa (Eoff) Mitchell. They were united in marriage on Sept. 16, 1923, at the Mitchell home near Purdy, Ark. in Madison Co. Monroe's brother, Otto, had dated Alice prior to Monroe courting her. Later, another of his brothers, Charley, married Isabelle Mitchell, a sister to Alice.

Alice and Monroe had five sons: Robert Riley, July 13, 1924; Floyd Tatum, Apr. 25, 1926; John Payne, Jan. 7, 1928; Cefus Ilene, Oct. 7, 1929; Freeman Sylvester, Feb. 2, 1931. They lived in a home on Monroe's father's farm called the "slate hill," because it was on an area of shale or slate.

Monroe owned a 100 acre mountainside plot that joined his father's land on the east. He had purchased the land and house from his Uncle George Frederick, prior to his marriage, for $100 cash and a team of horses and harness. The home later went up in flames during a forest fire. It was not until after their family had been born that a one room cabin was built on the old homesite. About 1932, they moved three fourths of a mile across the rough and steep mountain terrain to the cabin. They made the move with a mule – team drawn wagon.

The cabin was about 18 ft. x 20 ft. It had one plank door and two openings with plank shutters for windows that did not have any glass. The main floor was made from native sawn oak boards. The ceiling, floor for the "loft" upstairs, was made from hand split boards.

Furnishings in the home consisted of two beds, a storage trunk, a wood burning cookstove and heater, a crudely built dining table with boxes and a plank bench for chairs, and an old pie safe for a dish/kitchen cupboard and for food storage.

Insects and mice had no trouble entering the cabin. Flies were fought off of the food while the family ate by persimmon branches and/or a towel-like cloth, because they did not have any pesticides to use. Their only means to keep their food cool was a hole in the ground, which often had water at the

Front, l to r: Alice and Jasper Monroe; Middle, l to r: John P., Freeman S., and Cefus I. Back, l to r: Floyd T. and Robert R. (taken in Pella, 1958).

bottom. Even, when stored in the hole, goat's milk would spoil on a hot summer's day.

Cracks, in the floor and around and under the door, allowed rodents and snakes to enter virtually unnoticed. One night the family was listening to Monroe read from the Bible when a poisonous copperhead snake crawled out from under the parent's bed! Their son, Robert, was on another bed only three or four feet away. He saw the snake and calmly interrupted his father by saying, "Dad don't move! There is a large copperhead between your feet." The snake went under the bed the other boys were on. No one dared to hardly move. Robert got off the end of his bed and took the loaded .22 caliber rifle down from over the door and shot the snake under the other bed. Frightening? You know it.

Often, during the cold part of the winter, the heater stove would be fired up so hot that even the seven inch stove-pipe would become red-hot above the roof. The stove-pipe was not insulated and went straight through the ceiling and wood shake roof. Yet they never had a fire accident from it. Guess you know who was watching over them, God. They were members of the Pleasant Valley # 2 United Baptist Church, which was four miles south from Osage, Ark. on what is today known as State 103.

During the depression years, the Fredericks struggled to maintain their nutrition and clothing. They raised much of their food and had both cows and goats for milk. They butchered the hogs they had raised for most of their meat. Small wild game, such as squirrels, rabbits, groundhogs, raccoons, and even opossums were hunted and used to supplement their diet. Their food was tastefully prepared by an excellent southern style cook, Alice.

In 1946, their son, Robert, graduated from The School of the Ozarks, at Point Lookout, Mo. The Frederick family then moved from their log cabin home to Ridgedale, Mo. Then, for three years, Robert farmed beans, tomatoes, and strawberries for the S of O Cannery. In 1947, during the familys sojourn in Missouri, Floyd T. married his first wife, Opal Keithley.

In 1948, a dry summer burnt their crops which forced them to find work elsewhere. In late summer of 1948, Robert and John got work at the Marshall Cannery and in the tomato fields in Pella. They went back to Missouri after the tomato season was over and returned to Pella again in 1949. That summer Robert worked on the paving of both Oskaloosa and Washington Sts. After the streets were finished, he worked for the Dingeman Construction Company which is now Pella Construction.

It was in Dec., 1949, that Bob Dingeman drove his dump truck to Ridgedale, Mo., and hauled the Frederick family belongings to the farm where Gerald DePenning now lives in his new home. From there they moved to Pella and lived in several places over the following years.

Jasper, as Monroe became known in Pella, was hired by the Rolscreen Company to be a janitor in the sanitary department. He worked there until he retired in 1961, at the age of 66. He took part of his retirement account from the Rolscreen Company and purchased the property at 315 Main Street. Jasper and Alice called this their home until they died.

Jasper continued to pursue military aid. With the help of Mr. Bill Van Sittert and Gary Gezel, both of Pella, through the American Legion, he obtained his retirement assistance.

Jasper passed away on Aug. 29, 1978. He had been in and out of the V.A. Hospital in Des Moines, Ia., several times. But that night he couldn't rest in any position, so Alice called Robert, who took him to Pella Community Hospital where he lived only one half hour. Christ, church, and his Bible were a must in his family life.

Alice lived until Sept. 12, 1986. She spent her last four years in the Mahaska Manor Nursing Home in Oskaloosa, Ia. and the last ten months in the Pella Nursing Home. Alice was in the Methodist Hospital, in Des Moines, Ia., when she passed away due to pneumonia and her long bout with diabetes.

She crocheted, knitted, and quilted various items throughout her life time. While in the nursing home, she kept her hands and mind active by making various things.

Jasper and Alice were laid to rest side by side, as they were in life, in the Graceland Cemetery just north of Pella, Ia.

They are survived by their five sons and their wives: Robert, Tena, and family live in Iowa; Floyd, (his first wife Opal passed away in May of 1983), Ruby, and family live in southwest Arkansas; John, Joyce, and family live in Michigan; Cefus and his wife Carol also live in Michigan; Freeman, Ruby, and family live in Texas. Both Cefus and Freeman have been divorced once and remarried.

by Robert R. Frederick

FREDERICK, VERLIN

F172

Verlin Eugene Frederick was born Feb. 4, 1959, at Still Memorial Hospital, in Des Moines, Ia. The hospital, where he and his brother Kevin were born, is no longer standing. It was torn down in the 1960's to make room for I-235, office buildings, and a parking lot.

Verlin Frederick 1983

Verlin was born the eldest of three sons to Robert R. and Tena W. (Kuiper) Frederick, of Pella, Ia. who at the time of his birth, resided at 1014 Columbus St., the house just east of Mr. Birdsall's residence.

At the age of four he moved, with his family, to their present address at 307 West 4th Street in Pella. Verlin lived at this address until he left for the military.

Verlin attended the Pella Community School system. He went to Kindergarten through fifth grade at Webster School, before the fifth grade was moved to Lincoln School. His teacher for that grade was Mrs. Murt Kooi. He attended sixth through eighth grades at the Junior High building, when it was located at 712 Union St. The building is now known as the Pella Community Center. Verlin finished his education at the Pella Community High School where he graduated in May of 1977.

During his Junior High and High School career he did many things, such as delivering the *Des Moines Register & Tribune* for four years. Also, in the summer months, he detassled seed corn for Frundt's Seed Corn Company, now known as Hawkeye Hybrids, for two years. When he turned sixteen he worked, part-time, for Roth & Associates, of Storm Lake, Ia, helping his dad paint.

Verlin at the age of three started helping his dad, Robert, paint. He started by painting his grandmother's and grandfather's baseboards in their house at 315 Main in Pella. He helped his father with painting off and on for several years until he joined the military. His mother, Tena, used to help his dad paint, too. She was the one who taught Verlin how to paint with a roller.

Verlin joined the United States Navy, on active duty, on Oct. 20, 1977. Verlin had signed up for the USN on Dec. 30, 1976, so that he could still get the GI Bill. He went to boot camp in Orlando, Fla. While there he also attended the first part of his electronics training in BE&E (Basic Electricity and Electronics) School. Verlin tested out and cut his six-week course to only one week.

After leaving Orlando Verlin went to NTC Great Lakes, Ill. where he finished his BE&E schooling. He then went to school on the same base to become an Electronics Technician. The school took 35 weeks for him to complete a 30-week course. This was due to his grandfather, Jasper Monroe Frederick, passing away between phases of the school. There was also a delay due to an excessive amount of students per the amount of instructors.

After his graduation from "ET" School, he traveled to Lowery AFB, in Denver, Colo., for a "C" School. The "C" School trained PME (Preventative Maintenance Electronics) Technicians or otherwise known as the Calibration Technician School. He spent sixteen weeks there due to Christmas of 1978 and his need for protective lenses for his glasses.

Upon completion of PME School, he was assigned to the Pre-commissioning Unit of USS Nassau, LHA-4, in Norfolk, Va. When he arrived at his new unit he was offered another "C" school which he gladly took. The school was for the AIMS IFF System, one of the top and most critical schools in the Navy. The school has one of the highest drop-out rates in the Navy.

When Verlin completed the IFF School he

boarded the *USS Nassau*. He was stationed on board from Aug. 1979 to Nov. 1982. The ship made several Caribeean Sea cruises, two Mediteranean Sea cruises, one North Atlantic cruise,and also spent some time in the Indian Ocean. While on these cruises he visited many countries such as Spain, England, France, Egypt, Kenya, Israel, Cuba, Venezuela, Barbados, Bahamas, Panama, and Columbia to name a few. Verlin served on board as one of several Cal-Techs (Calibration Technician). He also served as their third IFF technician and as Damage control Technician for their surface search radar.

In Nov. of 1982, when Verlin left the *USS Nassau*, LHA-4, he was stationed at NAS Kingsville, Tex. At this station he worked on their IFF equipment and air search radars. Verlin was stationed at NAS Kingsville from Jan. of 1983 until his Honorable Discharge, on July 19, 1984. This gave him six years and nine months active military duty.

In the same month of his discharge, July 1984, Verlin again started working for his father, Robert, as a full time painter. Verlin also started,in this same month, his own business called Tulip City Stamps and Coins. This business, on Jan. 19, 1987, merged with his dad's other business, Frederick's Collectibles, to become Tulip City Collectibles.

In Aug. of 1985, he started working for BCS Computer Systems, owned by Ron Bogaards, as their Computer Repair Technician. He worked for them until Dec. 1986, when they took over another computer store, Bandstra Computer, and they no longer needed his services.

In Feb. of 1987, Verlin enrolled in the NEC's Electronic Engineering Technology course, at their facility in Des Moines, Ia. He also plans to keep helping his dad, Robert, with his painting business and to keep the store, Tulip City Collectibles, open as much as possible.

by Verlin Frederick

FRUNDT, W. A. "BILL"
F173

W.A. "Bill" Frundt had always hoped to be a lawyer, but graduating from high school in 1932 at the bottom of the great depression there was no way he could afford the education. As prosecuting attorney in his twelfth grade Problems of American Democracy class he called a meeting of his witness for after school. One boy could not attend as it was spring rush time at the seed wholesale firm. Bill quickly dispensed with his witness and rushed down to the seed company. Working with seed became his life's profession.

The company sent him to Ames in 1933 for courses in botany, seed analysis, and to work in their hybrid seed corn research plots.

Bill and Helen Graves Frundt both are graduates of the Norfolk, Neb. class of 1912. They were married in Mar. of 1936, still depression times. In May, 1937, he went on the road selling garden seed, field seed, and hybrid corn in Nebraska, northwest Iowa, and then southeast Iowa. In Mar., 1942, the Frundts moved to Pella to manage the local seed corn production plant.

Helen Frundt was Secretary of the American Legion Auxiliary 16 years and President two years. Paul Frundt was the only freshman on Pella's three person "Quiz Kid" team to the Iowa State Fair where they placed third in the state. He went on to three years at Central College where he was very active in drama. He now lives in Alexandria, Va. and works for the General Accounting Office. His wife works for the Internal Revenue Service. Edith was the pivot center for four years on Pella High Schools last basketball team of that era. She worked in hospitals and became a registered nurse. Mary entered Christian Schools at fifth grade. She finished the last two years of high school at Concordia Teachers College, Seward, Nebr. Mary has five children and lives in Lincoln, Nebr. Sally Frundt also entered Christian Schools at fifth grade. She was a regular guard on the Christian High School basketball team and as a senior was the only member of the team named to the first team of their conference. When Sally was a senior, Bryce Menninga played center on the Christian High School boys' team. Two years later Sally and Bryce were married. Sally, now divorced, lives in Tucson with a son, Vance William, five years old. She is a Certified Public Accountant.

The Frundt family moved to a new brick house directly across from the seed companies' propane tank in 1975. In Oct., 1979, they moved to Tucson, Ariz. where Bill became the business manager Jan. 1, 1980, of the largest Lutheran church in Tucson as they were beginning a major building program. He retired on his birthday Feb. 1, 1983. They still own most of the farm near Pella and a farm halfway to Knoxville. They spend a couple of weeks each summer in Pella and the rest of the summer near the grandchildren at Lincoln.

In Norfolk and Pella, Bill served a total of 17 years as assistant scout master and in Pella five years as scoutmaster. He is an Eagle Scout. He accumulated a total of 17 years as an Elder at St. John Lutheran Church, Oskaloosa. He was one of the principals in the founding of Peace Lutheran Church, Pella. He was on the original long range planning committee, the steering committee, site selection committee, and building committee. Then he served as evangelism counselor for a number of years. He also provided a site for the home of the first pastor, Dwane Kamrath's.

by W.A. Frundt

GAASS, CARL EDWIN
F174

Carl Edwin Gaass is a Pella native born and raised here, and he has lived here all his life. He, born Feb. 10, 1928, is the oldest of three children born to John H. and Wilma Van Haalen Gaass. His two sisters are Harriet Lorraine and Eleanor Faye. He received his education in the local schools and graduated from Pella High School in 1946. During his high school years, he drove a coal truck part time and earned $5.00 per week for his efforts.

September 1946 found Carl enlisting in the army for 18 months. On Dec. 12, 1946, while home on furlough, he married his high school favorite girl. Dorothy Lee Hoeksema became his bride in Troy, Kansas. Carl served 14 months in Korea.

Carl and Dorothy Gaass, 35th Anniversary, Dec. 12, 1981.

Following discharge he entered Central College, graduating with a B.S. Degree in 1952. While a student he worked part time as a carpenter and helped to build his own first little house in 1950.

Immediately following commencement he started to work in the engineering department at Rolscreen Company. Carl has held various management positions through the years and is currently manager of materials.

Sports of all kinds have been a big part of his life and he has participated in many — especially hunting, fishing, and golf. He was manager of the Rolscreen Little League Baseball Team for ten years.

Carl served on the board of directors of the Pella Community Hospital and on the consistory of Second Reformed Church. They are members of Second and attend regularly.

Dorothy Lee Hoeksema was born June 7, 1927, the second child of John and Alice Hoeksema. Also a Pella native, she was born and raised here and her entire lifetime has been spent in this community. Her siblings are Freda Mae (Wisse), Max Leroy, and Shirley Ann (Boertje).

She attended the local schools, graduating from Pella High School in 1945. During her high school years she was a soda jerk and clerk at Carpenter's Drug Store on the east side of the square.

Following graduation, she became secretary to Mr. C.C. Buerkens, superintendent of schools, and continued in that position for five years. At that time her father, John Hoeksema, needed a bookkeeper in his business so she went to work for Vandermeulen Hoeksema Company for four years.

Although hampered by ill health nearly all her life, Dorothy was interested and involved in many activities. She taught Sunday School in the beginner and primary departments of Second Church for many years. The Camp Fire Girls program was always important and she was co-leader of three different groups. She served as a local board member as well as that of the Heart of the Hawkeye Council. She was in business for herself for 23 years, demonstrating and selling cosmetics. She

joyed teaching adult bridge classes for veral years in the Pella Recreation Comission. Currently "Dort" is an active Hoce Volunteer.

Carl and Dorothy have owned a number of mes in town since the little house they built 1351 Orchard Drive. In 1957 they bought e De Haan house at 215 West First and in 60 the Mrs. A.N. Kuyper house at 1005 orth Main. The year 1976 was when they rchased the home in which they currently ve.

Carl and Dorothy have no children.

by Dorothy L. Gaass

GAASS, ISAAC OVERCAMP

F175

Isaac Overcamp Gaass was the only son of Johann (John) Dirk and Artie Overcamp Gaass. He was born in Pella, Ia., on Aug. 30, 1873, attended Pella schools, and spent his entire life here. His sisters were Amelia Gertrude, Henrietta Elizabeth (Hattie), Lucia Maria Wilhelmina (Love), Artie Louise, and Emma Lucille. On Oct. 7, 1900, he married Hendrina (Hattie) Wichart. She was born in Holland on Apr. 9, 1878.

The Gaasses had seven children: John Henry (married Wilma Van Haalen), Marie May (married Clarence Macon Taylor), Artie Louise (married Gerald Leonard Rysdam), Helen Louise (married Frederick Dekker), Frances Yula (married Anthony John Seiler), Vera (single), and Maxine Louise (married Ernest Edward Schippers).

Isaac was superintendent of the electric department, City of Pella, for many years. He retired in 1933 and his son, John H. Gaass, became his successor.

Hattie died Mar. 29, 1924. All seven children were still at home; the youngest was only five. Death came to Isaac Nov. 14, 1937.

Their grandchildren were: John H.: Carl Edwin, Harriet Lorraine, and Eleanor Faye. Marie: Barbara Ann and Judith Marie. Artie: Louise Maxine and Patricia Diane. Helen: Vera Jane, Robert Overcamp, John Douglas, and Fred David. Frances: Anthony Richard, Phyllis, Maxine, and Emily Frances. Vera: (Single). Maxine: Steven James and Laura Gail.

by Dorothy L. Gaass

GAASS, JOHN DIRK AND ARTIE (OVERKAMP)

F176

John D. Gaass was born Nov. 20, 1846 in Zwolle, Holland, and died in Pella May 17, 1927. His father Pieter Gaass and mother Gerrit-je van Gerrevink, two brothers Dirk Willem and Pieter G., and John immigrated to Pella from Holland in 1860.

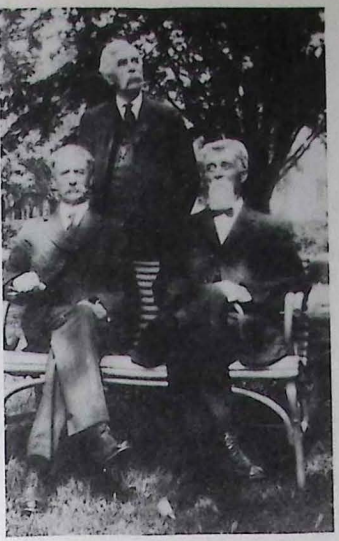
John D. Gaass married Artje Overkamp, only daughter of Isaac and Heltje den Beste Overkamp. To this marriage six children were born: Isaac, Amelia, Hattie, Marie (Love), and twin girls Artie Louise and Emma Lucile. Isaac married, had seven children, and spent his lifetime in Pella. Amelia married Ed Buerkens of Pella and they later moved to a farm near Fairfield, Ia. and raised thirteen children. Hattie married Lee H. Clark, and they lived in Chillicothe, Mo. where they operated a dry-goods and clothing store. They had no children. Marie Wilhelmina (Love) married H. Paul Scholte, and lived in Pella where Paul was a cashier at the Pella National Bank. Paul Scholte was the grandson of Dominie Henry P. Scholte, the founder of Pella. Louise was a registered nurse and served with the Army Nurse Corps in World War I. She married Carl Bruce and lived in Chicago and Colorado until her husband died. She later worked at Rolscreen Co. until her retirement. Lucile, Louise's twin sister, married Peter H. Kuyper and they had two children.

When John and Artie Gaass were first married, they made their home with her father, Isaac Overkamp. Their children were all born there in the home just west of Central Park on Franklin St. Later they built a large victorian home and barn on the corner of North Main and Monroe.

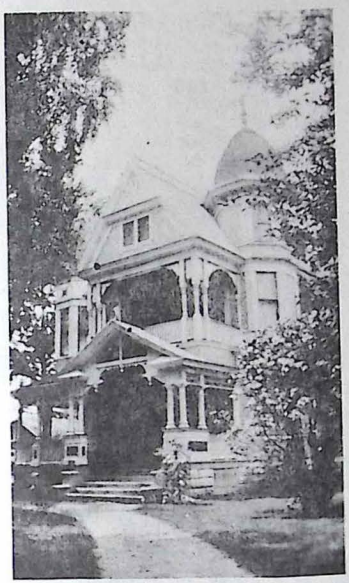
Second Reformed Church was an important part of John's life. He was Sunday School Superintendent for a number of years and taught many classes. He also loved music and played an Alto in the city bands.

Mr. Gaass owned and operated a general mercantile store handling groceries and dry goods. He also traveled for the Pella Overall Company as a salesman.

by M. Joan Farver



Three Gaass brothers who came from Holland in 1860: John D. Gaass, Peter Gaass, and Dirk Gaass. Taken in the 1920's.



Residence of J.D. Gaass, Pella, Ia.

GAASS, JOHN HENRY

F177

Wedding photo of Wilma and John Henry Gaass, Mar. 18, 1926.

Born in Pella on Aug. 21, 1901, John Henry Gaass was the oldest of seven children given to Isaac Overcamp and Hendrina Wickart Gaass. His sisters were Marie Day, Artie Lucille, Helen Louise, Francis, Yula, Vera, and Maxine Louise. He attended the Pella schools and resided in this community all his short life.

In 1920 he began working with his father who was superintendent of the electric dept., City of Pella. John became superintendent when his father retired in 1933.

Wilma Van Haalen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Van Haalen, became his wife on Mar. 18, 1926. The wedding was held in the farm home of her parents three miles east of

town. Rev. Mulder, First Reformed Church, performed the ceremony.

Wilma was born to Peter and Hattie Van Haalen in Mahaska Co. on Aug. 3, 1906. Her siblings were Gerrit, Henry, Angelyn, and Anna. She attended the Pella schools and has lived her adult life here.

John and Wilma had three children: Carl Edwin married Dorothy Hoeksema; Harriet Lorraine married Sam Menninga; Eleanor Faye married Ted Lytwynec, deceased. Grandchildren are: John Anthony Lytwynec married Sharon Elaine Drohan; Daniel Carl Lytwynec; David Ted Lytwynec, and Steven Douglas Lytwynec. Great grandchildren are: John and Sharon Lytwynec; John Kyle and Kendall Drohan.

John's early death occurred July 22, 1937 in Excelsior Springs, Mo.

On Apr. 28, 1947, Wilma married Joe Vande Geest. He passed away June 11, 1949.

Wilma worked as a practical nurse for years assisting Dr. H.C. Vander Meulen in his practice. Then Rolscreen Company became her employer. She worked there for more than 30 years until her retirement in 1971 at the age of 65.

Since retiring she is busy working as a volunteer and putting in many hours at the Pella Community Hospital snack bar. During the tourist season she gives much time to the visitors who come to the Chamber of Commerce information windmill on the corner of Central Park downtown.

by Dorothy L. Gaass

GAASS, PETER GEORGE AND NORMA LUCILLE

F178

Peter G. and Norma (Goodell) Gaass, wedding photo.

Peter G. Gaass was born Aug. 28, 1917 to George G. and Bess Scholte Gaass in what is now the Phi Delta Tau House at Central College. Peter attended Webster Elementary, Pella High and Central College, where he was a member of the baseball, basketball, and tennis teams. He graduated from Central in 1939 and proceeded to the University of Iowa Law School. With the advent of World War II, he entered the Air Force.

In 1943, Peter G. Gaass and Norma L. Goodell were married in Salt Lake City, Ut. and moved around the country with the service until Pete was sent to Saipan where he served with a B-29 bomb group for a little over a year. Leaving the military as a captain, Pete returned with Norma to Pella, where he began his law practice in 1946 in partnership with his father.

Pete is a member of Second Reformed Church, where he has been a member of consistory. He served as Pella City Attorney several years; is a part president and member of the executive board of the Pella Historical Society; and for four years was a member of the Board of Governors of the Iowa Bar Association. Pete has served on the Central College Board of Trustees since 1956 and is currently chairman of the board. He has served in that capacity for sixteen years. He is on the Pella Cemetery Board and has been on the Pella Golf and Country Club Board. As the great-grandson of Dominie H.P. Scholte, Pete carries the Dutch flag in the Tulip Time parades each year.

Norma L. Gaass is the daughter of Clarence and Ione Goodell, and was born Nov. 14, 1921 in Cambria, Ia. The Goodell family moved to Pella in 1938 when Norma and her sister Geraldine began attending Central College. The Goodells ran the West End Gass Station and Cafe, which was a very popular gathering place for students at that time.

Norma graduated from central in 1942 with a degree in education, and taught Junior High Latin and English in Colfax until her marriage.

Over the years, Norma has been involved with many of Pella's organizations. She is a member of Second Reformed Church and Ladies Aid. She is also a member of P.E.O., Women's Federated Club, T.T.T., and Reading Circle. As a member of the Pella Historical Society, Norma has worked on the Dutch doll costume display and has researched authentic Dutch costuming. Norma is currently the secretary of the Pella Community Center Board.

Pete and Norma have four children. Pamela is married to Kenneth Robus. The couple lives near Eddyville, Ia. with their son Richard. Daughters Susan and Deborah currently attend Central College. Pam is Personnel Manager at Pella Medical Center.

Janis is a cardiac care nurse in Cedar Rapids, Ia. She and her husband, Dr. James Patton, live near Cedar Rapids with their two children – Jill, who will soon be attending Central College, and Benjamin.

Karen has long worked at the Pella Community Day Care Center. She is married to Terry Jennings, formerly of Massapequa, N.Y. The couple met at Central College, and lives near Pella. Their two children, Sarah and Nicholas, presently attend Lincoln Elementary School.

Pete and Norma's son, David Peter, is currently practicing law in Denver, Colo. He is married to Central College graduate Dawn Bonte.

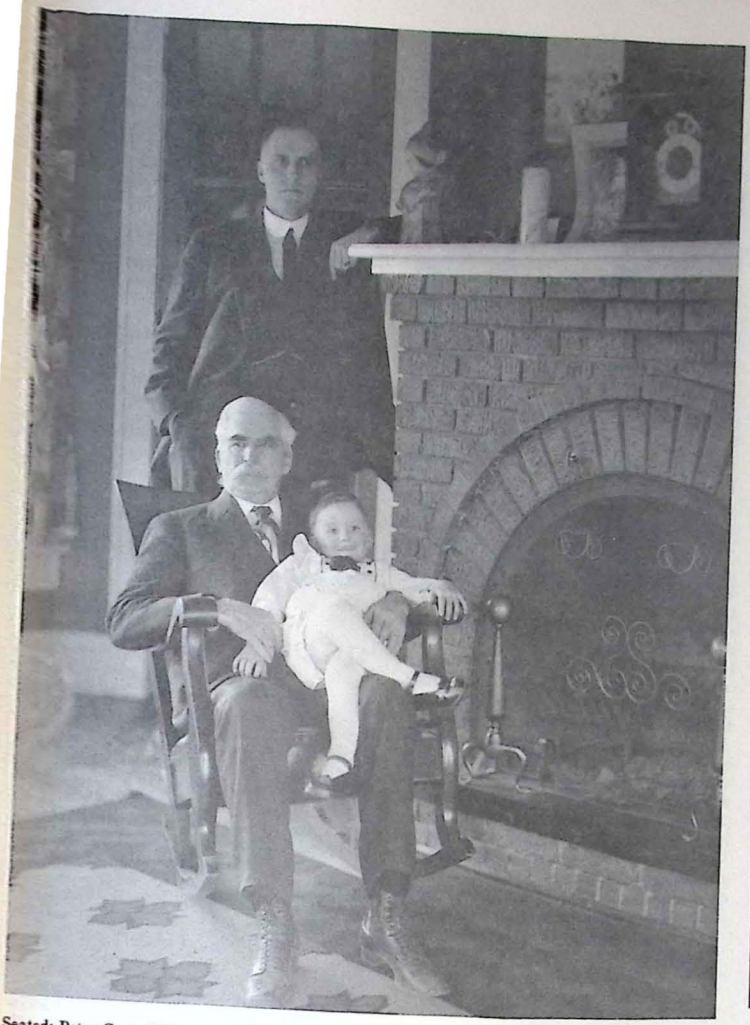
by Karen Jennings

Peter G. Gaass family in Scholte Garden. Front, L-R: Benjamin Patton, Janis Patton, Norma and Pete Gaass, Richard Robus (kneeling), Pamela Robus, Nicholas Jennings, Karen Jennings, and Sarah Jennings; Back, L-R: James Patton, Jill Patton, David Gaass, Dawn Gaass, Susan Robus, Kenneth Robus, Deborah Robus, and Terry Jennings.

GAASS, PETER GERRIT

F179

Peter Gerritt Gaass, the youngest son of Pieter and Gerritje Gaass, was born on May 5, 1850 in Zwolle, The Netherlands. His family, including his older brothers, Dirk and John, emigrated to Pella in 1860.



Seated: Peter G. and Peter George Gaass; Standing: George Gerard Gaass.

The boys, along with other new arrivals from the Netherlands, attended the public school where they were schoolmates of Wyatt Earp and some of his brothers. The newly arrived Dutch boys did not understand English and the Earp boys fell into the habit of calling the Dutch boys derogatory names in English. Finally someone told the Dutch boys what they were being called and a big fight ensued with the Dutch boys emerging the victors, and the father of the Earp boys lodging a complaint with the school officials.

P.G. Gaass was united in marriage to Gerarda Alida Tysseling and moved to Keokuk, Ia. where he was associated with a Mr. Blum in the mercantile business.

A son, George Gerard Gaass, was born to this union on Aug. 4, 1878. The family moved back to Pella in 1881 and P.G. Gaass established a retail shoe business in partnership with A.N. Vander Linden in the building at 725 Main Street, which is now occupied by the law firm of Gaass, Klyn & Boehlje. Later he terminated the shoe business and became involved in the real estate business and the handling of real estate loans for Keokuk investors.

Peter Gerritt Gass was a member of the Second Reformed Church, was a member of the consistory of that church, and was a member of the Central College Board of Trustees.

George G. Gaass graduated from Central College in Pella, Ia., and then entered law school at Columbia University in New York City from which he graduated in 1902. He returned to Pella, commenced the practice of law in his father's office building at 725 Main Street, and practiced law for fifty-eight years.

George Gaass was highly interested in sports, both as a participant and as a spectator. While in college he won the Philo cup for all-around excellence in track. For many years he hosted the Central College football banquet in his home. He was also much interested in music.

George G. Gaass was a member of the Second Reformed Church, was president of the Pella National Bank, was a member and president of the Pella School Board, acted as Pella City Attorney for several terms, and served as a member of the Central College Board of Trustees for forty years.

He married Bess Scholte, the granddaughter of Dominie Hendrick Pieter Scholte, leader of the Dutch colonists who founded Pella. They had two children, Leonora G. Gaass and Peter G. Gaass.

Leonora married and had two children, Alayne, who died at the age of thirty, and George. Leonora was a talented musician and taught music for several years. She was also Pella's first Tulip Queen.

Peter G. Gaass married Norma L. Goodell in Salt Lake City, Utah in 1943 while he was in the Air Force. They have four children: Pamela Kay, Janis Norine, Karen Ilene, and David Peter.

Peter G. Gaass graduated from Central College in 1939, attended law school at the University of Iowa, and has practiced law in Pella since 1946.

by Pete Gaass

GEETINGS, DONALD EUGENE AND MARILYN (BRUXVOORT)

F180

Front, Marilyn; Back, l-r: Brenda, Donald, Brent.

Donald Eugene Geetings was the second son of Wayne and Jennie (Van Dyk) Geetings. He was born Oct. 28, 1945, in the home of his great aunt Sadie Vink. Don has always lived in Pella except for three years, from 1946 to 1949, when his parents moved to Kellogg. Don attended Lincoln Grade School and graduated from Pella High School in 1963. He joined the Air Force Guard in the spring of 1965. Until then he worked for his dad in excavating and grading along with his brother, Ron.

On Oct. 11, 1966, he married Marilyn Bruxvoort, daughter of Gerrit and Minnie (Samson) Bruxvoort. She was born in Des Moines, Ia. Dec. 5, 1947. Marilyn lived on a farm by Mitchellville until moving to Pella in 1959. She went to Prairie City Christian Grade School until sixth grade when she transferred to Pella Christian Grade School. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1966. Marilyn worked at T & D Department Store and Don was still employed with his father.

On Sept. 8, 1967, they were blessed with a

daughter, Brenda Sue. A little over four years later on Nov. 11, 1971, a son, Brent Eugene, was born. Both of their children were baptized at Calvary Christian Reformed Church where Don and Marilyn are both members.

In Jan. 1972, Don along with his dad, two brothers, Ron and Larry, and sister Lana, formed Geetings, Inc. They started with five trucks and today they run 30 trucks and own 90 trailers. They put up warehouses in Pella and Knoxville. The Pella firm warehouses mainly for the Rolscreen Company and in Knoxville they warehouse mainly for 3M and Hormel. Marilyn also works for Geetings, Inc. as a secretary.

Brenda and Brent both attended Pella Christian Grade School. Brenda graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1986. Brent is now a freshman and enjoys playing basketball. Brenda is employed by Geetings, Inc. as a secretary in their Knoxville Warehouse.

The family enjoys traveling and camping.

by Marilyn (Bruxvoort) Geetings

GEURTS, JOHN D., II AND NETTIE

F181

John D. Geurts, II, (1895-1974) came to America in 1910 and settled near Sully with his parents, John D. and Catherine Van Suilechem Geurts. Brothers and sisters were: Elizabeth (Mrs. Herman Vander Pol); Marie; Walter; Marinus; Floris; and Catherine (Mrs. Ed Vos).

He married Annette (Nettie) Zwank, daughter of Jacob and Nellie Vos Zwank. Their only child, John D. Geurts, III, (1920-81) married Harriet Schilder, daughter of Arie and Johanna Schilder. The following grandchildren were born: John Dirk Geurts, IV, (1948-74); Annette; and twins Mark and Mary.

John and Nettie farmed a few years and then moved to Pella where John was associated with his father in the Geurts Feed Mill. In 1930 they moved to Prairie City where he operated the Prairie City Feed Mill for 36 years. Upon retirement in 1966 they moved back to Pella. Nettie, born in 1898, was a homemaker and moved to Hilltop South in 1985.

by Nola Vander Streek

GEZEL, DOROTHY (MRS. GARY)

F182

Dorothy was born Dec. 24, 1917, in Islington, London, to Agnes and Matthew Findlay. Her mother's family name was Mackey of London, and her grandmother Findlay's maiden name was Cameron, a member of the Cameron Clan of Scotland. The Findlay family moved to Heston, a suburb of London, in 1926.

She was the eldest of seven children. Archie and Barbara died in infancy leaving Dorothy, John, Malcolm, Matthew and sister June.

Dorothy graduated from high school and enrolled at the Royal School of Needlework. After two years she found employment in London as a Count dressmaker, whose patronage included some of the Royal Family.

Wedding Day, Dec. 15, 1945 in Heston, England. Gary and Dorothy (Findlay) Gezel

When World War II was declared it was too risky to travel to London as the trains were being bombed. Dorothy then found work in her hometown of Heston.

In 1941 she enlisted in the Royal Air Force. She was stationed in Scotland at a bomber base and also in Harrow, England, at Transport Command. This was the base where General Eisenhower came to make the plans for the D Day Invasion, and Dorothy watched the planes and gliders leave for the invasion of Holland. Her family in Heston lived in their homemade air-raid shelter for three years to escape the nightly bombing of their town.

During a furlough to Glasgow, Scotland, to visit her grandmother, Dorothy met Gary on an overnight train journey. Gary was on his way to join his regiment for the invasion of Africa. They corresponded until the end of the war. Dorothy was discharged from the Royal Air Force on Dec. 7, 1945. Eight days later, on Dec. 15, 1945, Dorothy and Gary Gezel were married in St. Lenard's Church of Heston, that dates back to the 1400's. Owing to a shortage of material, Dorothy's wedding gown was made from a German silk parachute.

In May, 1946, Dorothy was given permission to sail on the S.S. Erickson for America with 270 other G.E. War Brides. Gary and Dorothy made their new home at 1010 W. Third St. in Pella. There they raised a family of one son and two daughters.

John Gezel has two daughters, Amy and Melanie, and is married to Sherry Wade of Missouri. John served in the U.S. Air Force during the Viet Nam War. He is now employed with Burlington Northern Railroad as a Senior Business Systems Design Analyst. Sherry Gezel also works for Burlington Northern as a Senior Information Center Analyst.

Linda Gezel married Robert Sutton of New York and has two sons, Jay and Larson. Linda owns a custom quilting business and Robert is the Town Manager for Jamestown, R.I.

Janet Gezel married William Keske of Minnesota and has two sons, Mathew and Cameron. William works as a route salesman for Schiebout Tire Company of Pella.

In 1952 Dorothy became a naturalized United States citizen. In the community, Dorothy served as a leader in Cub Scouts, and Camp Fire; and joined the American Legion Auxiliary. She was elected Pella Unit President and went on to be the State President in 1976. During the next ten years she traveled for the Auxiliary talking on Americanism. In 1977 Dorothy was appointed National Executive Committee Woman for the Auxiliary, and was the National VAVS representative in Washington, D.C.

In 1986 Dorothy was elected National Vice President for Nine Central States. She continues to volunteer for the Veterans at Knoxville V.A. Medical Center, and enjoys her hobbies of knitting, writing poetry, bicycling and her grandchildren. She has great pride in the community of Pella and her home state of Iowa.

by Dorothy Gezel

GEZEL, GARY

F183

Gary Gezel, son of John and Kate Gezel, was born Nov. 11, 1918, Armistice Day, seven miles northwest of Pella. He attended Pella area public schools and started work at an early age in farming. Gary recalls being involved in one of the last cattle drives in this area, from the Gerrit Tysseling farm to the Eddyville area in 1936.

Gary studied automotive and diesel mechanics and was employed by Ulrich Motor in 1936 and A.B. Van Houweling Auto from 1937 to 1941.

On Apr. 8, 1941, Gary was inducted into the U.S. Army. He served with the 168th Infantry Regiment, 34th Division, of the first American troops in Ireland during World War II. Other countries Gary served in were: Scotland and England in Europe, and Algeria and Tunisia in Africa. He made a return to the U.S. and Europe with the 97th Infantry Division, and to France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Germany and Czechoslovakia with General Patton's Army.

After the war in 1946, Gary went back to work at Van Houweling Auto until 1954 when the company closed down. In 1954 he was employed by Boeing Aircraft in Wichita, Kan., manufacturing the B47, one of the first jet bombers. From 1955 to 1959 Gary was employed at White Way Auto.

Having studied radio, television and electronics during the post-war years, Gary started his own business. Gary Gezel T.V. was founded in 1959, a television sales service and sound operation, which he still maintains at this writing.

Gary has been very active in several community organizations through the years. He has served as president of the Pella Lions Club, and Issack Walton League and also as director of Pella Civil Defense, Chairman of the Marion County Draft Board, Past Com-

itteeman of Pella Red Cross, American ncer Society, a member of the Pella amber of Commerce and Pella Historical ciety.

Gary was the American Legion's commander of the Pella Post as well as serving commander to Marion Co., Iowa 6th District, Vice Commander for the State of Iowa and VAVS Representative at the Knoxville Veterans Administration Hospital.

Gary also served the Veterans of Foreign Wars as Post Commander and Iowa 5th District Commander.

The Gezels have a love for travel and have visited thirty-four countries and all fifty states.

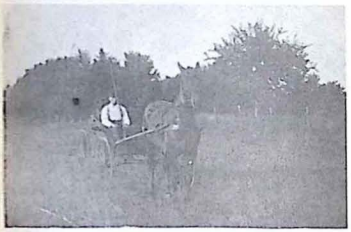
Gary's travels include two trips that circled the globe as well as trips to South America and Central America. In 1948 the Gezel family made a trip to England on the Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary Ocean Liners and returned from New York to Pella with less than $1.00 in their pockets.

It has been a very good and exciting life in Pella and in this great country of ours, seeing progress from the horse and buggy days to space ships going to the moon and beyond.

by Gary Gezel

GEZEL, GEORGE AND EDITH LILLIAN (PORTER)

F184



George Gezel in 1920's using a horse and buggy to deliver mail.

George Gezel was born June 30, 1885 in Pella, Ia. His parents were Cornelius Gezel and Pieternella Lukas. The spelling was changed to Peternella Lucas after they came to Iowa.

George went to Lincoln School, and as a boy he worked in a printing shop. At eighteen he passed the exam to work in the Pella Post Office and was appointed to a job as rural letter carrier. The job in 1903 was much different from now. The roads were plain dirt - no gravel or paving. He had no car. So he started his job with a horse and a letter bag to keep the mail dry. Many a time he was asked to bring groceries to families that were ill, or were too busy in the fields to go into town to buy a few staples. In the summer he had a buggy with the horse which made it much easier. His first car had a top which folded back, with isinglass curtains when it rained, and large wheels with narrow tires. He retired in 1933 after 30 years of service, which was compulsory then, so he was only 48 years old. He then went to work in the coal mine, and during World War II he and Edith went to Oregon and worked in a shipyard in 1942 and 1943.

During the time he was a rural mail carrier he worked hard to get the roads in Marion Co. improved. He was secretary for the Marion Co. Rural Letters Association, and went to many conventions to get improvements made. The post office he worked in was on Main St. just south of Wormhoudt Furniture Store.

Edith Porter Gezel was born in Pella Aug. 20, 1885. Her parents were Charles Porter and Emeline Kimmel Porter. She attended the Webster School. She was a good student, was a musician, and as a girl in school was asked to go to other class rooms to draw pictures on the blackboard, for they at that time did not have access to all the books that we have today. She did bird and animal pictures. She was a lady of many talents.

Before marriage she worked as a bookkeeper in the Vander Meulen Hardware store. Our family lived on East First St. for three years, then moved to South St. and lived there till 1934. South St. at that time was a dirt road, but we did have sidewalks. Dad had the barn in which to keep his horse and buggy. He also milked cows and raised a few pigs and chickens, so we had most of our own food. We also had a large garden, fruit trees, and grape arbor. This was located on the south side of the street one block east of Main St.

George Gezel married Edith Lilliam Porter (born Aug. 20, 1885) on Mar. 30, 1912. Their children are: Mildred (born 1912 – died 1912); Bernice Isabella (born Sept 24, 1913 – died of typhoid fever on Mar. 15, 1929); Emeline (born Oct. 6, 1915); George Frances (born Sept. 27, 1917); Frieda (born Apr. 1, 1919); Louise Helen (born Feb. 16, 1921); Ivan Paul (born May 30, 1922).

George F. moved to Manchester, Ia. and is living there at present. Ivan Paul served in World War II and then went on to school, later working for John Deere Company.

by Emeline (Gezel) Vos

GEZEL, JOHN FAMILY

F185

John Gezel's grandfather, Willem Jelis Gezel, and his grandmother, Cornelia (Van Gorkum) Gezel and their sons, Issac and Jelis, arrived in Pella from Utrecht, Holland in 1856.

This Gezel family and their descendants served Pella as blacksmiths and wheelwrights for over 85 years.

John's father, Jelis Gezel (1850-1888), and his mother, Kate (De Haan) Gezel (1858-1928), the daughter of Dingeman De Haan, were married in Pella. Four sons were born: William, Walter, Henry and John. The father, Jelis, was killed in a coal mine accident near Otley in 1888.

At the age of six, John was adopted by the Gerrit Van Genderen family of Taintor, Ia. but kept the Gezel name.

John Gezel (1886-1953) and Katie Zylstra (1886-1983) were married in Pella, Feb. 8, 1905. Katie was the daughter of Paul G. Zylstra (1857-1943) and Willemke (Fokkema) Zylstra (1856-1947). They arrived in Leighton, Ia., in 1882 from Oostdongaradeel, Friesland, Holland.

John and Katie raised a family of eight children. They had six daughters: Maggie Van Roekel, Minnie Birkenholz, Grace (Schuring) Borrall, Ann Hedricks, Kathryn Rozenberg, Dorothy Mullins, and two sons, Gary and Elmo. Elmo (now deceased) was adopted by the Gezel's when his mother died shortly after his birth.

During the 1920's and 30's the family lived in the Bethel Church neighborhood. Their means of transportation was a spring wagon or buggy. On snow-covered roads on cold winter days a bobsled with two horses was used for the seven-mile trip into Pella with straw and blankets, with a long piece of railroad track (heated) wrapped in the blanket for warmth.

The '20's were exciting times with the advent of the automobile, telephone, radio and airplane. The telephone was a godsend to the farm families. Also during the '20's a transcontinental air route passed over our farm. A large group of army fighter planes flew over on the 4th of July, 1928.

Two mail routes passed our farm: one from Otley, with fast horses; one from Pella, with slow horses. At one time our family had three telephones: Otley, Pella, and Monroe. These telephones were used to relay messages when long-distance lines failed during storms.

From 1920 to 1930 John rented and farmed a 200-acre farm with six horses and a Fordson tractor and with livestock of 60 head of cattle, 200 hogs, and 300 chickens, which was considered a good-sized farm at that time.

The Dutch language was used in the Gezel family in the early years as well as some Fresian. When the children started to Bunker Hill School they had to learn English.

John was engaged in farming all his life. He was a kind, honest and hard working man. He loved banjo music.

by Gary Gezel

GOEMAAT - DE ZWARTE FAMILY

F186

Baastian B.. Goemaat (1845-1933) served in the army in The Netherlands at the age of 19. In 1868 he married Dirkje Van Drongelin (died 1919). That same year he came across the ocean on a sail boat. It took 50 days for him to get to America. He was 23 years old. He had to earn some money so he could send for his wife. Dirkje was able to come to America about six months later.

They lived south of Pella where he worked as a farm hand and in the coal mines there. They had 13 children: Jane, John, Arend, Lena, Mert, Nellie, Tunie, Jacob, Abe, Marie, Maggie, and two boys who died in infancy.

Marie was born on Feb. 20, 1889 south of Pella. She attended South Porterville rural school and later attended Webster school in Pella. She went out for three weeks at a time doing sewing for families.

Marie Goemaat married John De Zwarte (born Dec. 6, 1886) on Feb. 8, 1912. They lived on the De Zwarte family farm south of Pella. They had four children: Jennie (Mrs. Henry Van Essen), Dorothy (Mrs. Tudor Ver Meer), Margaret (Mrs. Vernon Menninga), and Verlan De Zwarte.

Marie died Aug. 30, 1968 and John died Feb. 1, 1955.

by Vernon Menninga

GOEMAAT, ALVIN AND FREDA

F187

Alvin J. Goemaat, son of Tunis and Alice Rouw in Goemaat, was born in Kirksville, Ia., on Mar. 6, 1925. He attended the Black Oak Scott Center School and graduated from the Pella High School in Pella, Ia., in 1942. He served in the navy in the South Pacific for two years and three months in which he was in three invasions. In one of these, he was one of five survivors on a ship which was sunk in Leyte Bay, the Philippines. He was transferred to a hospital in Honolulu, Hawaii a month for recuperation of wounds and concussion. He was awarded the Purple Heart. He made his confession of faith and became a member of the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton, Ia. There he has served as Sunday School superintendent, teacher, deacon, and elder.

On Oct. 8, 1947, he married Freda Newendorp, daughter of Harry and Harriet Van Zee Newendorp. Freda was born Sept. 13, 1927, and grew up in the Leighton and Pella areas. She attended the Wheat Grow School. She made confession of her faith in the First Reformed Church in Pella, Ia. After marriage she became a member of the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton, Ia., and worked at the Overall Factory in Oskaloosa, Ia. Later they moved to a farm in the Leighton area.

To this marriage were born three children: Connie (1950), Nancy (1952), and Larry (1957) who made their confessions of faith in the Ebenezer Reformed Church, Leighton, Ia.

Connie attended the Leighton School and graduated from the Pella High School in Pella, Ia. She worked as a secretary in Pella, Ia. Connie, Mrs. Steve Vander Waal, now living in Manzanita, Oregon, has two children: Stacey and Troy. Connie is employed as a secretary of the Neah-Kah-Nie High School in Rockaway, Oregon.

Nancy attended the Leighton school and graduated from the Pella High School in Pella, Ia. She attended the Iowa Community College at Fort Dodge, Ia. as a medical assistant. She worked in the Chicago area. Nancy, Mrs. Ronald Vos, is living in the Sioux Center area and has three children: Bradley, Randall, and Nicole. She is employed as a purchasing assistant at JESCO Company in Sioux Center, Iowa.

Larry attended the Leighton school and graduated from the Pella High School in Pella, Ia. He attended the Ankeny Area Community College for auto mechanics. He later was employed as a mechanic in Des Moines, Ia. Larry married Kimberly Bolich, lives near Runnells, Ia., and has two children: Brian and Ashley. He is now employed at the United Parcel Service in Des Moines, Ia.

Soon after marriage Alvin was engaged as a mechanic at M.&M. Farm Equipment in Oskaloosa, Ia., farmed four years, and then became owner-operator of the Leighton Garage in Leighton, Ia. for two years. Alvin then became postmaster of the town of Leighton, Ia., and Freda began working as his postal clerk. After Alvin's 31 years of service, they are now retired and continue living in the town of Leighton, Iowa.

by Alvin J. Goemaat

Ashley Goemaat, daughter of Larry and Kim Goemaat.

Left Side: Ron and Nancy Vos with Nicole, Randell, and Bradley; Left Center: Alvin and Freda Goemaat; Right Center: Larry Goemaat, and seated, Kimberly with Brian; Right side: Connie and Steve Vander Wall, with Troy and Stacey standing.

GOEMAAT, AREND

F188

Front, l-r: John, Lena, Murray, and Dirk; Back, l-r: Mabel, Abraham, and Nellie Goemaat.

Arend Goemaat, born in Herkingen, South Holland on Sept. 12, 1796, married Adriaantje Van Rossum. They were the parents of one girl, Lena, and four boys: Teunis, Bastian, Abraham (twin) and Jacob (twin). Jacob died in infancy and their mother died when Abraham was two years old. Arend's younger brother, Dirk, who came with Dominie Scholte's group in 1847, recommended a better life for the boys, so Arend, 72, Bastian, 22, and Abraham, 19, came to America and settled in Marion County, Iowa, in 1868. They came by sailboat. The weather was unfavorable and the ocean was very rough. One day they made progress and the next day they might go back as far as they came the preceding day. The journey took 52 days; therefore the food supply was low and of very poor quality.

Arend and his sons went to work clearing the land. Arend planned to return to Holland, as he could not adjust to the new world, but he died Feb. 4, 1872, and was buried in Graceland Cemetery. Arend's daughter Lena (Mrs. Cornelius Doorn) came to America in 1871 with son Cornelius, 15, and daughter Jennie, 9. Lena married Cornelius Ver Steeg on Aug. 10, 1875. Teunis married Kattje

Kornet and had 2 daughters: Adriaantje Du Pree and Eva. Teunis died in Holland. Bastian married Dirkie Van Drongelen and had 13 children: Jane, John, Arend, Lena, Maartje, Nellie, Teuntje, Jacob, Abraham, Marie, and Maggie; two died in infancy.

Abraham married Johanna Ver Steeg on Sept. 6, 1875, and had 15 children: Arend, Elizabeth, Dirk, Cornelius, Jennie, Lena, Christina, Nellie, Tunie, John, Aaltje (Ella), Tunis, and Marsailus; two died in infancy. They lived south of Pella in a log house. As the family grew they bought a farm and built a larger house in 1890. They planted a large orchard, made sorghum and had corn and wheat ground for cornbread and cereal. All 13 children married and lived on farms. There were 56 grandchildren and 130 great grandchildren. Abraham was gored to death by a bull on his farm Sept. 19, 1920. Johanna died March 28, 1921, following gall bladder surgery at the farm home.

All the children farmed with horses and mules and picked corn by hand. They raised chickens for eggs and meat and cows for milk, butter, and meat. They butchered only in the winter and hung the beef or pork in a tree and cut off as they needed it. The neighbors helped and they got a mess of meat and liver; when they butchered they gave it also. Not much canning was done yet. They smoked some meat, dried apples, and baked all their own bread. They made cornbread or mush for breakfast or supper. All the girls learned to sew their own clothes. Sometimes material could be bought as low as three cents a yard. In the winter men cut wood and sometimes robbed bee trees for honey. A saw mill close by furnished saw dust which was used to pack ice. The ice would keep until the Fourth of July to make ice cream. Mothers stayed home to take care of the household chores and to care for the children. They ordered shoes, boots, coats, and underwear from Sears and Montgomery Ward Co. When they needed a doctor, they went to town to get him with horse and buggy, or the doctor might even walk and carry his gun so he could shoot game on the way. Abraham Goemaat bought a three-seated Hupmobile in 1918.

Dirk, the third child of Abraham, born June 28, 1881, married Lena Van Der Veer and they were parents of five. Nellie, a homemaker, married Arie Brouwer, a car mechanic. Their children are Gary, Lena, Donald (deceased), and Duane. John, a forest ranger, married Erma Hoagland; they have one son, Robert. Mabel, a medical assistant and secretary, married Cecil Van Vark, a trucker and Rolscreen employee. Abraham, a farmer, served in the 2nd Armored Division in World War II for three years. He married Muriel Kamerick. Their children are Ronald, Marilyn, Judy, and Linda. Murray L., a Central College graduate and computer programmer, married Donna Chadwick; they have one son, Daniel. Dirk died of lung cancer on July 6, 1951. Lena, born June 3, 1888, is living at Pella Community Nursing Home. At this writing she is past 98 years old.

by Mabel (Goemaat) Van Vark

GOEMAAT, DIRK AND PLEUNTJE (VAN KLOOTWYK)

F189

Dirk Goemaat.

Teuntje Goemaat Brom and Niesje Goemaat Kallemyn.

Dirk and Pleuntje van Klootwyk Goemaat were the first couple married in Pella. They met on the ship coming over to this country. But I am getting ahead of myself. Let's see how this came about.

Dirk was born in Ooltgensplaat, on the Island of Overflakkee, Zuid Holland to Teunis Jacobsz Goemaat and Leuntje Arends (dr) Schaap on July 10, 1805. He was married to Willemyntje Kievit Apr. 2, 1825, and to Adriana Muyer June 20, 1834. Then he decided to come to the U.S. with the Hollanders who emigrated in 1847 for religious freedom under the leadership of Dominie H.P. Scholte. He sailed on the Goodship Maasstroom which left Rotterdam in late Apr. with 197 aboard. Dirk is listed in the passenger list as a farmer and widower at the age of 41.

Also on the Goodship Maasstroom was Teunis van Klootwyk, his wife and family. Teunis was 59 years old, having been born in Almkerk, Noord Brabant in about 1788, and Niesje Schreuders, his wife, was 53. Their five children were Kuindert, 1818-1885; Pleuntje, 1822-1913; Antonia, 1828-1912; Johanna, 1832-1910; and Johannes, ca. 1835-1917. On the passenger list Teunis is listed as a farmer as was his son, Kuindert.

According to a family story, Dirk must have had a "berth" next to the van Klootwyks and got acquainted with the family. He wanted to court Pleuntje, but she did not encourage him; that is, not until she heard him talking about her in his sleep. This made her change her mind. So after getting settled in the new country, they were joined in marriage on Dec. 22, 1847.

The two made their home on what became known as Liberty Street. They were blessed with two daughters: Teuntje, 1848-1929; and Niesje, 1857-ca. 1935. Teuntje was united in marriage to Barend Brom Dec. 27, 1864, at the age of 16. She raised her family of twelve children on Liberty Street, just one block from where her parents had established their home, and this is where she died at the age of 81. Niesje married Klaas Kallemyn Sept. 6, 1875. They moved to the northwest corner of Iowa and raised their family of ten children in Little Rock. Dirk and Pleuntje had two other children: Mesje, born Apr. 18, 1859, and died the same year, and Teunis who was born Feb. 2, 1862, and died in 1864.

Dirk Goemaat and the van Klootwyks were interested in the church affairs of the community. Kuindert, first-born son of Teunis van Klootwyk, helped Mr. A. Van Stigt organize the first Sunday School in 1848. Dirk Goemaat and Teunis van Klootwyk were very active in the establishment of the First Reformed Church. They attended the meetings at which decisions were made about the religious concerns as well as plans for the building of the new church. On Oct. 30, 1855, Teunis was appointed gravedigger of the First Reformed Cemetery and given the responsibility of supervision of the same. He was paid one dollar for digging a grave for someone over 12 years of age and 75 cents for someone under 12. This cemetery is now known as the Graceland Cemetery. On Apr. 19, 1858, it was voted to make him responsible for the oversight and management of the building materials for the church. Kuindert was considered for deacon on at least two occasions: May 11, 1857, and Dec. 13, 1858. In the 1880 county census it was noted that Dirk Goemaat was "sexton in church."

In 1868 Dirk's older brother, Arend, came to Pella with two of his sons, Bastiaan and Abraham. Arend died the following year, but his sons both married and raised their families in the area. Arend's daughter, Lena, emigrated to the U.S. with two children in 1875.

Dirk died in Pella, March 4, 1890, at the age of 84 years, 7 months, and 19 days, his burial place unknown. His wife, Pleuntje, was married to Cornelis G. Van Vliet Dec. 3, 1890, in Pella. She later moved to Little Rock, Iowa, where her younger daughter, Niesje, was living. She died there March 28, 1913, at the age of 91 years, 2 months, and 6 days. Her body was brought to Pella for burial in an unmarked grave in Graceland Cemetery.

by Esther B. Kolb

GOOS - MENNINGA FAMILY

F190

Claus Henry Witt (1848 – 1937), born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, was the son of Henry and Louisa Reddick Witt. He migrated to America in 1871 and spent three years ranching and farming in Montana arriving in Scott Co. in 1877. Henry married Georgene Ehrig (1849-1908) also a native of Schleswig-Holstein. After their marriage, they came to Tama Co. and purchased a farm in Perry Twp. (Traer Area). They were parents of Fred, Edward, Albert, and twins, Lulu and Anna.

Frederick Louis Witt was born Aug. 11, 1870, in Lutjenberg, Germany, and died on July 2, 1942. He is the only member of the family who lived in the Gladbrook area. He married Adelia Helen Arp who was born in Keil, Germany, on Jan. 26, 1878, to Henry and Berth Schoel Arp who emigrated to America in 1893. She died on May 27, 1965. They purchased a farm in Spring Creek Twp. where they lived until 1941, then moved to Gladbrook, Ia. They were the parents of five children: Georgiana, Lillian, Walter, Elsie, and Frances. (Also another son Alfred was killed when he was small).

Georgiana (Mar. 22, 1897 – Nov. 15, 1980) was married to Gustav Goos (July 24, 1893 – Mar. 13, 1966), son of August and Augusta Peterson Goos. Their farm was north of Gladbrook. They have nine children (plus another daughter that died at birth): Evan, Fred, Irwin, Willys, Roger, Vernon, Clair, George, and Alice.

On Dec. 27, 1950, Clair Alva Goos, born Jan. 5, 1930, married Marcella Joyce Wrage. Marcella was born to David and Pauline Paustian Wrage on Sept. 14, 1931. They both grew up in the Gladbrook, Ia. area and lived there for at least 20 years after their marriage. They have moved around some after that. Clair is in the seed corn business and has managed seed corn plants in Brazil, South America, Pella, Grinnell, and Lone Tree, Ia. Two children were born to them: Kirby Allan on Jan. 20, 1955, and Michelle Lyn on July 6, 1960, both in Marshalltown, Ia.

Kirby Goos moved to Pella after he got out of the army in 1977. On May 26, 1979, Kirby married Verla Ruth Menninga in Pella. Verla is the sixth daughter of Vernon and Margaret De Zwarte Menninga and was born on Aug. 17, 1960, at their farm home north of Pella.

Kirby graduated from Gladbrook Community High School in 1974 and joined the army. He served for three years in Colorado. He then started driving semi-trailer trucks. Verla graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1978. She started working at Marion County State Bank in Pella that summer and worked there until January 1985. She is now babysitting.

They have three children: Heather Marie was born Nov. 30, 1974, in Marshalltown; Dustyn Waylon was born Nov. 29, 1980, in Pella; and LaCosta Joy was born Jan. 12, 1985, in Pella.

by Verla Goos

GOSSELINK, GARRIT JAN

F191

Garrit Jan and Dirkje (Kolenbrander) Gosselink.

Garrit Jan Gosselink was born June 26, 1829, the third child of Gerhardus Henrikus and Elizabeth Hoogenkamp Gosselink, at Steenderen, The Netherlands.

Garrit Jan immigrated to the U.S. with his parents on the ship *Nagasaki* in 1847. He was engaged to Dirkje Kolenbrander but could not afford to bring her with him, so he planned to send her money as soon as he was able.

After arriving in Pella, Garrit and his brother Gerhard, bought a large tract of land a few miles northeast of Pella on which they built a log cabin. Since they had no money to buy a plow and horses they spaded the ground to plant corn the first year. The fertile ground yielded a good crop, so they then could buy horses and a plow.

Dirkje Kolenbrader was born Jan. 29, 1836, to Jan and Wilempje Holboom Kolenbrander in The Netherlands. In 1856, at age 20, Dirkje with her parents also came via ship and wagon train to Pella. They lived in a little Dutch house on the south side of West Market where Dirkje's father plied his trade as cabinet maker and also made spinning wheels in a back shed.

Garrit and Dirkje were married Nov. 27,1856. They started housekeeping in a log cabin on his farm with only a fireplace for heat and cooking. The only light they had was a saucer of tallow with a wick in it. Laundry was done in a wooden tub with a washboard, and clothes were spread on bushes. There were a lot of Indians around in those days. They were friendly but bold and usually had something they wanted to trade.

Garrit and Dirkje went to church in Pella, where Garrit was an elder for many years. Transportation was by farm wagon.

Garrit and Dirkje had six children all of whom were born in the log cabin. They later built a frame house on the same farm. The children were: Elizabeth (Dec. 13, 1857) who never married; Willempje (Feb. 19, 1859) who married Joost De Bruin; Grada Hendrika (Jan. 8, 1862) who married Henry Vande Voort; Gerardus Henrikus (Gradus) (Apr. 25, 1867) who married Gratie Vande Voort; Jannigje (Jane) (Feb. 16, 1864) who died at the age of 22 years; Jan (John) (Dec. 18, 1870) who married Helena Vander Beek.

Garrit Jan and Dirkje retired in Pella about 1900 and lived on the north side of West Market. Garrit was a wonderful story-teller. His grandchildren loved to have him tell about the olden days—of the trials and joys of the first settlers. He always seemed quite strong and healthy. During his 80th year, in 1909, he had a stroke which caused his death in a short time.

Dirkje also told interesting stories about life in the Netherlands, etc. She too was very healthy until she had a heart attack when she was 79 and died in 1915, shortly before her 80th birthday.

by Marjean Uitermarkt

GOSSELINK, GERARD M.

F192

Gerard M. Gosselink was born northeast of Pella, on May 19, 1896. He is one of Pella's surviving residents to share recollections of conversations with Pella's original settlers, including his grandfather, who died when Gerard was 18 years old. Some of these stories are included in his grandfather's life's story.

Gerard M. Gosselink – age 90. His daughters; Mrs. Mildred Eldred, Mrs. Lorna Van Rheenen, Mrs. Sara Dunsmore.

His parents were John M. and Sarah (De Geus) Gosselink. Gerard and his parents moved to Peoria for a few years, then returned to a farm four miles northeast of Pella and, in 1904, they moved near to Pella just north of the Plainview Schoolhouse. Gerard received his education in that rural school, being the first one to graduate from eighth grade.

Gerard remembers baseball and parties as the main forms of social recreation during his younger days, and it was at one of these parties he met his wife-to-be, Nellie Bennink — whom he married on Dec. 11, 1917. Soon after their marriage he served his country during World War I, working in evacuation hospitals set up in Brest, France. They had three daughters, and now there are nine grandchildren and 16 great-granchildren. They lived northeast of town and later west of town while Gerard did diversified farming and trucking.

In olden days, hogs and cattle were driven on foot all the way to Keokuk market and had to swim across rivers and streams on the way. Trucking is an improvement, although there can be problems to keep the animals under control.

After the war, Gerard returned to trucking and moved to town. His wife passed away on Oct. 4, 1954.

His second marriage to Margaret (Van Zante) ver Ploeg took place Nov. 5, 1957. They have lived in town ever since. At present their address is 1114 Houston in Pella.

Gerard loves to recollect his early experiences. Around 1924-25, he purchased his first car, a Model T. Pella's old timers did not believe in any kind of insurance, whether life or car insurance, but Gerard is just as happy that change has come in that area of thinking.

Soybeans came to Pella around 1930 and were scarcely popular in the beginning, either as a source of feed for one's own animals or as a cash crop. Quite a few farmers supplemented their income instead with tomatoes, sweet corn, pickles or pumpkins, sold to the local canning factory.

Gerard has a collection of walking sticks and canes, which are objects for conversation.

He also recalls visits by gypsies and Indians in the Pella area. On one occasion, a squaw bargained for as much hay as she could carry, offering to pay 10 cents. To everyone's amazement, she bundled the long stem timothy hay into a single shock of perhaps 100lbs., put it on her shoulder, and triumphantly marched away.

One memory which he claims is perhaps more important than all the others provides a fitting closing to Gerard's biography. One unusually sweltering summer day, the grandfather noted the fatigue of man and beast, and was put in a dilemma. It was Sunday and therefore must be a day of worship.

Nevertheless, the seven-mile trip to town could be dangerous after a particularly exhausting week. So, as a solution, the grandfather held services at home, reading from a book of sermons (preek-book). They also sang psalms. The grand patriach saw the need to be humane while maintaining order and principle. He could have been proud that the same traits are carried on by his grandson.

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

GOSSELINK, GERARDUS HENDRIKUS

F193

Gerardus Hendrikus Gosselink was born Mar. 26, 1796, the son of Teunis and Geesken Gosselink, at Steenderen, The Netherlands. Elizabeth Hogenkamp was born to Jan and Berdendina (Hammink) Hogenkamp on Mar. 16, 1798. They were married at Steenderen on May 19, 1826 and lived there between Zutphen and Doesberg. He was a farmer and a maker of wooden shoes.

To this union were born: Teunjen, Apr. 10, 1827, who later married Gerrit Jan Onstine; Barend, May 18, 1828, who later married Katie Vander Pol; Garrit Jan, June 26, 1829, who later married Dirkje Kolenbrander; Gerhard, June 27, 1831, who later married Janna Rhynsburger; Hendrik, Jan. 31, 1833, who died Apr. 17, 1833 at Steenderen; Hendrika, Jan. 22, 1834, who later married Luke Vander Linden; Aalbert, Jan. 7, 1836, who later married Ida De Haan; Garritjen, Oct. 25, 1837, who later married Peter Vander Wal; and Willemina, Nov. 23, 1840, who died Nov. 10, 1842 at Steenderen.

On Apr. 11, 1847, Gerardus Hendrikus and Elizabeth with their seven children left Rotterdam on the sailing vessel *Nagasaki* for Baltimore with the first group of emigrants headed by Dr. Henry P Scholte. Fare for nine persons was 720 guilders at 80 guilders each. From Baltimore they went by train to Keokuk, Ia. and by covered wagon train from there to Pella. They arrived in Aug., 1847.

At first they lived in "Strooi Stad" (Strawtown) which was near what is now Oakwood Cemetery. Later Gerardus Hendrikus received his grant of land according to the amount he had put into the common treasury for this purpose, 300 guilders. Records show two lots of land, one of eight acres just south of the Skunk River and one of 44 acres near the east limits of Pella.

After his wife Elizabeth died, Gerardus Hendrikus lived with his son Barend. He died in 1884 at the age of 88.,

by Charlene DeKock and Marjean Uitermarkt

GOSSELINK, GERHART

F194

Gerhart, the fourth son of Gerhardus Hendrikus Gosselink, was born in The Netherlands in 1831. His brothers and sisters were Teuntje, Bernard, Gerrit Jan. Hendrika, Albert and Gerritjen. The family came to America by sailing on the "Good Ship Nagasaki," which left Rotterdam, Holland, Apr. 11, 1847, for Baltimore. They traveled to St. Louis where unaccustomed humidity was a threat to man and beast. Floods resulted in the loss of animal life in the turbulent currents, which rendered much-needed drinking water dangerous and often fatally toxic.

Gerhart was married on Dec. 19, 1857, to Janna Rhynsburger, daughter of Dirk and Mary (Koopman) Rhynsburger. Their children and their spouses are as follows: Mary and Henry Van Haaften; Gradus and Dena (Van Oss); Laurence and Lulu (Roberts); Dirk and Mary (Boat); Henry and Mary (Van Steenwyk); John M. and Sarah (De Geus); William and Wilhelmina (De Geus); Gerrit and Jennie (Bogaards); Cornelius and Josie (Bogaards); Teunis and Goldie (Vander Krol). One small daughter met her death by falling into a pail of hot water.

Gerhart bought land northeast of Pella for !1.25 an acre and built a log cabin on it. He also owned some land near the river where he watered the cattle. It also had trees which

Gerhart Gosselink Family. Front, L-R: Mary, Gerhart, Janna (Mrs. Gerhart), and Gradus; Middle, L-R: Lawrence, Cornelius, Dirk, and Gerrit; Back, L-R: Henry, John M., Teunis, and William.

were used for firewood.

After retirement they moved to their home on West Union Street in Pella. Later they made their home with their daughter and her husband, Mary and Henry Van Haaften in south Pella, where they lived the rest of their lives. Gerhart reached the age of 95 years; Janna, his wife, lived to be 83.

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

GOSSELINK, HENRY R. AND ANNA MAE (VANDE NOORD)

F195

Henry G. Gosselink and Anna Mae Vande Noord were united in marriage on Mar. 4, 1938. Henry was the son of John Gosselink and Helena Vander Beek Gosselink. Anna Mae is the daughter of John Vande Noord and Katie Gezel Vande Noord.

Henry was a farmer, and he and Anna Maae lived on a farm west of Pella all their married years. Anna Mae taught in the rural schools and then taught in the Pella Public Schools with a total of 29 years of teaching.

The children of Henry and Anna Mae are Rodney Wayne who was born on July 1, 1939, and Kathleen Ann who was born on July 22, 1943. Rodney and family live in Pella. He married Marge Gosselink, and they have two daughters, Sue Ann and Sandra Kay. Kathy lives in arizona. She married Phil Vanden Berg and they have two boys, Chris Phillip and Chad Martin and a daughter Kelly Ann.

Henry passed away on July 15, 1971.

by Anna Mae Gosselink

GOSSELINK, HOWARD P. AND JOSEPHINE

F196

Howard Paul, son of John Henry and Kathryn Keuning Gosselink, was born on Apr. 19, 1927, at his parent's farm home south of Otley. He attended Liberty Corner School until, when he was in the sixth grade, his parents moved to the Pella area. Howard finished elementary school at Pella Christian Grade School and attended Pella Christian High School, graduating in 1945. He then enlisted in the United States Navy and received basic training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center near Chicago. After his training, Howard served with the Navy on a destroyer in the Pacific Fleet. He was honorably discharged in the fall of 1946.

Howard P. and Josephine Gosselink Family. Left to right: James, Karen, Howard, Josephine, Nancy, John.

Josephine, daughter of Johannes and Alpha Nell Den Hartog Vanden Berg, was born on Oct. 2, 1930, at her parent's home south of Otley. Josephine grew up on the farm and attended Fair Oaks School which was near her home. After graduation, she helped her parents on their family farm. Howard and Josephine, better known to their friends as "Buff and Josie," were married on July 19, 1949, in Otley by the Rev. J.E. Brink. After their marriage, Howard worked for one year at Gosselink Builders and then he and Josephine moved northwest of Pella to a farm which they operated for five years. In 1955, they moved to Pella and Howard started a career with United States Postal Service. After working in Pella for 25 years, Howard was named Postmaster at Otley, Ia. He is currently still serving as Postmaster at Otley and is looking forward to retirement. Josephine has kept busy as a homemaker and mother, raising four children. She currently also works as a homemaker at Hilltop Manor in Pella. In 1980, Howard and Josephine built a new home on an acreage west of Pella and planted an orchard there. Much of their spare time is now spent working and caring for their orchard. They also enjoy gardening and travel. The highlight of their travels was a trip in 1978 to visit Holland and Europe. Howard also enjoys fishing, both locally and in Canada.

Howard and Josephine are members of First Christian Reformed Church of Pella where Howard has served as both deacon and elder. Howard has also served on the boards of both Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School.

Howard and Josephine have four children: Nancy Ann, born Jan. 30, 1950; Karen Sue, born June 4, 1953; John Calvin, born Mar. 9, 1959; and James Paul, born Nov. 5, 1968.

Nancy was married to Theodore Nikkel Zylstra on July 17, 1969. They have two children: Tedd Eric, born June 8, 1971; and Rebecca Jo, born Dec. 2, 1974. Ted is a professional insurance agent and owner of Tulip City Agency, Ltd. in Pella. He also serves on the Pella City Council. Nancy is a homemaker and is also employed by the Sunshine Center in Pella. Tedd is a student at Pella Christian High School and Rebecca is a student at Pella Christian Grade School.

Karen was married to Stanley Jay Rempe on Feb. 1, 1973. They have two children: Joseph Jon, born Nov. 19, 1975, and Benjamin Jay, born Dec. 19, 1977. Stan and Karen operate a grain and livestock farm near Otley, along with additional grain acreage near Pleasantville and Leighton. Joe and Ben are both students at Lincoln Elementary School in Pella and they help with farming when not in school.

John, who is still a bachelor, began working at Boomsma's Farm Fresh Eggs while still in high school and continues to work there. John recently built a new home in the Timber Ridge development just south of Pella. John is an avid sportsman, enjoying hunting and fishing as well as golf.

Jim is a senior at Pella Christian High School and is looking forward to graduation in May, 1987. After graduation he plans to study at American Institute of Business in Des Moines to prepare himself for a career in business management. Jim currently works for T.L. and Company after school, on weekends and during vacations.

by Howard P. Gosselink

GOSSELINK, JOHN "JAN", SR.

F197

Jan and Helena (Vander Beek) Gosselink Sr.

John Gosselink was born Dec. 18, 1870, the son of Gerrit Jan and Dirkje Kolenbrander Gosselink, in a log cabin a few miles northeast of Pella. Helena Vander Beek was born Sept. 30, 1875, to Jan and Helena De Pender Vander Beek in Alemkerk, Alemkerk, North Braband, The Netherlands. Helena came from Holland when she was seventeen and spent one year with her family in Colorado before they moved to Pella in 1893. John and Helena were married Mar. 4, 1897, and lived on a farm northeast of Pella.

To this union were born: Gerrit Jan (Dec. 20, 1897 – May 2, 1918); John Henrick (May 25, 1900, who married Kathryn Keuning); Dick William (July 14, 1902, who married Theresa Keuning); Leonard (Feb. 10, 1905, who married Mary Hiemstra); Henry Gradus (Apr. 9, 1906, who married Anna Mae Vande Noord); Helena Lillian (Apr. 22, 1908, who married John C. Hiemstra); Frederick (July 20, 1910 – Sept. 24, 1918); Dorothy (Jan. 19, 1912, who married Fred Veenstra); Jennie (Mar. 14, 1915, who married Albert De Bruin);' William George (Feb. 22, 1917, who married Ardella Grandia).

In 1916 they bought a farm two and one-half miles northwest of Pella. They were one of the first to have electricity in their home run by a battery-operated Delco light plant.

They charged their own batteries. Butter was churned by electricity and they would make nine pounds at a time. Much of the time breakfast consisted of hot graham bread with melted fat and molasses. They butchered their own hogs, would fry the pork, and preserved it by putting it in a large five to six gallon crock and covering it with lard. John also did a lot of trapping in the Skunk River by putting cheese in a wire trap to bait the fish. Often he came home with the spring wagon full of fish. They raised dairy cows, feeder cows, hogs, chickens, ducks, and geese. Their crops were corn, hay, and oats. Farming was done with horses until 1921 when they bought their first tractor, a 1921 Ford.

Transportation to town for supplies and church was by horse and carriage until 1911 when they purchased their first car, a seven passenger Studebaker. Shortly after that they purchased a new Ford touring car.

In 1918 two of their sons died. Gerrit, at age 20, died of erysipelas. Five months later eight-year-old Freddie died of a ruptured appendix. This was very hard on John and Helena.

In 1939 they retired and moved to the Martha Lautenbach place two miles west of Pella on Highway 163 where they still had one cow and a hog. Then in 1945 they moved to Pella on Liberty St. across from the First Christian Reformed Church. Children and grandchildren always congregated at their house on Sunday morning for cofee-time. This was a fun time but not a quiet time as Helena was quite a talker in her Yankee Dutch brougue. She was also known for her beautiful crocheted and knitted articles. John, better known as "Lange Jan", was more quiet, sitting there smoking his Prince Albert cigars using a toothpick, as a good conservative Dutchman. This way he could smoke his cigar down to the very last puff.

John was quite healthy until he got shingles in 1946. Surgery didn't seem to help and he had to give himself a shot every day for pain. Helena also was quite healthy, but died suddenly of a stroke in 1949.

Later John moved to the Old People's Home which is now Fair Haven West. He was often seen walking all over Pella to visit his children and do shopping for the residents at the Home. When his health failed he was moved to the Pella Community Hospital Nursing Wing where he lived until his death at the age of 94.

by Marjean Uitermarkt

GOSSELINK, JOHN ALFRED

F198

John Alfred Gosselink (called Alfred as there were so many other John Gosselinks) was the youngest child born to John M. Gosselink and Sarah De Geus Gosselink on June 22, 1910. Alfred (Fritz) attended Plain View Country School and Central College Academy, after which he worked as a hired man for several area farmers. He was married to Ruth Virginia Visser, daughter of William Visser, born Feb. 18, 1818, – 1880, and Jennie Van Zee born Mar. 15, 1883, on Mar. 25, 1936, at the home of the bride's parents. Ruth had attended Pella schools and taught country

Alfred Gosselink Family 1960. Front, l-r: Alfred and Ruth Gosselink; Back, l-r: Marjorie, Joan

school for four years prior to their marriage. She taught two years at Amsterdam School in Marion Co. and two years at Burr Oak School in Mahaska Co. Ruth and Alfred farmed and lived south of Pella until 1950 when they moved to Pella. At that time Alfred was employed as a woodworker for the Frank Tromp Shop and later for Pella Glass and Home Improvement. He was a skilled and respected wood and glass worker.

Two daughters were born to Ruth and Alfred and one son who died in infancy in 1939. Joan Ruth was born Nov. 10, 1937; Marjorie Elaine was born July 24, 1940. Both girls attended North Porterville Country School and Pella Public Schools. Both graduated from schools of nursing as registered nurses.

Joan is married to J. Paul Klyn, born Sept. 8, 1934, son of Henry and Bertha Klyn. They have two daughters: Jana, Mrs. Jeff Hughes; and Jill, Mrs. Tim Hillygus.

Marge is married to Rodney Gosselink, son of Henry and Anna Mae Gosselink. They have two daughters: Sue, Mrs. Bill Scully; and Sandra.

Alfred died Sept. 6, 1974, and Ruth currently lives in the Pella Manor.

by Joan Klyn

GOSSELINK, JOHN HENRY AND KATHRYN

F199

John Henry, son of John and Helena Vander Beek Gosselink, was born May 25, 1900, northeast of Pella. He attended Flint Ridge Rural Grade School.

Kathryn, daughter of Heine Sake and Teuna Hansum Keuning, was born Jan. 7, 1901, near Otley. She attended Liberty Corner rural school. She graduated at the age of 12 years, being the youngest graduate in Marion Co. that year, and she had the highest average in the county. Later she worked at Sybenga Bakery and then at Pella National Bank.

John and Kathryn were married Feb. 7, 1923, by the Rev. George Hankamp. They first farmed south of Otley for 15 years. They then farmed two and one half miles northwest of Pella for 12 years and then an acreage west of Pella for five years. From there they moved to 1008 West 1st St. in Pella and lived there for 20 years. During this time John operated the Mobil gas station and later worked for Star Oil and Rus Oil Co. They

John Henry and Kathryn Gosselink, wedding photo, February 7, 1923

then moved to the Pella Manor and lived there nine years. John passed away at Pella Manor on Sept. 5, 1985. Kathryn continued to live there until Nov., 1986, when she moved to Hill Top Manor North.

John and Kathryn were faithful members of the First Christian Reformed Church were John served many terms in the consistory of which more than 20 years were as an elder.

John and Kathryn enjoyed traveling. They traveled in many states, took trips into Mexico, and took a trip by car in 1966 to Alaska. John enjoyed gardening, hunting, fishing and working with his hands. In his later years he kept busy caning chairs, making place-mat sets, neck scarves, and several items from wood. Kathryn kept busy as a homemaker, playing her piano and organ, and did lots of crocheting.

The couple had three children: Helene Tonetta, born Sept. 29, 1924; Howard Paul, born Apr. 19, 1927; and Robert John, born July 8, 1929. Helene married Wilbur Roy (Bud) Ver Meer, born Jan. 7, 1924, on Sept. 10, 1946. Their children are: Jay Allen, born Mar. 4, 1948, who married Edith Gale Kapteyn, born Oct. 4, 1959, on Oct. 8, 1983. They have one child, Toni Gale, born Jan. 16, 1987. Jana Kay, born Feb. 10, 1951, who married Gerald Van Dyk, born July 13, 1946, on Aug. 11, 1970. They have two children: Bradley Darin, born Feb. 4, 1971; and Sarah Lynn, born Mar. 9, 1975. Janie Lee was born Feb. 10, 1951.

Howard married Josephine Vanden Berg, born Oct. 2, 1930, on July 1, 1949. They have four children: Nancy Ann, born Jan. 30, 1950, who married Theodore Nikkel Zylstra, born Aug. 16, 1949, on July 17, 1969. They have two children: Tedd Eric, born June 8, 1971, and Rebecca Jo, born Dec. 12, 1974. Karen Sue, born June 4, 1953, who married Stanley Jay Rempe, born Sept. 16, 1947, on Feb. 1, 1973. They have two sons: Joseph Jon, born Nov. 19, 1975; and Benjamin Jay, born Dec. 19, 1977. John Calvin was born Mar. 9, 1959,

and James Paul was born Nov. 5, 1968.

Robert married Lorena Roorda, born Feb. 4, 1933, on Sept. 1, 1950. They had five daughters: Diana Kay, born Aug. 23, 1951, who married James A. Emmert, born Feb. 17, 1951, were married Sept. 24, 1971. They have two children: Jill Ann, born Oct. 7, 1975; and Lucas Theodore, born May 8, 1979. Kathy Lee, born Nov. 23, 1952, who married Steven D. De Zwarte, born May 27, 1951, on Dec. 15, 1973. They have two sons: Christopher James, born Apr. 4, 1974; and Nathan Dale, born July 31, 1986. Julie Lin, born Oct. 28, 1960, who married Arvin L. Vander Linden, born July 22, 1958, on Aug. 28, 1981. They have two sons: Austin Lee, born Oct. 31, 1983; and Tyler Jon, born May 15, 1986. Linda Joy, born Mar. 27, 1954; and Carol Mae, born Nov. 15, 1959. Robert and Lorena's marriage ended in 1976. On Dec. 18, 1976, he married RuthAnn Van Gorp, born Jan. 24, 1929.

by Helene Ver Meer

GOSSELINK, JOHN M.
F200

John M. Gosselink Family. Front, L-R: John M., Alfred, and Sarah (Mrs. John M.); Back, L-R: Nellie, Cornelia, Gerard, and Anna.

John M. Gosselink, the son of Gerhart and Janna (Rhynsburger) Gosselink, was born northeast of Pella, Ia. on Apr. 12, 1871. He was married to Sarah De Geus, daughter of Cornelius, Sr. and Neeltje (Van Vliet) De Geus on Feb. 28, 1894.

They lived their first two years of married life in Pella, where John M. worked for a Mr. Vander Zyl in the meat slaughtering business. Then they moved to a farm northeast of Pella working for his cousin (langen) Jan Gosselink. After that they moved to Peoria, Ia. where they shared the farm home with her brother, William and Regina De Geus. From there they moved back to four miles northeast of Pella in the Flintridge School district. In 1904 another move brought them closer to Pella, two miles in the Plainview School district. On retirement they moved to town at 507 East First. John M. passed away Jan. 17, 1950, at age 78 years. Sarah then moved to an apartment at 909 East Second St. Later she moved to the Pella Community Nursing Home, where she passed away on Feb. 21, 1963, at the age of 90 years.

Their family consisted of the following: Gerard M. and Nellie (Bennink) — later he married Margaret Ver Ploeg; Nellie and Delis G. Van Zante; Anna Elizabeth and John J. Buwalda; Cornelia May and Albert P. Van Donselaar; a stillborn daughter; and John Alfred and Ruth Virginia (Visser).

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

GOSSELINK, LILLIAN
F201

Lillian Gosselink, daughter of John and Helena Vander Beek Gosselink Sr., was born Apr. 22, 1908, near Pella, Ia. She attended Flint Ridge School and graduated from Pella Christian School. She met John C. Hiemstra in the fall of 1925. They courted for over five years. When John's Star Coupster couldn't get through eight miles of mud roads, he went to see Lillian by horseback. John's five younger sisters also loved to hitch a ride with him whenever possible.

John, born on Mar. 13, 1905, is the son of John F. and Maggie Visser Hiemstra. He attended Valley View School and made profession of faith at Otley Reformed Church. On Jan. 1, 1931, John and Lillian were married.

Farming was their occupation. Memories of threshing with the neighbors included elaborate meals prepared by the ladies. At other mealtimes the family could enjoy their "fruits of labor" which included the 1000 (plus) jars of meat, fruits, and vegetables canned during the year. Handpicking corn and lots of hard work will long be remembered.

Lillian and John are now residing at 608 E. Second, Pella Manor. John is still active in his steel business at 604 University St. in Pella. Through the years they enjoyed traveling. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in 1981. They have been members of the First Reformed Church of Pella the past 56 years. Lillian is a charter member of the Ladies Aid and enjoys being active in church work.

Their children: Maxine Ruth (born Dec. 16, 1932); Donald John (born July 23, 1936); Robert Lee (born Oct. 26, 1939); John Dwayne (born Dec. 26, 1944).

Maxine attended Valley View grade school where one day her pet lamb followed her to school and the children had a hilarious day. She later graduated from Silver Grove grade school and Pella High School. She was active in 4-H work, received a silver bracelet for best president record book of the year. She was also active in Girls League.

Don graduated from Silver Grove grade school and Pella High School, where he was active in basketball, baseball, and track. He was active in 4-H for ten years. He won Grand Champion with his hereford baby beef.

Robert graduated from Silver Grove grade school and Pella High School. He was basketball manager three years and active in 4-H. His hobbies are woodcarving and art.

John D. graduated from Pella High School and Central College and has a masters degree in education from the University of Iowa.

For names and dates of their marriages and their children, refer to History of John C. Hiemstra. The Hiemstra's have 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

by Maxine Vander Linden

GOSSELINK, ROD
F202

Rodney Wayne Gosselink and Marjorie Elaine Gosselink were married at Pella, Ia. on June 16, 1961. Rod worked as a painter and Marge as a Registered Nurse at Pella Community Hospital after graduation from Broadlawns Polk County Hospital in Des Moines.

Sue Ann Gosselink was born May 20, 1964. She attended Pella Community Schools, Iowa State University for three years, and graduated from Roosevelt University of Chicago, Ill. The first day of June, 1985, she married William H. Scully of Palatine, Ill., at Trinity Reformed Church, the family church

The John C. Hiemstra family. Front, l-r: Lillian, John D., and John C.; Back, l-r: Don, Maxine, and Bob. 1949.

Rod Gosselink Family: Front, l-r: Marge, Rod; Back, l-r: Sandy, Bill Scully, Sue

in Pella. They moved to Palatine, Ill. to start working careers in business and marketing.

On Sept. 4, 1966, Sandra Kay Gosselink was born. She attended Pella Community Schools and enrolled at Iowa State University in the fall of 1985.

by Mrs. Rod Gosselink

GRANDIA FAMILY

F203

The Jacob Grandia Family

Jacob Grandia (1822-1868) was born in Schravendalen, Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands in 1822. At an early age he migrated to America in the spring of 1847, and was among the very first to arrive in this community. He was a lad with ambition and usefulness. He, with Henry Hospers, assisted the surveyors in platting the town of Pella. The name of the town "The Place of Refuge" had been decided before they left Holland. He was united in marriage with Maria Colyn (1828-1909), daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leindert Colyn. They had twelve children (8 sons – 4 daughters: Jellis (1851-1923), Anthonia (1851-1918), Leonard (1853-1917), John (1854-1902), Jacob (1856-1856), Jacob (1857-1929), Abraham (1858-1926), Tryntje (1862-1863), Marie (1863-1922), Albert (1864-1864), Tryntje (1866- 1958), Elizabeth (1868-1934). The above-mentioned intermarried into the families of Yongewaard, Van Zee, Brandt, Van Zante, Adair, Liter and Newendorp.

The John Grandia Family

John Grandia (1854-1902) and Henrietta Brandt (1861-1915) were married Mar. 31, 1881. To this union were born seven sons and six daughters: Nickolaas (Charlie) (1882-1939); Marie Elizabeth (1883-1952); Wilhelmena Helena (1884-1981); Elizabeth (Libby) (1886-1968); Jacob (1887-1945); Henrietta (1889-); Rebecca (Bess) (1890-1965); Harry W. (1892-1893); Benjamin (1893-1965); Wilbur Paul (1895-1970); Josephine (1896-1972); Alfred John (1898-1971); Elmer Harry (1899-1968). The above-mentioned intermarried into the families of Schakel, Van Arkel, Head, Hoogenakker, Lautenbach, Hughes, Van Toorn, Pugh and Grover. John Grandia was a farmer and farmed near Leighton, Ia. John died at the age of 48 years and his wife was 54. Mrs. Grandia died of pernicious anemia.

Grandia-Schakel Family

Elizabeth (Libby) Grandia (1886-1968) and Edwin L. Schakel (1886-1948) were married Mar. 10, 1915. They had one daughter, Arloene J. (1916-). Ed farmed in the Oskaloosa area for several years, but most of his life he was a carpenter and worked for Veenstra-Croll. He was best known by his nickname "Pickle". Libby graduated from Pella High School in 1904 and attended Central College for one year, and then she worked at the bank in Oskaloosa until she got married.

Schakel-Hoeksema Family

Arloene J. Hoeksema (1916-) and Andrew Hoeksema (1915-) were married Apr. 20, 1941. They have one son Jack L. Hoeksema (1948-). Andy entered the U.S. Army of W.W. II on May 5, 1942 and was in until Thanksgiving, 1945. He spent all of his time on the Alaska Highway stationed at Dawson Creek, British Columbia. He reached the rank of Staff Sergeant. He was in the Quartermaster Corps and was a carpenter. Andy was a carpenter after graduation from high school until he retired. He worked for Veenstra-Croll until they retired and then had his own business. Ray Vander Wilt worked with him. Andy and his brother Robert (Jeff) were waterboys at the Rolscreen when the first building was erected in 1925. Andy was ten and Jeff was eight.

by Arloene Hoeksema

GRANDIA, ABRAHAM

F204

Abraham, the youngest son of Jacob and Marie Grandia, was born Dec. 13, 1858, on a farm in Mahaska Co. He was united in marriage to Norena Minerva Adair on Mar. 18, 1886. Abraham lived all of his life within a mile of his birthplace. Five children – Jacob Frederick, John Albert, Mary Alta, Edna Minerva and Walter Guy – were born to their union. Abraham 15, 1926.

Abraham Grandia

by Bob Grandia

GRANDIA, JACOB

F205

Jacob Grandia was born in Schravendalen, Province of Gelderland, Netherlands, in 1826. He immigrated to the United States in the spring of 1847. Jacob assisted the surveyors in platting the original town of Pella. He was united in marriage to Miss Marie Colyn. Marie was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leendert Colyn. Her family left Amsterdam, Netherlands, early in Apr. 1847, and sailed on the Good Ship Peter Floris to Baltimore, Md. Nine children were born to their union.

by Bob Grandia

GRANDIA, JOHN ALBERT

F206

John A. Grandia

John Albert Grandia was born Aug. 31, 1888. He married Josena Klyn on Feb. 12, 1913. Josena was the daughter of Adrianne Klyn and Dirkie Boland Klyn. They moved to a farm one and one-half miles west of Leighton and lived there until retirement. In 1960, John and Josena moved to Pella. John was very active in community organizations. He died June 16, 1973. Four children were born to this couple – Robert John (Bob), Dec. 28, 1914; Josena Faye, Aug. 22, 1918; Norena Dorothy, Nov. 10, 1922; Abron Adrian (Abe), Dec. 28, 1926. Robert (Bob) married Carol Keuning; Faye married Bert Hugen; Norena married Bob Veenstra; Dr. Abe married Bernice Van Steenis. To John and Josena, 11

grandchildren were born, seven great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

by Bob Grandia

GRANDIA, LEENDERT
F207

Leendert Grandia and grandson William Leonard Grandia.

Leendert Grandia (1853-1917) was born at Pella, Ia., on May 31, 1853. His father, Jacob Grandia (1822-1868) was born in 's Gravendeel, Zuid Holland, and at the age of 25 years came to Pella on the ship *Nagasaki* from Rotterdam in June, 1848. His mother was Maria Colyn (1828-1909), the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leendert Colyn, who came from The Netherlands with her parents in 1847. Leendert's parents married in 1850; they had 12 children, three of whom died in infancy.

On Feb. 25, 1877, Leendert married Artie M. Van Zee (1855-1903) at Pella. Her parents were Koenraad and Mattie (De Kock) Van Zee who married in 1837 and came to Pella from The Netherlands in 1847 with their three older children. Artie M., born in Pella, was the youngest of their six children. Artie died in 1903 and Leendert in 1917. They, as well as their parents, are buried in Portergrove Cemetery, Mahaska Co., Ia.

Leendert and Artie farmed in the Leighton area and attended the Leighton Reformed Church. They had four daughters and five sons. All of the children and their spouses are now deceased. There were 34 grandchildren, 17 are still living. Several of them live in the Pella area.

The names of the children of Leendert and Artie and their spouses are Mary L. (1879-1955) and Ira P. De Cook; Conrad (1879-1942) and Marie Keune; Jacob L. (1881-1950) and Ethel Tener; David E. (1884-1959) and Sophia Walraven; Mable M. (1886-1932) and James Rempe; H. Fred (1888-1949) and Elizabeth De Bruin; Alice E. (1890-1970) and Martin Vandehaar; A. Clarence (1893-1941) and Alice Brummel; and Hilda L. (1897-1976) and Neal Van Wyk.

by Freda Vande Wall

GRANDIA, ROBERT JOHN
F208

Robert J. (Bob) Grandia

Robert John (Bob), son of John Albert and Josena Klyn Grandia, was born Dec. 28, 1914, near Leighton in Mahaska Co. He received his education at Black Oak and Scott Center School where he graduated in 1928. After graduation he worked as a farmhand until July, 1937. His wages averaged from $25 to $35 a month.

On July 15, 1937, he married Carol (Tootie) Keuning, daughter of Henry and Bertha Mol Keuning. He worked at various jobs including carpenter, truck driver, helper at Brom's Hatchery and others until 1942. From 1942 until 1946 he worked at Klyn and DeWinter's Meat Market in Pella. He then moved to Eddyville where he and his brother-in-law, Albert Keuning, were joint owners of a restaurant. The Des Moines River flood of 1947 forced them to discontinue that business.

Bob and Carol moved back to Pella. In Jan. 1950, he purchased the meat processing plant in Otley. He operated that plant through 1980 and then retired and sold the plant to his son, John. His wife, Carol, passed away on Aug. 2, 1981. In Nov. 1981, he was elected to the Iowa House of Representatives from the 69th District. He served two terms in the House of Representatives from 1983 through 1986.

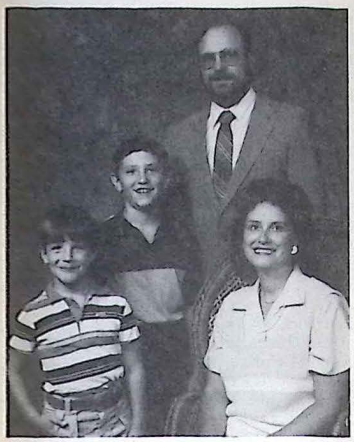
Two children, Barbara Joyce and John Henry, were born to the union of Bob and Carol. Barbara, with her husband, Stuart Meulpolder, lives in Enid, Okla. The Meulpolders have three children: Lowell lives in Enid; Laura and Amy live in Dallas, Tex. John and his wife, the former Linda Uitermarkt, have two children: John Thomas (Jake) and Susan. Bob also has one great-grandchild, Stuart Ross Meulpolder.

by Bob Grandia

GRIMES, LEONARD AND LINDA
F209

Our family is not native to Pella, but have lived here since July, 1975, when Leonard became the manager of a loan company known as Thrift Plan, later changed to the Money Shop. At that time we had no

Robert J. Grandia served two two-year terms in the Iowa House of Representative.



Brian, Scott, Leonard, and Linda

children, and I worked at Lee's Variety in the fabric department.

We are originally from Fairfield, Iowa, but lived two years in Waterloo, Iowa before moving to Pella.

When we first moved to town we owned a mobile home, but soon bought our first house on Columbus St. Then we built our present home in 1978, three miles north of town on an acreage. We all enjoy country living, as we were both brought up in the country.

Now there are several changes. We both work at our own business in Oskaloosa, the Credit Bureau Services of Ia., Inc. Also we now have two boys, Scott Alan and Brian Lynn.

Leonard was born Aug. 8, 1951, in Washington, Ia. His parents are Mary Elizabeth (Nicholson) Grimes and Earl Eugene Grimes. They live three miles west of Fairfield. Connie (Grimes) Rathburn of Sigourney, Ia. is Leonard's younger sister. Leonard's first encounter with school was in a one-room country school house. For grade school he went to Fairfield and Libertyville, Ia. For Junior High and High School he went to Fairfield, graduating with the class of '69. Football and track were sports he participated in. He attended Parsons College in Fairfield, majoring in math to graduate with a B.S. in 1973.

Leonard's interests are mostly things outdoors. He is an avid hunter, especially when it comes to deer hunting with his bow and arrows, and has several trophy deer heads. He enjoys going on hunting trips for antelope and elk, also with a bow. Metal detecting, hunting for lost coins and jewelry, is also an exciting hobby. He is involved in (T.I.P.), Turn in Poachers of Iowa, Izaak Walton League, Hickory Ridge Bowhunters Club, and plays a lot of golf in the summer. In Apr., 1972, he married Linda Sue Bailey.

Linda was born May 3, 1951, in Fairfield, Iowa to Richard Samuel Bailey and Betty June (Calhoun) Bailey. Linda is the oldest of three girls. Her sisters are Mary Ann (Bailey) Gilmore and Betty Elaine Bailey who both live in Arizona. They lived five miles east of Fairfield. Linda also attended a country one-room school for the first two and one-half years, then in Fairfield for the rest of grade school, Junior High, and High School Class of 1969. During school years Linda was involved in 4-H, Girl Scouts and several school clubs. She also attended Parsons College 1969-1970. Her parents and sisters moved to Arizona in Dec. of 1972, where they still live.

Linda's interest is being a homemaker for her family. She enjoys baking and cooking. Sewing, needlework, and oil painting are also her hobbies. She works part time at their office. Linda is involved in Boy Scouts, Church, Welcome Wagon, and is learning golf and tennis.

Scott Alan was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. Oct. 24, 1976. He is in the Fourth grade at Lincoln School. His interests are Taekwondo, (a form of martial arts), Boy Scouts, fishing, archery, basketball, swimming, reading, and working with computers.

Brian Lynn was born in Pella, Mar. 18, 1980. He is in First grade at Lincoln School. His interests are football, basketball, Taekwondo, archery, swimming, and fishing.

As a family we enjoy nature all year long. Summers we go camping, boating, fishing, swimming, and to archery tournaments. In all seasons we enjoy going for walks in the woods and playing in the snow.

Our family has found Pella a great place to live and grow.

by Linda Grimes

GRITTERS FAMILY
F210

Martin Gritters was born at Boyden, Ia. to Egbert and Albertje Gritters. Martin's father immigrated to Hull, Ia. in the 1890's alone. Egbert had been a baker in Dever, Gelderland, in Holland. When he came to Iowa he worked as a hired hand on a farm until he had enough money saved to send for his parents, his brothers and sisters, and his lady friend Albertje Smith, whom he married in 1900. Together he and Albertje set up farming. Egbert began raising purebred cattle and hogs in 1912 and continued in this operation until in the 1920's, when the depression came, and in 1930 he had to give this up.

Egbert and Albertje had ten children, eight boys and two girls. A baby girl and two baby boys died of cholera. Martin was the fifth boy to be born. His parents decided that he should go to school to be a teacher. He graduated from Western Christian High School in Hull in 1923. Then he took a summer course at Morningside College in Sioux City after which he taught school for one year near Sioux Center. In 1926 he enrolled at Central College in Pella for one year, and returned to northwest Iowa and taught one more year near Doon.

It is at this time Jeanette comes into the picture. She was working as a nurse's aid in the Hull hospital. Jeanette Van de Kerk was born in Holland in Gelderland near Zwolle and Kampen. She emigrated with her parents, the Frank Van de Kerks. Her mother was Geeltje Schilder; in America her name became Goldie. Frank and Goldie had ten children also: four boys and six girls. One 11-month-old baby died of pneumonia after measles. Little nine-year-old Alice died of polio in 1926 at Hospers, Ia. Jeanette's parents were strict Reformed people; they might not even peel potatoes on Sunday.

The Van de Kerks arrived at Perkins, Ia. in March, 1908. Jeanette was two years old at this time. Frank had been a farmer in Holland but when he came to America he went to work on the railroad. After only a few months he lost this job because he refused to work on Sunday. A German farmer hired him. The farmer was a bachelor so the whole family moved in with him so Goldie could be the housekeeper. Jeanette was very afraid of big machines like corn shellers and threshing machines so she wouldn't let any of her cats go outside on the days when these were operating.

From Perkins they moved to Carmel, Ia.

50th Anniversary celebration August 13, 1981

The minister here owned a farm near Inwood and asked Frank to rent that, so after a couple of years they moved there and stayed for three years. All these years they belonged to the Reformed Church.

Frank always hoped and worked to have his own farm, thus they finally moved by train to Crookston, Minn. where they bought a farm (farm land was too expensive in Iowa Frank said). They lived in Crookston for two years but neither year did they have any crop. It was also very cold and they could not take the severe weather, so again they moved back to Inwood. By this time they had joined the Christian Reformed Church which was organized while they lived in Crookston.

They lived near Inwood for three years again, then moved to Hospers, Ia. in 1920. The Van de Kerks lived here all through the depression. In 1934 Frank died at the age of 56. Goldie moved to Sioux Center in 1936 only three of the eight children were married yet.

Martin and Jeanette were married on Aug. 13, 1931. They first lived in Grand Rapids, Mich. since Martin was still in seminary. After one year Alberdeen was born. When she was one month old they moved to Holland, Mich. where Martin had accepted a call to the Protestant Reformed Church. They spent a happy six years there. While in Holland three more children were born: Frank Martin, Goldie Jean, and Edgar John.

In 1938 they accepted a call to Sioux Center. Here their youngest son Arnold Henry was born. Also while they lived in Sioux Center the second world war broke out. In 1945, just before the end of the war, Martin was called to pastor a church at Oak Lawn, Ill. They stayed here only three and one-half years, then accepted the call to come to the Protestant Reformed Church in Pella. They moved here in 1948 and lived here for 11 years. The whole family liked Pella, thus all the children married mates from here. Alberdeen married Don Stursma; Frank married Revena Zylstra; Goldie married Duane Dingeman; Edgar married Regina De Geus; and Arnold married Nancy Rus. All these children live in or near Pella and they all think it is a great place to live and work. We have fine churches and schools. We are thankful that God has led us to Pella, the City of Refuge.

Martin accepted a call from the Bellflower Protestant Reformed Church in 1959. The four older children were all married by this time, so only Arnold moved with them to California. In 1962 they returned to the Christian Reformed Church by accepting a call to the church at Pipestone, Minn. After three years there Martin became the pastor of the church at Inwood. This time they had to move alone because Arnold had made a trip back to Pella, found Nancy, and settled here too. Martin and Jeanette lived in Inwood for six years, until he was 65 and she was 66. In 1971 they moved back to Pella. They now live at 805 W. 3rd St.

These are the children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of Martin and Jeanette: Alberdeen and Don Stursma have three children. Jacki is married to Ken Craver, and they have two girls, Desha and Jessemynn; Jimmy is married to Sue Hicks and they have one daughter, Jami; Jerry and Darlene (Wallace) Stursma have a son, Justin and a daughter, Jennifer. Don is employed at the Pella Farmers Co-op and he and Alberdeen live east of Pella.

Frank and Revena (Zylstra) Gritters have six children: Gordon is married to Christa Binns. Their three children are Melanie, Ryan, and Dustin; Laura married Larry Hessing and they have twin daughters, Jodi and Jana; Barbara married John D. Van Gorp and they have a daughter, Lanae; Beverly married Steve Roozeboom and their two daughters are Stephanie and Katie; Carol married Marty Overweg; and the youngest son, David, is home yet. Frank and Revena live in Pella where Frank is owner of Gritters Electric.

Goldie and Duane Dingeman are the parents of three children: Diane is the oldest, then Debra who is married to Byron Bruxvoort; Debra and Byron have two children, Leah and Matthew; Daniel married Kamala Dunham and their children are Clinton and Jessica. Duane owns Pella Excavating & Foundation and he and Goldie live in Pella.

Edgar and Regina (De Geus) Gritters have four boys. Rick is married to Brenda Bloem and their two children are Jeffrey and Andrea; Mark is married to Laurie Vande Voort and have one daughter, Ashley; Scott and Joel are Edgar and Regina's younger sons. Edgar is engaged in farming and they live on a farm west of Pella.

Arnold and Nancy (Rus) Gritters are parents of two girls and two boys. Only the oldest, Ann, is married. She married Jeff Van Mouwerik and they have one son, Nathan. The names of the other children are Kimberly, Matthew, and Joshua. Arnold owns Hungry Dutchman Tire Shop in Pella.

by Goldie Dingeman and Jeanette Van de Kerk Gritters

GROENDYKE, JOHN E.

F211

No history of Pella would be complete without some history of the Pella Public Schools and some of the outstanding teachers we have had.

Mr. John Groendyke taught general science, biology, chemistry, physics, and general bookkeeping from the year 1930 to 1969 when he retired from teaching. He was considered an outstanding science teacher and an inspiration to his many students.

When he retired he commented that about 95 percent of the material he was teaching his last year was not known or included in the textbooks when he started 39 years earlier.

Before coming to Pella, Mr. Groendyke taught for one year in the Attica, Ia., Consolidated High School and at the Sioux Center High School for four years.

John Elmer Groendyke, son of John and Kate De Vries Groendyke, was born on July 15, 1902, in Hospers, Ia. He graduated from the Sheldon High School. He attended William Penn College, Central College, and Iowa State University, graduating from Central College in 1926.

In 1926 he married Jeanetta Marie Vander Wilt, and to this union four daughters were born: Virginia Mae, Nancy Ruth, Shirley Ann, and Judith Kay.

Mr. Groendyke was blessed with many talents. Not only did he teach others, but also he taught himself to play the piano and the violin. He enjoyed doing his own arrangements of melodies when playing the piano. In his retirement years he took up drawing and painting. His hobby was gardening, which he did during his summer vacations from teaching and continued when he retired.

Mr. Groendyke passed away on June 17, 1986, at the Pella Community Hospital following a stroke at age 83. Surviving are his wife Jeanetta and three daughters: Virginia (Mrs. Harold Doorenbos of Midland, Mich.), Shirley (Mrs. Kenneth Moore of Omaha, Neb.), and Judith Groendyke of Iowa City, Ia. He is also survived by seven grandchildren and one brother, Ralph Groendyke of Newton, Ia. He was preceded in death by his daughter Nancy (Mrs. Elridge Richard of Panama City, Fla.).

Mr. Groendyke was a member of the Second Reformed Church in Pella where he had served as a deacon and an elder. He had been a member of the Iowa State Education Association and the National Education Association and was a member of the Retired Teachers Association.

In his long career of teaching he contributed a great deal to the Pella Public Schools and to the city of Pella.

by Jeanetta Groendyke

GROENENBOOM FAMILY

F212

I am Clara Meinders Groenenboom, the only daughter of N.T. Meinders. I was born Apr. 6, 1914 in Leighton, Mahaska Co., Ia. I went to Black Oak Center School. I had a mile to walk. I went through most of the eighth grade but did not get to take all of the exams to graduate, as my mother took sick and I had to stay home to do the housework. My mother was not well most of the time, so most of the work was for me to do.

In 1940 my folks, my brother Albert and I, moved to 806 West Third St. in Pella. I lived with them four years. I then married my husband, Ray Groenenboom and moved to Rose Hill, Ia. to a small farm. We were blessed with four children: two girls and two boys. We lived there 12 years, sold the farm, and bought a farm of 120 A. from Age Westra. We lived there 18 years. We sold that farm to Dr. Kanis, and then moved to a smaller house at 1011 Union St., Pella, Ia.

These are our children and grand children. Arlene (born 1946) was married in 1978 to Elmer Vos (born 1937). Their children are: Ronald (born 1975) and Leonard (born 1977). Robert (born 1948) was married in 1970 to Linda Bennink (born 1950). Their children are: Jeffrey (born 1973), Bradley (born 1976), Randal (born 1980), and Stacy (born 1983). Mary (born 1950) was married in 1968 to Gary Klynn (born 1949). Their children are: Michael (born 1969) and Mark (born 1972). Larry (born 1952) was married in 1974 to Kathleen De Boef (born 1954). Their children are: Kevin (born 1975), Douglas (born 1978), Lisa (born 1981), and Tricia (born 1983).

by Clara Groenenboom

GROENENDYK, BASTIAAN "BART" AND ELIZABETH

F213

Bastiaan (Bart) Groenendyk, son of Bastiaan and Maria Dorathia (Schumacher), was born Sept. 2, 1871, in Kyfhoek, Zuidholland, The Netherlands. He was one of 11 children. On Jan. 18, 1893, he came to America and worked as a farmhand for a Mr. Cruzen, who lived five miles west of Oskaloosa, for a small fee of 50 cents per day.

He was a member of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church where he later served on the consistory and was also a Christian School board member.

On Mar. 18, 1898, he married Elizabeth De Jong, the youngest daughter of Albert and Gertie (Dykstra) at the parental home three miles north of Leighton. She was born Apr. 17, 1870. Her parents came to America about 13 years after the settlement of Pella. They settled in Jasper Co. just west of Sully on the prairie in a settlement of nine families. She often told her grandchildren that they had Indians as their neighbors, who would come to their home for some bread or a chicken to feed their families. The Indians were friendly and would communicate with them by the use of their hands since they could not understand each other's language. When she was ten years old, the family moved to the Dykstra farm north of Leighton. She made profession of her faith in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella and later transferred to the Leighton Christian Reformed Church.

Bart and Elizabeth started their married life on the Dykstra farm. Then they purchased the farmstead just north of Leighton in Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co. It was mostly locust timber which had to be cleared before they could farm. They appropriately named it the Locust Grove Farm. Since there was nothing but timber around, they had regular visits from bears which would come and take some of their few chickens for food.

Bart was successful in farming and he raised Aberdeen Angus cattle. In 1912 he built a new home on the farm, which had a Delco system and running water. They were the parents of seven daughters: Gertie, Marie, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Albertha, Carrie W., and Henrietta. The girls were educated in Leighton school as well as Grundy College, Grundy Center, Ia., and Central Academy, Pella, Ia.

Gertie was born Jan. 19, 1899, on the Dykstra farm. She married Andrew Steenhoek on Dec. 30, 1925, in a double ceremony with her sister Marie at the parental home. They farmed the Locust Grove Farm until they retired and moved to Pella. They are the parents of: Gerrit, Marvin, Margaret De Koning, and Elizabeth Uitermarkt. A daughter Agnes passed away at birth. Andrew died on July 24, 1981, and Gertie passed away on Mar. 2, 1985.

Marie was born Feb. 10, 1901 on the Locust Grove farm. She married Walter Newendorp on Dec. 30, 1925, in a double ceremony with her sister Gertie. They farmed southeast of Leighton, and moved there when they retired. They are the parents of Wilbur, Beulah Arkema, Louise Van Woerkom, Dorothea Wanders, and John. Marie passed away June 11, 1973.

Charlotte was born Mar. 2, 1903, and was married to Karl Waal Malefty on Jan. 22, 1925. Her husband was a minister of the Christian Reformed Church for many years. They are the parents of Frederick, David, and Elizabeth Slegers. Karl died on Feb. 16, 1980, and Charlotte on Aug. 19, 1980, in California.

Elizabeth was born Feb. 4, 1905, and became the bride of Richard Tolsma on Aug. 3, 1927. They were a principal-teacher team in the Christian schools until they retired and moved to Grand Rapids, Mich. Their children are: Betty Shurman and Mary Boerema. Richard passed away Apr. 28, 1986.

Albertha Groenendyk was born Oct. 27, 1906, and married William De Jong on Feb. 15, 1929. They farmed southeast of Leighton before moving to Leighton. They are the parents of: Alvin, Francis, Elsie Van Kooten, and Edith Pope. William passed away on Nov. 4, 1973.

Carrie W. was born Aug. 22, 1909, and married Harry G. Vander Wall on May 25, 1936. They farmed southeast of Leighton, later retiring and moving to Pella. Alberdena Kuiper and Bernice Witzenburg are their daughters. Harry died on June 4, 1986.

Henrietta was born Oct. 27, 1912, and became the bride of Peter G. Vos on Oct. 17, 1934. They lived in Leighton and later farmed west of Oskaloosa until retiring in Oskaloosa. Their sons are: Kenneth, Marion, Stanley, and Elmer. Peter died on Oct. 4, 1979. On Jan. 14, 1983, Henrietta married John Vanden Heuvel. They live in Oskaloosa.

Bart was involved in community affairs. He was a board member of the Leighton Elevator and president of Farmers Savings Bank, Leighton. They retired and moved there in 1925 to the home Elizabeth's parents had built. On Sept. 27, 1943, Bart died and Elizabeth's sister Charlotte Stouwie came to live with her. Later she made her home with her daughters. Elizabeth passed away on July 27, 1968, at the age of 98 years. They are both buried in the Evergreen Cemetery north of Leighton.

by Wilbur and Gladys Newendorp

Family Picture – 1898. Front, l-r: Bart, Henrietta, Albertha, Carrie W., Elizabeth; Back, l-r: Gertie, Marie, Charlotte, Elizabeth.

GROENENDYK, DICK AND JOSIE

F214

Dick Groenendyk family in 1941. Front, l-r: Dick and Josie Groenendyk; Back, l-r: Angeline (Mrs. Delos Van Den Berg), Elmer Groenendyk, Mary Ann (Mrs. Henry G. Roozeboom).

Dick Groenendyk was born Dec. 6, 1891, at Heerjansdam in the Province of Zuid Holland, The Netherlands. He was the second of seven children. He was 61 days old when he came to America with his parents, Eldert and Anna De Heus Groenendyk. They sailed by ship, landing in New York and then came to Pella by train. They settled northeast of Pella near Thunder Creek and lived in a log cabin for a time. Dick attended Flintridge country school until he was 12 years old. Then the

family moved to a farm near Tracy where he helped his father with the farming, but he never gave up studying. His favorite hobby was reading which he did as much as possible. One June 26, 1919, Dick was united in marriage with Josie Van Haaften in the Third Reformed Church parsonage in Pella, Rev. Braak officiating.

Josie (Johanna), daughter of Marinus and Mary Hoksbergen Van Haaften, was born near Olivet, Ia. on Dec. 12, 1897. Josie was the first of eight children. She attended Sandridge country school near Pella. She did housework for relatives and friends of the family. Following Dick and Josie's marriage, they moved to a farm adjacent to Dick's parents' farm where an entire set of new buildings and house had been built.

Dick and Josie had three children: Mary Ann, Angeline Ruth, and Elmer Marion. The children attended the Tracy Consolidated School, traveling to and from school in what was called a "Kid Wagon".

Field work was done mostly with horses. The children helped when they were old enough, feeding chickens, milking cows, pulling mustard weeds out of oats fields, shocking oats, leading a horse while hay was pulled up in the hay mow, and shucking corn. There was no electricity and wash water had to be carried several yards to the house.

Threshing was a fun time for the kids as the mothers helped each other cook dinner for the men, and the girls would help and babysit with the younger ones. There were always special goodies to eat during threshing time. Coffeetime was taken out to the field.

The summer of 1934 was very hot and dry. The fields became infested with chinch bugs that ate the crops which had not been destroyed by the heat and drought. Mattresses were moved outside as it was too hot to sleep inside the house. There was something special about sleeping under the stars, looking up to the heavens, and praying for rain and cooler weather. Dear Grandmother Van Haaften died that spring at age 58. Her love of flowers, quilt-making, and hand work were passed on to her daughters and granddaughters.

The family drove 24 miles to Pella in a Model T Ford to attend worship services at the Third Reformed Church for several years before transferring to the Tracy Christian Reformed Church.

Dick and Josie loved to travel. The first trip the family took was to Shenandoah, which seemed a great distance, traveling in a Model T. The family took longer trips to the Black Hills, Colorado, and Northwest Iowa, staying in cabins and cooking their own meals.

In 1952 they retired from farming and moved to 910 West Second St. in Pella. Dick worked at the Buerkens Wagon Factory for a few years and then was employed by the Marion Co. Weed Commission, spraying roadside ditches. Dick and Josie traveled to Florida, Arizona, and California, for the winters as long as their health permitted.

In 1975 they became residents of Hilltop Manor where they resided for two years. The last three months of their lives were spent at the Griffen Nursing Center in Knoxville and Pella Community Nursing Home. Josie died May 23, 1977, at the age of 79 years. Dick passed away just 17 days following his wife's death, on June 9, 1977, at the age of 85 years. They lived to see their 14 grandchildren and 19 of their 28 great-grandchildren. They are buried in Sandridge Cemetery near Tracy, Iowa.

by Angeline Van Den Berg

GROND, HARRY AND ELIZABETH

F215

Dick L. and Anna De Vries

Dick Lammert DeVries was born Oct. 22, 1875 in Heeg, Friesland, the youngest of seven children born to Lammert Tamme deVries (May 6, 1836 – Feb. 12, 1914) and Elizabeth P. (Sijtsma) deVries (1838 – Sept. 1916). After having gained training as a baker, he emigrated to America, celebrating his 17th birthday on the boat in Oct. 1892. For about three years he was employed in a Dutch settlement of Whitinsville, Mass. Sometime in 1895 he moved to the Pella area to live with the family of his mother's sister, Florence (Sijtsma) Bartlema (born Jan. 27, 1836), and her husband, Cornelius Bartlema (Feb. 8, 1837-1922), who had been born in Wenaldumadeel, Friesland. The Bartlemas had emigrated to the Pella area in 1869 with a son and a daughter. By 1895 there were four more sons and a daughter added. Dick L. DeVries worked as a hired hand for one of the cousins (possibly Shuard Bartlema (1867-1956) for three years on a farm in the direction of Sully. One of Dick's chores was to ride to Pella once a week on horseback to get the mail from the post office located on the east side of the square near the north end of the block. Sadness came after living in the area for about a year, as his Aunt Florence died on June 3, 1896. About 1898, Dick moved to another Dutch settlement of Holland, Mich., and there he returned to his trade of being a baker. He remained in that occupation for the rest of his working days. Dick died Aug. 23, 1955 in Pine Rest Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich.

In Holland, Mich., Dick met and married Anna D. DeVries (May 29, 1875 – July 22, 1955). Anna's parents were Dick DeVries (Apr. 28, 1839 Zaandam, Friesland – July 11, 1907 Holland, Mich. and Jane (Dijkema) DeVries (June 25, 1838 Uithuistermeeden, Gronegen – July 12, 1907 Holland, Mich.) This couple had been married by Dominie VanRaalte, founder of Holland, Mich., on Dec. 9, 1863. Dick had emigrated to Holland, Mich. with his widowed mother about 1858; Jane (Jaantje) had emigrated with her parents in Aug. 1848, shortly after the founding of Holland, Mich.

Dick Lammert DeVries and Anna D. (DeVries) DeVries were married Sept. 8, 1904, and Dick became a naturalized U.S. citizen on Oct. 17, 1904. They set up housekeeping in a new house next door to the home where Anna had been born and raised on Central Avenue. To this marriage were born three children: Elizabeth Jeanette (DeVries) Grond (born Sept. 15, 1905), Margaret Louise (DeVries) Workman (Oct. 16, 1907 – Aug., 1983 Bay City, Mich., and Richard Ernest DeVries (Sept. 1, 1913 – Sept. 4, 1913). Elizabeth met and dated a Hope College student, Harry Grond. They were married July 18, 1928 at Elizabeth's parents home in Holland.

Harry Grond was the eldest of two sons of Benjamin (Barend) Grond (Apr. 24, 1868 AudeBilt Zyl, Friesland – Mar. 23, 1946 Lafayette, Ind.) and Agnes (Kobus) Grond (Feb. 6, 1871 Friesland – Dec. 16, 1936 Lafayette, Ind.). Benjamin and Agnes emigrated separately in the early 1890's to Holland, Mich. and were married Feb. 12, 1898. Their sons were: Harry Grond (born Jan. 27, 1899 Holland, Mich) and Albert Grond (born Aug. 4, 1903 Holland, Mich.). Albert later changed his surname to Grant, earned a master's and doctor's degree in education and served public schools in Ohio and California. Harry Grond was employed in various management positions for the J.C. Penney Co., first in Holland, Mich., then in Muskegon and Monroe, Mich., and was transferred to the Pella, Iowa store, in a building on Franklin St. Later Harry was employed by Wormhoudt & Kempkes clothing store until his retirement. Two sons were born to Harry and Elizabeth Grond: Ernest Paul Grond, who died at birth on Sept. 4, 1931 in Holland, Mich. and Spencer David Grond (born Nov. 21, 1933 Holland, Mich.). While in Pella the family resided at 800 Hazel St. Harry's spare time was devoted to: serving as deacon and elder in Second Reformed Church, as well as a Sunday school teacher, committee chairman of Boy Scout troop 373, and raising many vegetables in his garden along New Sharon Road. In addition to being a wife, homemaker, and mother, Elizabeth has been active in their churches in the various cities where they lived. In Pella's Second Reformed Church she served in: Ladies Aid Society, Missionary Circle, and as a sponsor for the Girl's League for Service, plus the Central College Auxiliary. A year after Harry's death (Apr. 21, 1978), Elizabeth moved to Prairie Village Apartments. Son, Spencer attended Pella Public schools from the end of sixth grade through high school, and graduated from Central College in 1955 with a degree in psychology. In 1955 he moved from Pella to attend graduate school, earning a master's degree at Bowling Green (Ohio) State University. He worked in business and industry for six years, then began teaching junior high school in Defiance County, Ohio. He married Norma (Jensen) Vincent. Their two children and four grandchildren live near Bryan, Ohio in 1986.

by Elizabeth (De Vries) Grond

HACKERT, HENRY
F216

Henry Hackert, Mar. 24, 1920

Henry Hackert, 1984

Henry's grandfather, Klaas Hendrick Hackert, left the province of Gelderland, Mar. 4, 1881 and boarded a steamer, the *P.C. Coland,* on Mar. 7, sailing 17 days to New York City. According to an old newspaper article in which a son, Leendert, tells of his trip to America, the family landed at Castle Gardens Mar. 22 and left immediately for the West. They arrived in Pella Mar. 26 and were met by a friend, Henry De Koek. The next day they went to an uncle of Leendert's mother, Koenraad Van Zee, five miles southeast of Pella.

Klaas Hendrick was born Dec. 20, 1841, in Herwignen and married Cornelia Hackert. Klaas' original surname was de Fockert and he took his wife's surname. She had been born Sept. 15, 1845, presumably in the same village. They made the voyage with their seven oldest children: Leendert, Nicholas, Govert, Alice, Aart, Mary, and Peter. Three children were born in Pella: Cornelius, Artie and Julia.

Klaas died Apr. 20, 1922, and Cornelia died Jan. 18, 1902. They are buried in the Porter Grove Cemetery.

The oldest son, Leendert, was born Sept. 17, 1867, and was married on Mar. 2, 1892, to Wilhelmina Van Dusseldorp who was born in Pella June 23, 1869. Her parents were John and Marie Van Steenis Van Dusseldorp, who were married in Holland in 1857, and came to the U.S. soon after their marriage.

Wilhelmina and Leendert's children were: Henry born Dec. 4, 1892; Mary born Aug. 23, 1894; John born Oct. 27, 1895, and Cornelia born Jan. 5, 1897. Henry married Sarah Van Zee, Mary was wed to Louis Hoksbergen, John to Stella Liter and Cornelia first to Ed Liter and second to Peter Du Pree.

Leendert and Wilhelmina (Minnie) are also buried in Porter Grove Cemetery. Leendert, born Sept. 17, 1867, died Apr. 9, 1940. Minnie was born June 23, 1869, and died Mar. 21, 1948.

Henry's marriage to Sarah occurred Mar. 24, 1920, in a house on Washington St. They have two daughters, Edythe born Apr. 6, 1924, and Thyrza born Mar. 4, 1929.

Educated in grade schools in Monroe and Mahaska County, Henry started a steam engine threshing business in 1915. Before his marriage he was the proud owner of a 1913 Model-T Ford in which he toured around the area, beginning his interest in cars that lasted through all the years and led to his membership in the Dutch Masters' Club where he drives and exhibits old, restored cars. He is a regular in Pella's Tulip Time Parade with his passengers now being his great-grandchildren.

From 1920 to 1927 he made sorghum for resale. He started a chicken hatchery in 1930 and went into the turkey business in 1934. He started a locker plant and meat market business in 1939 and a fertilizer business in 1940. In 1954 he started an anhydrous ammonia plant after his 1947 LP Gas business began. Another venture was in the silver fox and mink business which he engaged in from 1935 to 1943. He and his wife lived on the farm until 1951.

The Masons was an organization he joined in 1947 and he served as Worthy Patron of Eastern Star in 1951. He was a Scott Township Trustee from 1925 to 1947. The family attended First Christian Church in Oskaloosa where he served on church boards several years. He served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army where he was president for two years. He was president of the Iowa Turkey Producers for several years and president of the Mahaska County Historical Society in 1975-1976.

He and his wife have traveled in several foreign countries in the years 1958 to 1974.

by Thyrza Steward

HACKERT, SARAH ANGELINE (VAN ZEE)
F217

Sarah Angeline (Mrs. Henry Hackert) had as her great-great-grandfather, the patriarch of the immigrant Van Zee family, Engle Van Zee. Sarah's mother and father were great-grandchildren of the venerable Engle born in 1775 in Herwijnen and traced back to Leendert Van Zee of Herwijnen who was married in 1693 and died in 1710.

Engle's sons Koenraad and Stephen came to America in 1847 on the *Pieter Floris* with their wives and children. Koonraad was born

Sarah A. Van Zee Hackert, Mar. 24, 1920

Oct. 29, 1813, married Metge De Kok, and together they emigrated with Engeltje, Pietertje, and Engle. Metge died Feb. 22, 1888, and Koenraad died July 15, 1891. Stephen was born Feb. 12, 1817, and his wife, Judith, was born Nov. 30, 1820. She died June 23, 1909, and Stephen died Jan. 21, 1905. The children of Stephen and Judith were, at the time of immigration, Gerrit and Engle.

Sarah Van Zee Hackert's grandfather on the paternal side was Gerrit S. Van Zee, born Apr. 6, 1842, in Herwijnen. He married Dirkie Van Zante who had been born in The Netherlands, Jan. 5, 1853. She arrived in America in the early 1850's. Their marriage occurred Mar. 1, 1865, in Pella. Dirkie died Apr. 20, 1904, and Gerrit S. died Mar. 19, 1934. They are buried in Porter Grove Cemetery.

Gerrit and Dirkie's children were: Stephen G.; Aart Benjamin; Arie G.; Dieles G.; Julia; Marinus; and Marie.

Mrs. Hackert's maternal grandfather was Peter De Kock who married Engeltje Van Zee. Peter was born in 1833 in The Netherlands. Engeltje was born July 4, 1837, in Gelderland. They were married Feb. 11, 1859. In 1868 they purchased a farm southwest of Pella and lived there until Peter died Feb. 15, 1893. It was here that their seven children were born: Antonia; Mattie; John P.; Conrad; Elizabeth; Engeline; and Ira P. The mother, Engeltje, died Mar. 12, 1923.

Aart Benjamin Van Zee, Gerrit S.'s son, was the father of Sarah Hackert. He was born in Pella, Jan. 2, 1869, and later married Elizabeth De Kock who was the daughter of Peter and Engeltje Van Zee De Kock born Jan. 10, 1871, in Pella. The marriage occurred Sept. 6, 1894. They were the parents of five children: Gerrit, born Nov. 4, 1896; Sarah, born Jan. 28, 1900; twins Dora Esther and Esther Dora born, June 23, 1903; and Ruth Marie, born Nov. 10, 1908.

Aart Van Zee died May 10, 1912, and Elizabeth died in Apr. 1951. They are buried in Porter Grove Cemetery.

Sarah Angeline married Henry Hackert on

Mar. 24, 1920. He was born Dec. 4, 1892. They had two daughters: Edythe Viola, born Apr. 6, 1924; and Thyrza Faye, born Mar. 4, 1929. Sarah and Henry live in Mahaska Co. and have been married 67 years in 1987.

by Thyrza Steward

HARMELING, JOHN WALFOORT AND RUTH JOAN (VANDERWAL)

F218

John W. Harmeling and Ruth Joan (Vanderwal) Harmeling

John Walfoort Harmeling was born in 1927 in Oostburg, Wis., to Chester W. and Winifred Jean Walfoort Harmeling. He grew up in Baldwin, Wis., and has an older sister, Lois Mulder. John attended Central College, River Falls State Teacher College and the Chicago College of Medical Technology.

Ruth Joan Vanderwal was born in 1930 to Ray Adrian and Gertrude Van Houweling Vanderwal in Montezuma, Ia., where she grew up as the middle daughter of three. Her sisters are Gertrude Mary Glaman (Charles) and Alice Rae Hawley (Robert).

John and "Jo" met at Central College in Pella. Following his schooling, John was employed as administrator at Loring Hospital in Sac City, Ia., and upon her graduation from Central College Jo taught 6th grade in the Pella Lincoln School. The Harmelings were married in 1952 and lived in Sac City where John continued his position at the hospital and Jo taught 4th grade in the neighboring town of Lytton. It was in Sac City that all four of their children were born: Barton John, Beth Ann, Jennifer Rae, and Ann.

In May of 1960, John assumed the position as administrator of Pella Community Hospital which was in the process of being built. The hospital opened in December of that year, and he has continued on in that capacity for over 25 years.

Shortly after arriving in Pella, the Harmeling Family purchased "the Mitten House" at 1218 Main Street where they presently live. This house, which was built in 1912 by Jacob H. De Vries, has been modernized with most of its original style retained.

Barton John Harmeling was born in 1954 and married Sue Whistler. They both graduated from Central College and now teach school in the Mat-Su School District of Alaska. They have three children: Michelle Nisha, Benjamin Ray, and Anna.

Beth Ann Harmeling Seyer, born in 1956, graduated with the last class to matriculate from Iowa Lutheran School of Nursing. She and her husband, Lance Seyer, live in Eagle River, Alaska, and have a daughter, Jacqueline Elizabeth.

Jennifer Rae Harmeling Messer was born in 1958. She and her husband, Randal Keith Messer, graduated from Central College and live in Des Moines. Jennifer works as a Senior Programmer Analyst and Randal is a graphic designer. They have a daughter, Joanna Leigh.

Ann Harmeling Class, born in 1960, graduated from Central College and moved to Alaska to join her older brother and sister. she also teaches in the Mat-Su School District. Ann was recently married to David Class and they live in the town of Wasilla.

John and Jo are active in the Second Reformed Church, supporters of Central College and are participating members of the Pella Historical Society.

by Mrs. John W. Harmeling

HEEREMA, BERTHA

F219

She had courage, the young Dutch mother who set out for America. On Mar. 12, 1894, Baukje (Bertha) Tolsma Heerema boarded a ship, leaving behind her all that was familiar in Dronrijp, municipality of Menaldumadeel, Friesland. She also left behind two graves, one of her first husband, Aart Giesing whom she had married May 23, 1878, and who died in Beetgum Jan. 14, 1881. The other was of her second husband, Jelle Heerema, who died in an accident on July 21, 1893. They had been married May 17, 1883.

Bertha Heerema

Baukje may have kept the issue of the "Franeker Courant", the newspaper that listed Jelle's death in the list for the municipality of Menaldumadeel. He had been born in Minnertsga, municipality of Barradeel, Friesland, July 18, 1857, and was dead at thirty-six, just a few days after his birthday.

In the issue of the "Franeker Courant", right next to Jella's death notice, was an advertisement for passage to America on the Hansa Ship Line from Antwerp for 66 guilders. Could that have planted the seed of an idea in Baukeje's mind? She would be faced with poverty, remaining a widow in Friesland with her children. Jelle had been a workman at a mill when the milling stone cracked and fell on him. She had one daughter by her first marriage, Gertje, and three young sons, Jan, Pieter, and Jelle. The little baby had been born posthumously, Dec. 4, 1893, five months after his father's untimely death, and was given his father's name.

Baukje (Bertha) had been born in Donrijp Sept. 24, 1857, and was thirty-seven when she made the monumental decision to take her little family from Friesland with only hope of a better life in America. The parting was surely a sad one as she probably journeyed to the churchyards where her two young husbands were buried and where three of her children were at rest: Hendrikje born May 29, 1885, and died Sept. 24, 1886; Pieter, the first to be so named, born Jan. 16, 1890, and died Oct. 31, 1890; and Fokke born June 17, 1892, and died Dec. 30, 1892. Baukje turned her back on her sorrows and faced new beginnings.

After the ocean voyage, they stopped first in Holland, Mich., but for some reason decided to come still farther, to Pella. Frau Heerema and her four children were taken under the sponsorship of a kindly Pella merchant, Gerrit Wormhoudt, who had a large family of his own living at 910 Washington St. (later to be the Paris Nursing Home). Wormhoudt found the Heerema family a home directly across the street, which they considered a palace compared to the home they'd left in Friesland.

"Mem", Friesian for mother, was a feisty, determined lady who weighed less than a hundred pounds and was scarcely over five feet tall. She ruled the family with an iron hand even when her three sons were grown tall and heavy. Everyone went to work when they arrived in Pella and all the money was put into a common dish with little spent, the first few years, for anything but food and clothing. One of the boys often told how he delivered baked goods from Jaarsma's Bakery located at 748 W. 1st. St. in his little coaster wagon.

Saving a small sum, Bertha purchased a little house at 903 Franklin St. where she lived until she passed away at the age of 68, in 1925.

The daughter of Bertha's first marriage, Gertje (Gertrude), born Oct. 8, 1879, was fourteen when she came to Pella. She eventually married John Hollander, a farmer in the Lacey-Oskaloosa area. Her only child, Bertha, married George De Groet in Oskaloo-

Front; l to r: Hollis Heerema, Gertrude Hollander, Jennie Heerema and Allie Heerema. Back, l to r: Yella (Martin) Heerema, John Hollander, Pete Heerema and John Heerema.

sa. Gertrude passed away in 1937 during a severe epidemic. An infant granddaughter died at the same time and the two were buried in a single coffin at Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Jan (John), born June 10, 1887, was six when they came to Pella. He married Allie Dieleman and they had a son, Don, now living in Tacoma, Wash. An adopted daughter Virginia lives in California. John spent most of his life in Pella and with a Pharmacist degree, owned and operated the Puritan Drug Store for more than thirty years at 822 Main, now Van Berkum Appliance. He originated the famous Dutch Chocolate Ice Cream. John was a member of the Iowa State Drug Commission. He moved to Tacoma, Wash. upon his retirement and passed away in 1949 at age sixty-one.

Pieter (Peter) (Mar. 21, 1891 – Dec. 13, 1961) was three years old on his arrival here and lived in Pella all of his seventy years. His occupation centered in sales work, primarily in the field of insurance and automobiles. His marriage to Jeneke (Jennie) Vander Beek (Apr. 23, 1887 – Apr. 29, 1945) resulted in a family of four boys and two girls. All of his sons and the two sons-in-law served in World War II and the Korean War. Martin married Elva May Van Houweling, Robert married Viola Kaldenberg, Fred married Pauline Halterman, Ralph married Frances Bielema, Ruth married Darwin Squibb, and Bernice married Charles Vander Ploeg. These children lived in Pella most of their lives. Fred passed away July 11, 1975. Darwin passed away July 8, 1974.

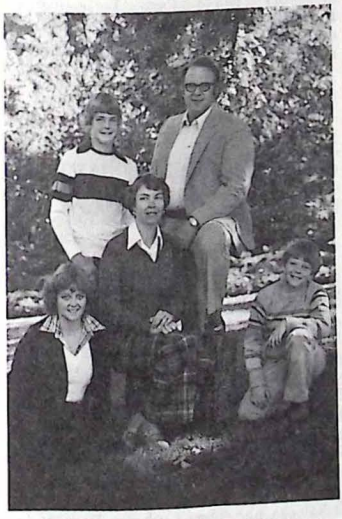
Yella, later called Martin, was a baby of three months when he came to Pella. He served in World War I and married Hollis Byrum, daughter of the local Baptist minister, when he returned from service. He owned and operated drug stores in Leighton and Indianola. Early retirement, due to health problems which were war-related, resulted in a move to California. Their children are all living. Frances married Robert Mc Gee in Phoenix,, Ariz., Harley and Marty are living in Tracy, Calif., and Joanne lives in Los Angeles. Martin passed away in California, Oct. 17, 1958, at the age of sixty-five. Hollis passed away at the age of 90 in 1985.

by Martin Heerema

HEEREMA, M. BRUCE AND SANDRA

F220

Martin Bruce, son of Martin J. and Elva May (Van Houweling) Heerema, was born in Pella in 1940. Sandra Klein, daughter of Robert and Doretha (Vogelaar) Klein, was also born in Pella in 1940. They were married in 1960.



Left to right: Julie, Martin Timothy, Sandra, Bruce, and Steven Robert.

They both graduated from Pella High School in 1958 and Central College in 1962. They are parents of three children: Julie (25) a Central College graduate (fourth generation Centralite) who is now the manager of the men's clothing department at Younkers Department Store, downtown Des Moines; Martin Timothy (21) who after two years at Central is now a junior at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz; and Steven Robert (17), a junior at Pella High School.

While at Central Bruce lettered four years, playing football, winning all-conference selection three years and honorable mention Little All-American his senior year in the position of defensive and offensive tackle. He then spent two years in pro football before deciding to enter the business world in his home town. He has been the major stockholder of Boat's Home Furnishings since 1967 and now is also owner of the Shoe Store and co-owner of Heritage Imports. As an active participant in civic affairs he has served on the Pella Recreation Commission board, three years as its chairman; eight years on the Pella Community Development Committee; on the Tulip Time Steering Committee for six years. A member of Second Reformed Church, he served nine years as deacon, five years as chairman. He has been a member of the Chamber of Commerce board, president in 1987; a member of Kiwanis for ten years, one year as president.

Besides working at Boat's Home Furnishings, Sandy is active in the Pella Garden Club, serving two different terms as president. She has been on various committees of the club, involving civic beautification. She is a nationally accredited flower show judge and also was on the committee to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Tulip Festival. She has been a member of the Camp Fire board and was a leader for two years. She is a current member of P.E.O.

They have seen and foresee a great future for Pella and thus have firmly established themselves in the community for many years to come.

by Sandra Heerema

HEEREMA, MARTIN J. AND ELVA MAY

F221

Martin (1911) and Elva May (Van Houweling (1913) were both born in Pella and graduated from Pella High School (1928 and 1930) and Central College (1934). Their parents were: Peter and Jennie Van Der Beek Heerema, both Dutch immigrants; and A.B. and Nettie Van Zante Van Houweling, both first generations of Dutch immigrants. Married in 1933, the Heeremas have made Pella their home continuously, raising a family of three children.

Douglas (1938) has a Doctor of economics degree from University of Iowa and a C.P.A. degree from University of Indiana. He studied in Oxford University in England and Sorbonne University in France. After teaching at Ekhard College in Florida and Hope College in Michigan, he has been with the

Front, l-r: Kristen, Bret, Steve, and Timothy; Middle, l-r: Nyla with Tony, Julie, Elva May, and Mart; Back, l-r: Douglas, Sandra, Bruce, Joe Tempel, and Jane Tempel.

University of Indiana for several years. He and Nyla Roozeboom were married in 1964. Nyla has her Doctor of biology degree from University of Iowa and a degree in cytogenetics from University of Indiana and is associated with University of Indiana Hospitals. They were both graduates of Central College. Their three children, Kristin, Bret, and Anthony, are enrolled in college, high school, and grade school, respectively. They live in Indianapolis, Ind.

Martin Bruce (1940) married Sandra Klein in 1962, and except for two years of pro-football, they have made their home and future in Pella. Both are Central College graduates. Their family history is listed elsewhere in this book.

Jane Tempel (1948) graduated from Colorado College and received her MA, from Denver University. She has made her home in Denver, Colo., has served as aide to Governor Lamm of Colorado, and was employed in management of Petro-Lewis of Denver. At present she is with Martin-Marietta Corporation, Littleton, Colo., and serves as data processing purchasing supervisor.

Elva May has been active in the Pella community for more than 50 years: Second Reformed Church (Elder, Sunday School teacher, and 50 years plus in Senior Choir), Pella Recreation Commission, T.T.T., and Reading Circle. She taught high school mathematics and English was employed by Central College more than 10 years, was a board member of the A.B.V.H. Farm Company, and has assisted her husband in his various business enterprises.

Martin was associated with Rolscreen Company for 17 years, was I.R.S. field agent for two years, served in U.S. Navy two years, was Central College V.P. and treasurer seven years, partner in Pella Canning Co., A.B. Van Houweling Auto Company, treasurer of V.H. Farm Company, and has been a partner in several other businesses in Pella and remains semi-active in them at this date. He was a Rotary member since 1938 (President, 1963), American Legion since 1945 (commander 1977), Public School Board nine years (vice-president), chairman of Pella School Reorganization, Second Reformed Church deacon, S.S. superintendent, and senior choir member 60 years, was member of Central College board and Pella Historical board, currently on Memorial Building board and Oakwood Cemetery board, served as chairman of Central College and Pella historical fund drives, and has been active in many Tulip Time programs. He started the organization of Little League Baseball in Pella, the Central Club of Central College and the Holland Theater.

Both Elva May and Mart, after more than 70 years of living in Pella, have decided this will be home for them the remainder of their lives. Having traveled extensively, they have never found a community that would surpass Pella's quality of life. Outside of a few weeks of travel you will find them at home, enjoying the many fine things Pella has to offer in churches, schools, swimming pool, social activities, friends, and relatives.

by Martin J. Heerema

HESSING, ELMER AND EILEEN

F222

They were married Apr. 10, 1958 in Leighton, Ia., moved to Des Moines, Ia. and lived at 842 East Madison for eight years.

Elmer was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa, in Mahaska Co. and attended school in rural areas. He served in the U.S. Army for two years. He worked at Custom Automotive in Pella, and Skelly Company in Des Moines. Eileen Hasselman was born in Mahaska Co. near Oskaloosa. She attended Evans School, Oskaloosa High School, and St. Lukes Methodist School of Practical Nursing at Cedar Rapids, Ia. She worked at Mercy Hospital in Oskaloosa and Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines.

After moving to Pella Elmer operated

The Elmer Hessing Family. Front, l-r: Brenda, Eileen, and Cheryl; Back: Dwight and Elmer.

Hessing Auto Service for ten years. He is now employed at U.S. Post Office as rural letter carrier, Rt. three. Eileen worked at Pella Community Hospital, Hilltop Manor, and Home Health Care Services.

Dwight was born Aug. 20, 1963 in Des Moines, Ia., and attended University of Iowa at Iowa City, and is a student at Northeast Missouri State College.

Brenda was born Oct. 19, 1965, in Des Moines, Ia. She graduated from American Institute of Business and is in the U.S. Air Force in San Angelo, Tex.

Cheryl, born in Oskaloosa July 22, 1968, is a senior at Pella Community High School.

The Hessings are active members of the Trinity Reformed Church and live at 1357 Hazel St. Pella, Iowa.

by Elmer Hessing

HETTINGA, LEONORA GAASS

F223

Writing in her diary at the Scholte House, Kate Keables Beard noted on Jan. 1, 1915, that Bess Scholte Gaass had given birth to a baby girl that day whom they named Leonora

Leonora Gaass Hettinga

Gerarda. The tiny baby was named after two grandmothers, Leonora Keables Scholte and Gerarda Tysseling Gaass. Kate's later diary entries chronicled some of the events in the little girl's life, Dominie Scholte's great-granddaughter.

Leonora spent most of her life in Pella, the first years in the family home with her parents, Attorney George G. and Bess Gaass, and her brother, Peter George. She graduated from Pella High School in 1932, and from Central College in 1936. She had the distinction of being chosen as Pella's first Tulip Queen in 1936, at the second festival. She was ever the gracious, rather stately woman, fitting her image of being Pella's First Lady.

After her marriage to Clarence Van Dellen, Leonora moved to Cedar Rapids, where she lived for several years. A daughter, Bess Alayne, was born there in 1939. She died in 1970 at the age of 30 years. Leonora moved back to Pella in 1943, to live in the west half of the Scholte House. She remained there for the next 44 years until her death on July 20, 1987.

In 1950, Leonora married Siebolt Hettinga who had come to Pella from The Netherlands after World War II. They were the parents of one son, George Jochem, who with his wife, Carolyn, lives in Grimes, Ia.

Leonora was an outstanding musician, her talent being recognized at the precocious age of three. She later taught piano at Central College as well as being a private instructor in piano and organ. She sang with the college choir and played cello with the community orchestra and small chamber groups, having studied the cello at the University of Michigan. Music was her life, whether performing, teaching or listening.

Her funeral was held at the church where she had been a long time member, Second Reformed Church. She was buried in the Scholte family plot at Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Pete Gaass

HEUSINKVELD FAMILY

F224

The George Heusinkveld Family in 1966. Front, l-r: George and Emma Lou; Back, l-r: Myra (age 16), Paula (age 20), and Ginger (age 13).

George Richard Heusinkveld

George Richard Heusinkveld, his wife, Emma Louise Becker, and their three daughters, Paula, Myra, and Ginger (Virginia) moved to Pella in Aug., 1964. George was well-known in Pella when the family moved to the town because he was a graduate of Central College, active in alumni affairs, and from 1954 to 1964, was farm and area editor of *The Oskaloose Herald,* covering Pella events.

George was born in Hull, Ia., May 31, 1917, the son of Dick and Ella DeBoer Heusinkveld. He attended rural schools and graduated from Hull High School in 1934, Northwestern Junior College in Orange City in 1936, and Central College, cum laude, in 1938. He received a master's in journalism from University of Iowa in 1941. He served with the U.S. Naval Reserve during World War II from Mar., 1942 to Oct., 1945, reaching the rating of Aviation Radio Technician First Class. He was at naval stations in Illinois, Michigan, Texas, Oklahoma, California, Missouri, and Hawaii.

It was during his naval service that he met and married Emma Lou, who was a reporter on the *Daily News* in Clinton, Okla. where George was stationed. They were married in San Diego, Calif., Dec. 27, 1944 while he was stationed there.

His ability to write in a clear and interesting manner, his gift of remembering names and faces, and his deep interest in people made him an excellent newspaperman. He worked as a reporter, feature writer, columnist, and editor on newspapers in Kingfisher, Okla., and in Guthrie Center, Forest City, Sheldon, Sabula, and Oskaloosa, Ia. For two years he was a writer for the public relations department of Maytag Company in Newton, Ia.

His love of writing led him to start a diary when he was a high school junior. He wrote reports on his daily activities, accounts of what the family was doing and observations of local and national affairs until a week before his death, May 25, 1981. The journals of his junior college years are in the archives at Northwestern College in Orange City; the other journals are at the home of his widow in Stone Mountain, Ga.

Besides writing, his hobbies were astronomy, reading, and music. He shared his interest in astronomy with family, friends, and groups such as Girl Scouts. When many Americans were going out on dark nights to try to spot Russia's first "sputnik" in the skies, George was in demand to help people see the first man-made object in orbit around the earth.

His first public appearance as a singer was in an operetta, " *The Bohemian Girl,*" at Northwestern when he wore knee pants, buckle shoes, and a wig. Later he sang in choirs, choruses, and quartets as a college student and as an adult.

Reminiscing about his love for reading, George wrote about his teenage years after he retired: "To avoid the drudgery and dreariness of farm work I found ways to read when I was supposed to be working. It wouldn't do to be seen walking across the farmyard with a book in my hand or back pocket, so I would hide my treasured book in advance. On a delightful summer day I might take the book that I was engrossed in, carry it to the cornfield, and place it beside the second corn plant, five rows from the corner of the field I was assigned to work in. Then it was ready for me to pick up when no one was around. But the best place was in the haymow. Here it was most comfortable for reading. A big advantage was that there were knotholes through which I could view the entire farmyard to keep track of activities and make a judgment as to whether or not my presence was really essential whenever I heard Dad asking, "Has anyone seen George?"

George did a variety of community service throughout his life, including the years of his declining health. For example, he was a volunteer mailman for the Pella Nursing Home and wrote letters to deliver to patients who never received mail from anyone else. He edited and read news on Radio Station KCUI, planted trees in parks, belonged to Rotary International, American Legion, Iowa Press Association, church in every town in which he lived (Second Reformed in Pella), and Historical Society. He worked with Girl Scouts, Sunday School, church youth groups, choirs, and alumni groups.

In 1963 George had successful surgery for removal of a brain tumor. He left the fast pace of newspaper work and for several years was a social worker for Marion Co. He served as director of the home service program for Iowa Easter Seal Society's Camp Sunnyside in Des Moines and was a salesman for American Automobile Association before he retired for health reasons in 1972. He died after a series of strokes on May 26, 1981, and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Emma Lou Heusinkveld

HEUSINKVELD FAMILY

F225

Emma Louise (Becker)

Heusinkveld, Emma Louise Becker was born in Moran, Kan., Jan. 20, 1921. Her parents were Roy Adam Becker and Pauline Rechner Scott. Her father's parents were Adam Becker, who was born in Gudensberg, Germany in 1829 and immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio in 1850, and Emma Hogue whose ancestors immigrated from England in the early 1800's. Emma Lou's maternal grandparents were William Alexander Scott, 1850-1941 (the great-great grandson of John Campbell and Janet Breckenridge, who immigrated to the colonies from Ireland in 1740) and Emma Funkhauser, descended from French Huguenots who settled in Woodstock, Va. In the late 1850's the Scotts and the Funkhausers moved to Iola, Kan.

In 1930, Roy and Pauline and their two daughters, Emma Lou and Virginia Faye, moved to Oklahoma. Emma Lou graduated from Kingfisher, Okla. High School in 1939. She won an academic scholarship to Oklahoma College for Women in Chickasha which she attended for two years, then in 1943 graduated with a major in journalism from Oklahoma State University in Stillwater. She earned a master's degree in English from Drake University, Des Moines in 1969.

Before her marriage, she worked on daily newspapers in Clinton and Shawnee, Okla.

During World War II, when most young men were in the armed forces, she became the second woman sports editor in Oklahoma.

It was during this time that she met and married George Heusinkveld, an Iowan, who was serving at Clinton Naval Air Station.

Before moving to Pella in 1964, the Heusinkvelds lived in Kingfisher, Okla., and Guthrie Center, Forest City, Sheldon, Subula, and Oskaloosa, Ia.

From 1955 to 1964 she wrote a weekly cooking column, "Recipe Roundup", for the Oskaloosa Herald. In 1964 she began teaching sophomore English at Pella High School. She was advisor for the school paper, *The Palladium*, and the yearbook, *The Duchess;* both publications won special awards under her sponsorship. The Heusinkveld home at 301 Union St. was the scene of many parties for the students.

She became a part-time teacher in 1976 and retired from teaching in 1981.

For two years she worked as a part-time librarian at Central College, and was editor of the book *Pella School History — 1847 to 1980.*

Like her husband, Emma Lou enjoyed volunteer work for the good of people in her community. When her three daughters were growing up, she focused on youth orgnaizations, especially Girl Scouts. She enjoyed being in plays and took part in acitivities of Pella Historical Society, the A.E.S. program for foreign students, Central College Auxiliary, American Association of University Women, League of Women Voters, church groups, Pella Peace Coalition, and P.E.O. Sisterhood. She and George were charter members of the Oskaloosa chapter of People-to-People; they often entertained foreign visitors in their home.

In 1984, Emma Lou was co-chairman for Iowa for the Peace Ribbon, a nation-wide project which culminated in the wrapping of a 15-mile long ribbon of handmade peace messages around public buildings in Washington, D.C. Several times she was a delegate to county and state Democratic conventions.

The family loved to travel and at various times camped in most states in the Union. In 1971 they spent a month in Europe.

In 1963 the Heusinkvelds bought the house at 301 Union, a big square house, built in 1904, typical of many Iowa homes of the period. The backyard had 13 apple trees, remnants of an early-day orchard. It's a beautiful home, but it needed work; the Heusinkvelds had it re-wired, installed a new roof, put in a hot water tank, modernized the kitchen including removal of an old pump, replaced the porch with an entry hall, and removed much paint and wallpaper including 19 layers of wallpaper in the dining room.

In 1973, Emma Lou, George and Ginger, the only daughter still at home, moved to 708 West Fourth. In July, 1986, Emma Lou sold that home and moved to Stone Mountain, a suburb of Atlanta, Ga., to be nearer her daughters and her sister, Ginnie (Virginia) Weinburgh.

She is working as a substitute teacher and continuing her volunteer activities there. She is helping with children who are in a temporary "safe house" and the program of Atlanta area Presbyterian churches to feed homeless men. She is editor of the DeKalb County League of Women Volters Bulletin, secretary of the Stone Mountain Art Guild, a guide for walking tours sponsored by Atlanta History Preservation Society and a hostess at Jimmy Carter Presidential Center in Atlanta.

by Emma Lou Heusinkveld

HEUSINKVELD FAMILY

F226

Heusinkveld Daughters

The three daughters of George and Emma Lou Heusinkveld were named, according to Dutch custom, after members of the families of their parents.

Paula Rae, born Nov. 21, 1945, in Kingfisher, Okla. was named for her maternal grandmother, Pauline Rechner Scott Becker. In 1963 she was selected as one of Oskaloosa's first Rotary Exchange students and spent six weeks in La Paz, Bolivia. This trip made her decide to pursue a career in Spanish and Latin American studies.

She graduated from Oskaloosa High School in 1964, valedictorian of her class. She attended Central College as a Rolscreen scholar, spent her junior year in Valencia, Spain, and graduated from Central, summa cum laude, in 1968. After receiving a master's degree from University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1969, she earned a doctorate in 1979. She taught at Saint Olaf College in Northfield, Minn. for three years and now is an assistant professor of Spanish and French at Clemson University in South Carolina. She has organized and directed study programs in Mexico for both Saint Olaf College and Clemson University.

Myra Louise, born in Forest City, Ia., Feb. 14, 1950, was named for her father's brother Myron. She graduated from Pella High School in 1968 and from University of Northern Iowa at Cedar Falls after attending classes there, in Mexico, on Central's program at the Sorbonne in Paris, France, and at Fairleigh-Dickinson University in New Jersey. In 1971, she married Pieter Jager of Waldwick, N.J., whom she met at the Sorbonne.

They have three children: Yvette, born in 1974, Jeremy, born in 1976, and Joshua, born in 1978.

In 1983, she graduated from Computer Learning Center in Springfield, Va. and during the 1984-85 school year, she and her children moved back to Pella where she went to Central College to fulfill requirements for a teacher's certificate while the children attended Pella schools. She is now combining the training from those two schools, working as a technical writer and editor for a consulting firm on telecommunications in Washington, D.C.

Ginger (Virginia) May, born in Newton, Ia. May 7, 1954, was named for her mother's sister, Virginia (Ginnie) Weinburgh of Decatur, Ga. She graduated from Pella High School in 1972 and from Central College in 1976 after attending classes in Pella and on Central's Yucatan campus plus her junior year at universities in Bogata, Colombia, and Quito, Ecuador in South America. Later, she took graduate work in epidemiology at University of New York, Buffalo, and worked on a cancer research project with the University of New York.

In 1974, she married Dan Haas, Albany, N.Y., whom she met when both were students in South America. They now live in Tampa, Fla. where Dan is a regional partner for the state of Florida for Hyatt Legal Services. They have two sons: Benjamin Richard, born in 1981, and Andrew Scott, born in 1983.

by Emma Lou Heusinkveld

HEUSINKVELD, DICK AND ELLA DeBOER

F227

Harriet and George Heusinkveld were the two eldest of the six children of Dick and Ella De Boer Heusinkveld of Hull, Iowa. Dick was born in Harrison, Dakota Territory, and Ella in Alton, Iowa; but their parents had come from the Netherlands, Dick's from Gelderland and Ella's from Friesland.

Harriet and George's maternal grandfather, Gossen De Boer, emigrated in 1868 at age 13 with his father Cornelis and his brother Douwe age 17, from the island of Terschelling, Friesland, to Ackley, Iowa. After a time the two brothers moved to Alton, Iowa, but it is not known what happened to their father Cornelis.

Harriet and George's maternal grandmother, Mintje De Roos, grew up in Oosterlittens, Friesland, where her father Jan Willem De Roos was a dairy products wholesaler, shipping his produce on the canals of Holland. Due to the poor economic situation in the Netherlands as well as glowing reports from relatives who had emigrated to Alton, Iowa, they decided to leave Oosterlittens for America. In 1873, when Mintje was 16, she and her father, stepmother, her married brothers and sisters and their families, a party of 16, left Holland for New York. One of the little girls died and was buried at sea. At New York, they took a train for Alton, Iowa, where they were met by their relatives, the Wynias. The five-day train trip had been so cold and hard that one of the little boys died soon after their arrival. The De Roos family obtained land and farmed around the Alton-Orange City area. The first years were very hard because of the grasshopper plague which lasted from 1873-79.

In 1882 Mintje married Gossen De Boer. They farmed near Alton where their five children were born. In 1892 they moved to Hull and they were very prosperous. Gossen owned a number of farms, and he also ran a hardware store in Hull. They were prominent members of the First Reformed Church and of the community. Their daughter Ella went to Hope College, a most unusual thing for a girl to do in those days. Their son Douwie became a minister. Their daughter Fannie married Rev. Thomas Baker, and they became the parents of Mina Baker.

Harriet and George's paternal grandparents, Hendrikus and Hendrika Heusinkveld, emigrated from Gelderland, the Netherlands in 1881, shortly after their marriage. After working for relatives in Greenleafton, Minnesota and Alton, Iowa for a few years, they moved into the newly opened Dakota Territory. They homesteaded 160 acres, their certificate signed by President Benjamin Harrison. Though the land

was rich and green when they first saw it, they suffered extreme hardships in the years that followed with frequent droughts, blizzards, and prairie fires. They were so poor that Hendrikus had to go by wagon each fall to pick corn for farmers in Sioux County, Iowa (a distance of about 150 miles).

Dick, Harriet, and George's father was the first son of the Hendrikus Heusinkvelds. He spent much of his boyhood herding cattle on the Indian reservation nearby. He found the Indians he encountered to be most friendly. Dakota was a treeless prairie, so they used sod to make their first buildings. There were many stones on the land, which had to be dragged off, and then the sod ploughed and broken, using oxen for this task. Dick was largely self-educated as he could be spared from the farm only a few months each year to attend school. Later he took a business course in Sioux Falls and then worked in a bank in Armour, South Dakota. In 1913, he went to work in the Iowa State Bank in Hull, Iowa.

Dick married Ella De Boer, who had been teaching in rural schools for three years, in 1915, and they moved to a farm 5 miles northeast of Hull. Six children were born. In 1929, Ella died at age 38, when Harriet was 13 and Frances the youngest only 3. Dick managed to hold the family together with the help of hired girls and the hard work of all the children. He persevered in his goal to educate all the children, which had been Ella's dream too. Despite the hard times of the depression and drought years of the 30s, and despite advice of the neighbors that it was foolish to send children even to high school, he saw all his children graduate from college; Harriet, George, Henry, and Frances from Central College and Myron and Willis from Iowa State.

Dick suffered a stroke in 1966, and he came to Pella to live with Harriet. Finally he went into the Pella Nursing Home where he died in 1970 at the age of 83.

by Harriet Heusinkveld

HEUSINKVELD, HARRIET

F228

Harriet, the oldest child of the Dick Heusinkveld family, had five siblings — George, Henry, Myron, Willis and Frances. She grew up in the Hull, Iowa area except for one year in Sioux Center, Iowa when she was in the fourth grade and her father was working for the lawyer Anthony Te Paske. Rural school near Hull afforded many pleasures, including being in the same room as her younger siblings, but also anxieties because the older boys often plagued the girls and the younger children. She and her brothers had an unspoken pact never to tell their parents of family misdoings in school. At recess time she enjoyed games of Annie-Annie Over and New Orleans and Seven Steps, but not Pom Pom Pull Away, a very rough game which the boys always wanted to play. When there was new snow on the ground, Fox and Geese was a wonderful game.

When she was in the second year of high school, Harriet's mother died of anemia, and this in a way marked the end of her youth as she suddenly became responsible for caring for the younger children and canning, baking bread, cooking for threshers, and a thousand other household tasks. But life was still carefree and happy, as a very harmonious companionship existed within the family with father Dick serving as both father and mother.

In 1932, after graduating from Hull High School, Harriet entered Northwestern Junior College at Orange City with the idea of becoming a teacher. Her father Dick was disappointed that she did not choose law as a career, perhaps because this had been his thwarted dream for himself. Tuition at Northwestern was $50 a semester and room and board in a private home $2.50 a week. Despite the low salaries they must have received, the faculty was excellent, especially Sinnia Billups who later taught English at Central. Harriet was honored in 1983 when Northwestern named her the Outstanding Alumna of the Year.

After Junior College Harriet taught in nearby rural schools for three years, so that she could live at home and help with the many tasks there. She earned $45 a month (9 months) the first year and $60 a month the last year. She was responsible not only for 25-30 students in eight different grades, but also for cleaning the schoolhouse, carrying in coal, and lighting the furnace every morning.

In 1937 Harriet left for Central College, and her life and home thereafter was associated with Pella. She did, however, after graduation in 1939, teach English for five years in Webb, Havelock (she was also the principal), and Ida Grove High Schools. During summers she studied for her Master's degree at the University of Iowa.

In 1944 Harriet started teaching at Central College, and except for one year when she left Central to work as Promotion Secretary for the Reformed Church Board of Domestic Missions in New York City, and one year when she finished her PhD. work in geography at the University of Iowa, she taught at Central. Meanwhile, she traveled to China, Europe, many African and South American countries, and other places. She studied in Taiwan on a Fulbright scholarship, taught in Central's program in London for a year, started the Central College program in Yucatan, and taught there many times. She was honored by Central by having a Yucatan scholarship named after her and also by an Outstanding Professor Award in 1984. In 1985 she retired after 40 years of service at Central and fond memories of hundreds of students and good faculty friends.

Also important in her life was her membership in Second Reformed Church, as well as participation in Reading Circle and A.A.U.W. She enjoyed sharing a house with faculty friend Alice Carlson, as well as the fact that George and Emma Lou Heusinkveld and three daughters lived in Pella and shared their lives with her, and that niece Laura Brown and family lived in nearby Otley.

by Harriet Heusinkveld

HIEMSTRA FAMILY

F229

Mr. and Mrs. Fyke S. Hiemstra, parents of John F. Hiemstra.

Fyke S. Hiemstra was born on Dec. 10, 1828, in The Netherlands and resided there until 1853. He served four years as a soldier under King William. In 1853, he came to the U.S. and settled in Erie Co. N.Y. where he lived for two years. Then he moved to Marion Co., Ia. He was a farmer and stock raiser and owned 45 acres of fine land.

He married Empke De Haan in June, 1862. She was born in 1845 and was a native of The Netherlands. Their children were: Sietse F. (Jesse), John, Anna, Henrietta, Hattie, Harry, Mary, and Martin, and two children who died in infancy. They were members of the Reformed Church in Otley, Ia.

F.S. Hiemstra died Feb. 4, 1892. After the children grew up and married, Empke, his wife, lived many years on the home farm with their youngest son, Martin. After his marriage she made her home with Len and Yet Voss. Empke died Dec. 12, 1926, at the age of 82 years.

by Mrs. P. H. Westerkamp

HIEMSTRA, JOHN C.

F230

John C. Hiemstra, son of John F. and Maggie Visser Hiemstra, was born Mar. 13, 1905, near Otley, Ia. He attended Valley View School and made profession of faith at Otley Reformed Church. He married Lillian Gosselink on Jan. 1, 1931, daughter of John Sr. and Helen Vander Beek Gosselink, who was born on Apr. 22, 1908, near Pella, Ia. She graduated from Pella Christian School and was clerk at Vander Ploeg's Bakery for five years. She made profession of faith at First Christian Reformed Church in Pella, Ia.

John and Lillian Hiemstra spent the first eleven years of their married life on his birthplace, called Valley View Farm. In 1942

John C. Hiemstra Family. Front, l-r: Lillian, John D., John C.; Back, l-r: Bob, Don, Maxine. 1980

they bought the Hosper's Farm, two and one-half miles west of Pella. They both served on school boards for many years at Valley View and Silver Grove Schools. John also received a silver medal as a 4-H leader. Through the years they enjoyed traveling. They are now residing at 608 E. 2nd, Pella Manor. They are members of the First Reformed Church in Pella. They have retired from 36 years of farming. John is still active in his steel business at 604 University St., and Lillian enjoys being active in church work. Her hobby is crocheting.

Their children are: Maxine Ruth, born Dec. 16, 1932; Donald John, born July 23, 1936; Robert Lee, born Oct. 26, 1939; John Dwayne, born Dec. 26, 1944.

Maxine Hiemstra married Nick Schuring Jr., Mar. 7, 1952, who was born July 20, 1930, died Sept. 24, 1979. Their children are: Jerry Dean, born Jan. 29, 1953; Carl Lee, born Oct. 27, 1954; Michael Dwayne, born Nov. 23, 1957; Ronald Craig, born Aug. 29, 1962. Jerry Schuring married Shirley Eileen Schimmel on Oct. 15, 1971, who was born Apr. 23, 1953. Their children are: Jeremy Dean, born Apr. 28, 1978; twins, born Sept. 8, 1981, Mark Anthony and Lisa Ann. Carl Schuring married Ronda Sue Pope on June 27, 1975, who was born on Jan. 25, 1957. Their children are: Cody Lee, born July 21, 1982; Calley Rochelle, born July 16, 1985. Michael Schuring married Debra Sue Biehl on June 19, 1981, who was born Aug. 6, 1960. Their children are: Andrea Leigh, born May 9, 1982, died May 9, 1982; David Alexander, born May 9, 1983, died May 11, 1983; Alex Michael, born Apr. 18, 1986. Ronald Schuring married Terri Sue Kooistra on Mar. 20, 1981, who was born Mar. 6, 1965. Their children are: Matthew Craig, born Aug. 19, 1981; Nichole Renee, born Oct. 28, 1984, Maxine Schuring married Delwin Gordon Vander Linden May 8, 1981, who was born Feb. 19, 1925.

Donald John Hiemstra married Dorothy Williams who was born July 13, 1940. Their children are: Douglas Kent, born June 12, 1962; Laura Michelle, born Sept. 23, 1963; Shelly Rae, born Dec. 9, 1970. Laura Hiemstra married Robert Randolph on Nov. 2, 1985.

Robert Hiemstra married Phyllis Joan Schippers on Apr. 22, 1960, who was born Aug. 26, 1941. Their children are: Steven Craig, born Nov. 12, 1961; Vicki Lynn, born Oct. 10, 1963; Eric Lee, born Oct. 22, 1969. Steven Hiemstra married Stella Marie Garcia on Feb. 22, 1986, who was born Nov. 14, 1963.

John D. Hiemstra married Mary Elaine Van Heukelom on Dec. 21, 1968, who was born May 1, 1948. Their children are: Nicholus Justin, born Sept. 8, 1974; Joseph Drew, born Oct. 14, 1977.

by Lillian Hiemstra

HIEMSTRA, JOHN F.
F231

John F. Hiemstra, son of Fyke and Emma De Haan Hiemstra, was born Aug. 9, 1868, in Marion Co., Iowa.

He married Maggie Visser on July 4, 1894. She was born Jan. 27, 1877, daughter of Cornelius and Teuntje Neef Visser.

They owned 165 acres of land northeast of Otley. They were faithful members of the Otley Reformed Church. They were parents of eleven children, three sons and eight daughters. Maggie was a seamstress in her younger days and also later knitted lace doilies.

In 1931, they moved to Pella and lived at 606 West First St., enjoying retirement. They were then members of the First Reformed Church in Pella. Maggie and John were staunch Christians and their fervent prayers were that all their children and grandchildren would also be believers.

John Hiemstra died Feb. 15, 1942. Maggie Hiemstra died Dec. 21, 1953.

Their eleven children are as follows: Tillie (1895-1978) married on Dec. 20, 1916, to Sam Poortinga (1885-1981); Emma (1896-1983) married on Jan. 3, 1917, to John Vriezelaar (1892-1923) and later married on June 6, 1929, to John J. Buwalda (1899); Frank (1898) married on Dec. 17, 1925, to Gertrude De Kock (1906); Cornelia (1900-1985) married on Jan. 21, 1920, to Henry Vriezelaar (1896-1972); Martin (1902-1981) married on Feb. 23, 1929, to Henrietta Rietveld (1904); John (1905) married on Jan. 1, 1931, to Lillian Gosselink (1908); Mary (1907-1974)

John F. Hiemstra Family. Front, l to r: John F., Maggie and Leona; Middle, l to r: Mabel, Mary, Nellie and Margaret; Back, l to r: John, Emma, Martin, Tillie, Frank, and Cornelia.

married on Feb. 22, 1928, to Leonard J. Gosselink (1905); Nellie (1909) married on Feb. 15, 1933, to Peter H. Westerkamp (1906); Margaret (1911-1987) married on Feb. 28, 1935, to Elmer Vogelaar (1907-1982); Mabel (1914) married on Oct. 12, 1936, to Clifford De Jong (1915); and Leona (1916) married on Jan. 22, 1938, to John E. Ter Louw (1914).

by Mrs. Peter H. Westerkamp

HIEMSTRA, MARTIN AND IRENE (KOOREVAAR)

F232

Martin Hiemstra, the youngest son of Feike and Emptje Hiemstra, was born Apr. 29, 1881, on a farm three miles east of Otley. He attended Battle Ridge School and Otley Reformed Church. He made profession of faith when a young man. He worked at the Silver Fox Farm and was caretaker at the Juvenile Home in Toledo, Ia. Martin lived with his mother until he was married.

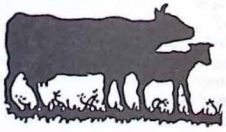
On July 22, 1921, Martin married Irene Koorevaar daughter of Lyntje and the late John Koorevaar. Irene was born Feb. 9, 1900, in Andekerk, Holland. She came to Pella in 1920 on a boat to New York and then on a train to Pella. In Holland Irene lived near a "giesie" (lake) and went ice skating every winter. A lady made "olie bollen" in a tent on the ice and they ate them with coffee. Irene went to school for six years with no summer vacation and only one week at Christmas. Her father died and her mother married Cornelius VerHeul.

Martin and Irene lived on various farms for fifteen years and then they moved to Pella in 1936. They lived at 909 West Fifth St. for many years and were members of the First Reformed Church.

Martin and Irene had one child Emily Frances who was born July 10, 1922. She taught country schools for six years and in Hartwick, Ia. for four years. She married Vernard Block on Dec. 24, 1949. His parents were Minnie and Loren Block of Hartwick. Vernard and Emily had only one child Marty Verne born Apr. 2, 1954. Marty married Shirley Kay McElroy on Nov. 14, 1981 and they have one daughter Hannah Mae born Feb. 8, 1985. Marty is employed by the Amana Manufacturing Company, Amana, Ia.

Martin died very suddenly from a heart attack on Jan. 5, 1952. Emily died of cancer on Apr. 2, 1963 at 40 years of age in the Pella Community Hospital. Irene worked in the Rolscreen factory for ten years and now lives in Hilltop South in Pella.

by Ray DeHaan



HIXSON, JAMES AND JEANE

F233

The Hixson family moved to Pella in 1956 as the result of Jim, a construction superintendent, being transferred to this area by his employer, Roth & Assoc. of Storm Lake, Ia. Jim was construction supervisor on many of the large construction sites in Pella: the Pella Hospital, Pella Manor, many college buildings, including the college chapel. In 1983, Jim formed his own construction crew. Jeane worked as a lab-technician at the Pella Community Hospital for 18 years.

Jeane was born in Sanborn, Ia., July 15, 1929, to Roy Ford and Theresa Kleinjan (daughter of John Kleinjan and Theresa Wynia). Jim was born Apr. 24, 1928, to John W. Hixson (deceased 1935) and Vida Reese of Laurens, Ia. Both Jeane and Jim graduated from Laurens schools.

Three children were born to the couple. Kathe (born Apr. 13, 1954) married Harley J. Van Roekel and has children, Jason and Tomi Jo. Dawn (Blom), (born Apr. 20, 1956) married Robert Owen and has two children, Karri Blom and Shawn Owen. Son, John A. Hixson (born Sept. 24, 1958) married Sheryl Hartson, daughter of Henry and Virginia Van Kooten. They have four children, Jason and Jeremy Hartson and Joshua and Danielle Hixson. The families, at this time, all live in the Pella area.

by Mr. and Mrs. James Hixson

HIXSON, JOHN

F234

John was born to Jim and Jeane Hixson on Sept. 24, 1958. Sheryl was born to Henry and Virginia Van Kooten on July 31, 1954. John has lived in Pella all his life. Sheryl lived in the Sully area till 1962 when her family moved to Pella. John and Sheryl met while working at Rolscreen. They were married on Dec. 10, 1982. They have four children: Jason Hartson, born June 3, 1974; Jeremy Hartson, born Apr. 8, 1977; Joshua, born July 15, 1983; and Danielle, born Jan. 1, 1986. Danielle was Pella's New Year's baby.

John and Sheryl both continue working at Rolscreen. Jason and Jeremy both attend Pella Christian Grade School.

by John and Sheryl Hixson

HOEKMAN, ARTHUR

F235

Arthur, son of Peter and Marie Wegner Hoekman was born in The Hague, Holland on Mar. 15, 1909. At the age of 6 months he was brought to America by his mother and their eight other children. His father had gone to America a few weeks before with the oldest son, Peter, to look for a place to live. In Holland they owned a cheese store, and because of his large family his father thought he could make a better living in America.

Arthur's mother did not know the English language – only "yah" and "no". How difficult it must have been for her on the boat and later by train to their new home in America! They were on the boat for three weeks and Arthur got sick because he didn't get the right kind of milk. His mother had to warm his bottle under her clothes, next to her body, but he got the "Engelse siekte" or "rickets" and was sick the first year of his life. The children had to wear their clothes inside out, because they had no place to wash their clothes, and each child had only a few clothes to wear.

The Arthur Hoekman Family taken in 1954, three years after they moved to Peoria, Ia. Back, l-r: Janice, Bernice and Gerada Hoekman; Front, l-r: Mrs. Jennie (De Hoogh) Hoekman, Wilmer Hoekman and Arthur Hoekman.

They came to Monroe, S. Dak. because they saw that place advertised in a Dutch paper when they first came to Holland, Mich. They were told it was a good place for bringing up a family. They rented a farm near there and never having farmed before, it was very difficult for them. They were used to running water and a bathroom in Holland. Now they had to use an outside toilet and they had to carry their water for washing in pails from a "crick" which ran at the bottom of a hill. The children had to go to a country school where they were often "poked fun of" because they couldn't speak English. The mother often said, "Oh, how I wish we would have stayed in Holland."

When Arthur was 9 years old, the family moved by train to Okaton, S. Dak. where they "bo't" a farm. The house was so small that some of the boys had to sleep in the barn. Later on they built a new house on this farm, but during the depression in the 1930's they had to give up the farm and then they rented a farm near Colton, S. Dak. Arthur's mother died in 1937 from diabetes and cancer.

As a young man, Arthur spent some time in California, milking cows for a Dutch farmer and later working for a vegetable farmer in the state of Washington. He also helped several of his older brothers with their farming.

On May 26, 1938 he was united in marriage to Jennie De Hoogh, who had been a country school teacher for eight years. She was originally from Monroe, S. Dak. After High School she had one year of training in Springfield Normal School, preparing to become a teacher.

Arthur and Jennie were married in Doon, Ia. by Rev. Gerrit Vander Wolde, who was Arthur's brother-in-law. To this union four children were born; Janice – June 22, 1939; Bernice – Apr. 27, 1941; Gerada – Dec. 28, 1942; Wilmer – Dec. 21, 1945.

They rented a farm near Colton, S. Dak. where they lived for 13 years. They attended the Chr. Ref. Church in Colton.

On Mar. 1, 1951 they moved to Peoria, Ia. where they "bo't" a farm and the children went to the Christian School. They lived there for eleven years. They moved to Pella on Mar. 1, 1962, because Arthur developed heart trouble. They "bo't" a house at 1330 Broadway. After three years he died of a heart attack on Mar. 24, 1965, at the age of 56 years. He loved the Lord and he loved to sing hymns. They went to the First Reformed Church in Pella, where his wife is still attending and she still lives at 1330 Broadway.

After Christian High School, Janice graduated from Lutheran Deaconess Hospital in Minneapolis. She became a Registered Nurse and later on she became a stewardess on Pan American. She took her mother along to Holland for a visit in 1963. Later she joined T.W.A. as a stewardess. She flew internationally. She has given her mother quite a few passes to France where Gerada and her family live. She married James P. Quinn in 1968 and they live in Chappaqua, N.Y. They have 2 boys – Jim and Geoffrey.

Bernice graduated from the University of Iowa school of nursing and received her B.S. degree. She is an R.N. and has been a nurse in an institution for handicapped people for many years. She also graduated from Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. and works as a rehabilitation Consultant. She married John Haverhals in 1963, who is a professor in Calculus at Bradley University. They have 2 girls – Ann and Mary.

Gerada graduated from Central College and went to the Sor Bonne – a French school in Paris for 2 yrs. She married a French man, Max Gattein in 1970. She was also a stewardess on T.W.A. for several years and took her mother around the world once, and also to Rome, Athens, and Japan. They have two children – Stephane and Caroline.

Wilmer graduated from Central College and law school in Ia. City and received his degree as a lawyer. He has worked in Valley National Bank in Des Moines ever since and is now Senior Vice President of that bank. He married Dixie Hogan in 1971. They have 2 children – Scott and Katherine.

by Mrs. Jennie Hoekman

HOEKSEMA FAMILY

F236

Enne Hoeksema (1860-1930) and Anna Vander Molen Hoeksema (1861-1939) migrated from Holland as newlyweds under the sponsorship of a Mr. Witzenberg. They had nine children: Carrie (1884-1960), Charley (1885-1967), Grace (1887-1937), Ella (1891-1973), Martin (1894-1957), Edward (1896-1975), Jennie (1898-1948), John (1900-1977), and Ben (1902).

Grandpa Hoeksema was a tenant farmer in the Coalport area until, at age 50 in 1910, he moved to Pella and purchased a property on West Washington Street containing four lots. It was a mini farm. The west lot was an orchard. The house occupied the next lot, behind which was a detached "summer kitchen" where the canning, preserving, laundry, and dairy activities were conducted. Beyond that stretched a vegetable garden, grape vines, chicken yard, and a barn. The two remaining lots were pasture where a cow was kept. Later a garage was built on the far east lot and manned by John, Martin, and Ben. A filling station was added to the front of the garage. John became sole owner and operated it until he purchased the Vander Meulen Hardware Store (Stravers). The property was then sold and occupied by various businesses. After extensive renovation it became the Pellacan's Perch. After Grandma's death the house was sold and later bulldozed to become part of the Pelican parking lot. The orchard became the home site of Andrew and Arolene Hoeksema.

by Margaret Hoeksema

HOEKSEMA – DEN ADEL FAMILY

F237

Charley Hoeksema (1885-1967) and Johanna Den Adel (1881-1977) were married Jan. 11, 1912. They had six children: Margaret (1912), Andrew (1915), Robert (1917), Dick Franklin (1918-1929), Anna May (1920) and Joe Henry (1922). They spent the first few months of their married life in the Crumm House, which is now a part of the Historical Village.

They then moved to a property on Hazel Street, no longer in existence. It was during this time Charley began to build the house at 809 East Third Street, on the south half of Grandma's lot. He entered into partnership with his brother-in-law Abe Den Adel, and they were bricklayers and masons. Many homes in the area bear evidence of their work. Records indicate they moved into the house in late 1917 or early 1918. Materials delivered to the site cost $114.30; labor charges ran from 20 cents to 45 cents per hour. Grandpa Hoeksema held a mortgage on the house until his death. It was a grand house for its time. It had a full basement, central heating by a coal-fired furnace, and running water. It too underwent renovations: new furnace, gas-fired, and a bathroom were added. Again hard times hit during the depression, with the death of their son Dick at age 10, and dearth of construction work. Charley became a supervisor at the WPA Project – the Pella Outdoor Swimming Pool. Later his health failed and he had to retire from heavy manual labor. He then became a clerk in his brother's hardware store until retirement. Johanna was blessed with a long and active life.

by Margaret Hoeksema

HOEKSEMA, CHARLES AND JOHANNA (DEN ADEL)

F238

Charles and Johanna (Den Adel) Hoeksema Jan. 11, 1912 wedding photo.

by Freda Hoeksema

HOEKSEMA, JOHN

F239

John Hoeksema was born Feb. 20, 1900, in the Coalport area of Marion Co., Ia., the eighth of nine children. He was the son of Enne and Anna Vander Molen Hoeksema. His brothers and sisters were as follows: Carrie, Charley, Grace, Ella, Martin, Ed, Jennie, and Ben. He attended country school in the Pella area.

John married Nellie Alice Koopmans on July 18, 1922, at the parsonage of Rev. Byram, minister of the Baptist Church. Their honeymoon was in a 1917 Chevrolet touring car upon which John had built a top. Thus began their camping travels, for it took them to almost unknown parts of Kansas and Oklahoma with no maps, few roads, and even fewer bridges. In later years they traveled a great deal.

In 1923 John and his brother Martin built and operated Hoeksema Brothers Garage at 1205 Washington St. on the eastern portion of the Hoeksema family four-A. property. (The building has changed hands a number of times and is currently "Melodies".) After several years this partnership was dissolved and John continued in the automobile repair business as well as adding a Champlin gas station. John kept cars in repair for many

The wedding picture of John and Alice Hoeksema, July 18, 1922.

residents including doctors and dentists. They in turn kept his family going.

During this time, in 1936 he was instrumental in organizing and constructing the R.E.A., in 1936, which he managed for three years and continued to promote.

On Jan. 1, 1944 John purchased from Jake De Vries the Vandermeulen Company hardware store (founded by A.G. Vandermeulen) at 818 Main St. (now Stravers Hardware) and the John Deere dealership at 615 Washington St. (now Dr. Kurt Vander Ploeg's office). John added his name to the well-established Vandermeulen Co. trade name, and it became Vandermeulen Hoeksema Co.

Hoeksema's, Inc. was formed in 1959 when John took his son Max and son-in-law, Virgil Boertje, is as partners. In 1960 the hardware store was sold to Jerry and Tony Stravers. John remained an active partner in the business until 1970, when he went into semi-retirement.

A Pella businessman for 55 years, John had served as a member of the City Council from 1933-1938. In 1937 he was instrumental in the promoting and planning of the outdoor swimming pool. He also served on the electrical advisory committee and was intensely interested in the municipal light plant and its functions.

He served 38 years as a member of the Pella Volunteer Fire Department, four years as assistant fire chief and 15 years as fire chief. He retired from the Fire Department in 1966 when he was made honorary fire chief. He passed away Oct. 9, 1977 in Pella, Ia.

Alice Hoeksema, daughter of Dick and Anna Jane Feather Koopmans, was born in Pella on May 20, 1901. She had two older brothers and three younger sisters: Harry (who died in his early twenties of typhoid fever), Paul, Grace, Myrtle, and Erma. Alice attended Pella elementary school. She later worked at the Candy Kitchen located in the Book Shop on the east side of the square.

She attended the Methodist Church in her early years and when it disbanded, continued to be a devoted member of the Methodist Circle until its dissolution in the 1970's. John and Alice were faithful members of Second Reformed Church where Alice has been involved in the women's organizations for many years.

The American Legion Auxiliary has played an important part in Alice's life. She has been an active member for 60 years. In her later years she has enjoyed the activities of the Senior Citizens organization.

The members of the John Hoeksema family are: Freda Mae (born July 29, 1923) married Ralph Wisse. Their children are John who married Beverly Roozeboom and whose children are Patrick, Alison, and Julie; Mary who married Donald Vande Noord and whose children are Tracy, Todd, Timothy; and Charles.

Dorothy Lee (born June 7, 1927) married Carl Gaass.

Max Leroy (born July 8, 1929) married Mildred Hugen. Their children are: Carol who married Patrick Clark and whose child is Arijan; David who married Carla Wynja; and Jill.

Shirley Ann (born Aug. 24, 1935) married Virgil Boertje. Their children are Bruce and Barbara.

The legacy left by John and Alice to their family is a storehouse of treasures: 1. memories, 2. a love for God and His beautiful world, 3. love for our fellowmen and 4. a vision of better tomorrows.

by Dorothy Gaass

HOEKSTRA FAMILY

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Anthony (Tony) and Wilma Hoekstra

It was a warm August day in 1959 when the Tony Hoekstra family arrived in Pella. Several Central College students helped unload the moving van at the old Vander Ploeg house at 913 Washington. In September Tony joined the students on Central's campus for two years of classes toward his B.A. degree. His wife Wilma began an alteration service for Wormhoudt & Kempkes clothiers and private customers in her home. Four of their six children enrolled in the Pella Community Schools. Little did they realize that this was the beginning of a chain of events that would culminate in both of them enjoying teaching careers in the Pella Community School System.

The Hoekstras came from Minnesota where their grandparents helped break the original prairie sod and settle the small community of Roseland in the late 1800's. Tony's father John was the sixth child of Wiltje and Johanna Groen Hoekstra. Wiltje and two sons left Peasens in the Province of Friesland, The Netherlands in 1893 for a new start in America. Two years later "Beppa", his wife and the rest of the family, including John who was eight years old, would follow. Tony's mother Gertrude came from the Chicago area with her family when she was a young lady. Her parents, Cornelius and Annie Punter Stob, immigrated to America from Olderhave, The Netherlands in 1880 and settled in Chicago, Ill.

Wilma's parents were John and Johanna DeVries Damhof. John was the sixth child of Luitje and Anje Vander Tuukwas Damhof who came to America from Winsom in the

This picture was taken on our 40th Wedding Anniversary, November 10, 1984. It was taken in the Chapel on the Central College Campus. Front, l-r: Barbara, Tony, Wilma and Jennifer; Back, l-r: Gregory, Roger, Donald and Rebecca.

Province of Groningen in 1882. They lived in Albany, N.Y. and Maurice, Ia., before moving to the Roseland area. John was born in Maurice, Ia. in 1888. Johanna was born in Clara City, Minn. in 1897. Her parents, Wietze and Hielkje Hoekstra DeVries, settled in this area before moving to the Roseland community. The John DeVries family came to America in 1889 from Peasens, the Province of Friesland, The Netherlands.

When Tony enrolled at Central College in the fall of 1959, it was the second time he had been on campus. He completed one year before leaving for active service in the U.S. Navy. He enlisted in 1942 and served until 1946 with overseas service on Okinawa. Wilma attended Central too, getting a two-year teaching certificate in 1943. They were married Nov. 10, 1944 before Tony left for overseas.

After the war Tony returned to the Roseland community where they operated a grocery store-locker plant for 13 years and raised a family of six children. All of them were born at the Rice Memorial Hospital in Willmar, Minn. In 1959 Tony and Wilma sold their business and returned to Pella where Tony completed work on his B.A. at Central in 1961 and his M.A. in school administration from Drake University in Des Moines in 1967. He was hired by the Pella Community School System in 1961 as a social studies – business law instructor and later assumed the assistant principal position. Wilma began teaching first grade at the old Lincoln School in 1965 and completed her work toward a B.A. in the next four years. She claims the distinction of graduating from Central twice, in 1943 when Dr. Irwin Lubbers was president and in 1969 when his son Dr. Don Lubbers was president.

Tony began his teaching career in the old high school (now the community center) building with a salary of $4,350. The next year the new high school complex was ready to be used. Tony supplemented his salary over the years by working for Harold Den Besten on the Hiland Potato Chip truck, selling clothes at Wormhoudt & Kempkes, managing the outdoor swimming pool, and working in the Upward Bound Program on Central's Campus.

Tony and Wilma retired from teaching in 1985 and reside at 307 Farmer St., Pella, Ia. They purchased their new home in 1961 from Van Vark-Randol Construction Company. Since that time they have witnessed many changes in the area: the new high school complex, the ball fields and tennis courts, the new streets and housing developments, and the swimming pool enlargement and indoor pool facilities.

Although the Hoekstras are not native residents, they share a common bond of Dutch ancestry with the emigrants who left Holland for American in search of a better life and freedom. The have found it here in Pella.

by Tony and Wilma Hoekstra

HOEKSTRA FAMILY

F241

Children

The Hoekstra children ranged in ages from one to fourteen when the family settled in Pella. All of them attended and graduated from the Pella Community Schools. Donald John (Nov. 11, 1945) was valedictorian of his class of '63 and attended Central College on a Rolscreen scholarship. Following his graduation in 1967 he married Barbara Duven, daughter of Wilson and Rose Duven of Pella. They both taught in the Y.J.B. School System for two years and then Don entered Western Seminary at Holland, Mich., graduating in 1972. That year he joined the staff at Christ Memorial Church as minister of education. Don and Barb have four sons: Jonathon (1969), Jeffrey (1973), Joshua (1975), and Jason (1977).

Roger Gene (Sept. 23, 1948) played baseball and basketball in high school and attended Central College on a presidential scholarship. He married Ruth Van Roekel, daughter of Henry and Wilma Van Roekel, in 1970. After graduation in 1971 they moved to Manchester, Ia. where Roger began a Junior High science teaching career at Maquoketa Valley Junior High School, Delhi, Ia. Ruth is an R.N. at the Manchester Hospital. They have four children: Chad (1972), Heather (1975), Ann (1979), and Jill (1982).

Gregory Wayne (Nov. 30, 1950) attended Central College for one year and then began a working career in the research and development laboratory for the past 15 years at the Rolscreen Company in Pella. In 1975 he married Verla, daughter of Dave and Pauline Kooistra, of Pella. They have three children: Shannon (1978), David (1982), and Sharilyn (1984).

Rebecca Ann was born Aug. 11, 1953. She is self-employed and lives at Prairie Village in Pella.

Barbara Lou (Aug. 27, 1956) played basketball and tennis in high school and at Central College. She graduated in 1978 and began a teaching-coaching career in Clinton High School in Clinton, Ia. In 1981 she married Robert (Bob) Brondyke, son of Don and June Brondyke of Clinton, Ia. Bob is employed at Thoms Proestler of Davenport, Ia. They have two children: David (1984) and Kate (1986).

Jennifer Joy (Sept. 12, 1958) was a cheerleader at Pella High for four years, a member of the homecoming court, and served on the Tulip Time court in 1977. In the fall of 1977 she married Rick Schuring, son of Henry Schuring of Pella and Bonnie Miller of Oskaloosa. She worked at the Pella Medical Center for several years and recently became a Tupperware manager. Rick graduated from A.I.B. in Des Moines and is employed in the accounting department at Precision Pulley in Pella. They have two sons: Craig (1981) and Vance (1984).

by Tony and Wilma Hoekstra

HOKSBERGEN, RAY AND JOHANNA VAN HAAFTEN

F242

Ray and Johanna (Van Haaften) Hoksbergen wedding picture, taken January 20, 1927.

Ray and Johanna Hoksbergen family picture, taken December 26, 1958. Front, l-r: Harold, Johanna, Ray, Ralph; Back, l-r: Lois, Theresa, Janice, Alma, Dorothy.

Ray Hoksbergen was born Sept. 1, 1898, to Albert Hoksbergen and Nellie Van Niewall. Ray was one of eleven children: Ebbie, Mattie, Louisa, Tunis, Ray, Isaac, Peter, Jennie, Nick, Magdeline, and Bert.

Johanna Van Haaften was born July 26, 1904, to Tunis Van Haaften and Dora De Bruin. Johanna was one of three children: Johanna, Joseph, and Irene.

Ray and Johanna were united in marriage Jan. 20, 1927, by Rev. Gerrit Menninga, at the home of her parents. They spent their courting days in a Ford Roadster which was purchased in 1924 for $400. The wedding was held during the day and guests were invited to a complete dinner. The candle salad on the menu was a slice of pineapple, half a banana with red maraschino cherry for the flame, and whipped cream for the drip.

They moved to a 160 acre farm northeast of Leighton which they purchased from

Johanna's parents. Seven children were born to this marriage: Ralph, Harold, Lois, Dorothy, Alma, Theresa, and Janice.

They would do the washing together and hang it out on the line before the children got up. Water was heated in a big iron cooker over a fire in the wash house. The washing machine had a gasoline engine. There was no electricity. They did have a faucet in the house with running water from a supply tank, which was pumped full from a windmill.

They attended the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. The mode of travel by then was a Model A Ford. It was about ten miles from Pella so they stayed for dinner in Pella, at Grandpa Hoksbergen's house, so they could attend church again in the afternoon.

While living here the terrible depression of the 1930's was experienced; also the drought of 1934 and 1935. Times were hard with little money. They could not make the payments on the farm, so they let it go and an insurance company took it from them. In 1937 they decided to take a plunge and bought the 200 acre Lunt farm located northwest of Taintor for $100 an acre. At that time this seemed a big distance to move.

While living here they attended the Peoria Christian Reformed Church, which was about five miles southwest of their place. Peoria had Dutch services on Sunday morning and the next week on Sunday afternoon. Since the children could not understand the Dutch language they welcomed the change to the English language in 1942. They would pack a basket of sandwiches to eat with milk in the church basement at noon for lunch along with other families who had to travel a distance to church. Ray was a faithful member of the men's bible study group.

The children walked a mile north to attend the Lynn Grove Country School. The lunch pail was a half gallon tin pail. There were two sets of clothes for school, one to wear one week, the other the next week while the others were washed. Only dresses were worn by the girls as slacks were unheard of. Clothes were made from printed cloth sacks that feed came in. All these clothes had to be starched and ironed. It took almost a whole day to iron for a family of nine. Often coats of grown ups were ripped apart and made over into coats for the children. Johanna waited for the few coins received from selling cream each week to buy groceries, which consisted mainly of flour and sugar. Oatmeal, vet and stroop (melted lard and sorghum), and bread was the usual breakfast. How they enjoyed their first Wheaties, bought by the case!

Baths were taken in a big galvanized tub behind the coal and wood stove in the kitchen. There was the outdoor bathroom with its Sears catalog. The children liked to escape there when it was time to wash the dishes, but it was oh so cold in the winter!

Ray farmed with six horses at first and also had a steel-wheeled Samson tractor. Later he bought a 1937 A.C. steel-wheeled tractor. He cultivated corn with a two-row cultivator pulled by a team of horses. Ray used the neighborhood threshing machine for only one year while living here. He bought an A.C. combine in 1938. He was about the first in the area to get a combine and did a lot of custom work for others.

Ray always fed a lot of cattle and hogs. When he sold cattle they would go to Chicago. Ray would ride along with the truck and take the train back home to Grinnell. He raised his own hogs and also had stock cows for pasture. Milking cows was a chore for the four older children. Sitting on a milk stool, sometimes squirting milk at one another, or the cow kicking the bucket of milk over, are memories of the milk barn.

In the fall of 1942 the Peoria Christian School started running buses, and the children attended school in Peoria. Ray and Johanna were big promoters of Christian education and were also instrumental in the beginning of Pella Christian High School in 1939. Johanna is a charter member of the Ladies Auxiliary of Pella Christian High School.

In Aug. of 1950 they purchased the 120-acre farm right north of their farm. At the time both of their sons and a son-in-law were drafted into the Korean War. They had to hire help to do the farm work. When the sons returned home from the war in 1953 Ray and Johanna and their daughters moved to Pella. They built a new house at 906 East 2nd Street where Johanna is still living today.

Ray was afflicted at an early age, while living at Leighton, with heart trouble. Later his kidneys gave trouble, but surgery was not possible because of his heart condition. After moving to town he often went back to the farm to help with light work. His health continued to fail and he passed away Dec. 15, 1959 at the age of 61 years when he became ill with the flu. At the present time Johanna is 82 years old. She makes weekly visits to the Pella Nursing Home patients and other shut ins. She is a member of the Pella Christian High School Auxiliary, Pella Hospital Auxiliary, Pella Historical Society, Christian Opportunity Center Volunteer Corps, and Priscilla Ladies Aid of Pella Second Christian Reformed Church.

by Lois Klyn

HOL, WILLIAM DIRK
F243

Willem and Marie Hol

On July 26, 1884, Willem Dirk Hol was born at Ijzendooren, The Netherlands, the 11th child of Evert Jan and Pieternella (Van Luttervelt) Hol.

Willem was united in marriage to Marie Van de Scheur on Nov. 29, 1916. In July of 1920 they came to America with their two children, Nellie, age two and Marion age one. They spent three weeks on the boat. At first they resided in Pella, Ia. but soon moved to a farm, as a hired hand, east of Knoxville where they lived when their second son Evert was born Sept. 28, 1920. Next they rented a farm east of Tracy, Ia. where they lived when Janet, Marie, Minnie, and William Dirk were born. Then they moved to a farm west of Eddyville, Ia. where their last son Gerrit was born. William and Gerrit both died in infancy. Later the family resided northeast of Leighton and east of Peoria, Ia. on rented farms. In 1943 Willem bought an acreage just south of the Pella city limits where Terrill Construction is now located. In 1959 they moved to their home in Pella at 508 East First St.

Their daughter Nellie married Elmer Wyngarden. They live south of Leighton, Ia. They have five children and 15 grandchildren. Their daughter Frances married Glen Vander Hart on Oct. 16, 1964. Their children are: Kristen, Brenda, Douglas, and David. They live on a farm south of Knoxville, Ia. Janice married Joseph Crist on Nov. 9, 1967. Their children are: Susan, Donald, Jennifer, Annette, and Willis. They live in St. Louis, Mo. Maxine married Jack Newport. They had one son Charles. Micky passed away from cancer in 1982, at the age of 35. Their son John married Vicki Batterson. They live near Fremont, Ia. Their children are: Melissa, Mark, and Matthew. Their son Donald married Raeann Giardino. Their children are Tyler and Kale. They reside in Ottumwa, Ia.

William and Maries' oldest son Marion married Anna Vander Molen on June 23, 1943. They have seven children, 19 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Mary married Nickolas Meinders. They live near Leighton, Ia. Their children are: Terry, Alan, Jeannette, daughter Jennifer, Sandra, and Joel. William married Laura Van Zee. Their children are: William, Michael, and Brian. They farm near Cedar, Ia. Carroll married Judith Sturing. They farm near Cedar, Ia. Their children are: Danny, Rebecca, Timothy, and Stephen. Anton married Barbara Groenendyk. They live near Tracy, Ia. Their children are: Craig, Deanne, and Eric Hol. Gerald married Merry Anne Adair. They farm east of Bussey, Ia. Their children are Jason and Maaika. Kenneth married Rosabel Roose. They farm near New Sharon, Ia. They have one son Phillip. Marleen married Carroll Van Ringlestein. They live in Davenport, Ia. Their children are Paul and Katie.

Willem's other son Evert Hol married Cora Jonker in Dec. 1941. They had five children, four grandchildren and one great-grandson. Evelyn married Arvin Bandstra. They live on Peace St., Pella, Ia. and have two sons. Richard and wife Eileen live in Pella and Russell and wife, Lori have a son Stephen. Ruth Marie Hol was born Aug. 3, 1945. She died Apr. 17, 1965. Dorothy Hol married John Huisman. They live in Chicago, Ill. and have two sons Matthew and Lucas Huisman. Peter David Hol was born Dec. 10, 1952, and deceased Dec. 6, 1983, after a fire. Donna Hol was born July 31, 1955. She lives in Axtell, Nebr.

Willem and Marie's next daughter Janet married Elmer Vander Beek in July, 1943. They have three children and four grandchildren. JoAnn married Steve K. De Cook. They live in Johnston, Ia. They have two sons Stephen and David. Robert married Jill Snyder. They live in Federal Way, Wash. Marvin married Anne Tanasse. Their children are Sarah and Michael. They live at Federal Way, Wash.

Marie Hol married Bert Beekhuizen. They live in Pella, Ia. They have four children and six grandchildren. Beverly married Darrell Van Veldhuizen, a farmer near Eddyville, Ia.

They have two daughters Melissa and DeAnne. Marilyn married James Dean and lives at 200 East 13th St. Pella, Ia. They have three sons: James T., Ross, and Matthew. Arnold James Beekhuizen lives in Los Angeles, Cal. Marla married Bryce Dahm and lives at 1548 West 3rd. St. Pella, Ia. They have one son Jasen.

Minnie Hol married Henry Van Wyngarden. They live on a farm near Peoria, Ia. They have five children and eight grandchildren. Walter married Isla De Vries. They live at Jamestown, Mich. They have three daughters: Annalise, Jennifer, and Carleen. Larry married Barbara Van Sant and they live on a farm near Killduff, Ia. They have two children Steven and Susan. Daryl lives at home with his parents. Ronald married Cheryl Van Haaften. They live in West Des Moines and have two sons Eric and Scott. Sherry married Douglas Pfadenhauer. They live in Pella and have one son Jason.

Willem Dirk Hol died on Oct. 27, 1970, at the age of 86. His wife Marie passed away Aug. 4, 1984, at the age of 89.

by Mrs. Elmer Vander Beek

HOSPERS, HENRY
F244

Henry Hospers was mayor of Pella from 1867 until he resigned in 1871 to move to Orange City, Ia., which he foundedied

Before becoming mayor, Henry –

1 – Came, at age 17, to Pella with the Rev. Scholte group as representative of his father (Jan, city clerk and schoolmaster in Hoog Blokland, the Netherlands) and grandfather (Klaas Middelkoop, in whose farmhouse near Hoog Blokland Rev. Scholte often held religious services) and their families to determine if they should come to Pella – for religious reasons, as Jan would lose an inheritance on leaving Hollandied Henry's letters convinced Jan and his father-in-law to come to Pella in 1849. Jan lost a son and two daughters to illness enroute.

2 – Had a job as surveyor and became head of the crew when he was able to compute the distance across a stream by triangulation.

3 – Besides his surveying, assisting his employer Walter Clemons to prepare a map of most of Lake Prairie and Jefferson Twps., the area occupied by the Dutch, with sections divided into quarters and 80s and woods and waterways indicatedied Because of this background and his marriage to Cornelia Welle, Henry opened a real estate office on the corner of Frankling Ave., building it in the form of an old castle.

4 – Became Pella's second schoolteacher when his first, Isaac Overkamp, determined another was neededied Henry taught in the village of Pella, one of three districts in the colony. He had 40 pupils, each paying 13½ cents a week to attendied

5 – Supported a move in 1855, to incorporate Pella. He was chosen one of the clerks of the successful election. He was elected first alderman of the 2nd Ward and later served three more terms.

Henry's first wife had died before he was elected mayor. They had four surviving children: John, Gertrude, Peter, and Hendrika. The latter was raised by her Hospers grandparents after her mother diedied Henry later married the daughter of the Gerrit Overkamps who had been his guardians on the trip to Pella. Henry and Hendrina had eight children: Gerrit, Maggie, Henry and Effie, born in Pella, and Eva, Arta, Isaac, and Hendrina born in Orange City. Arta, who had musical training at Oberlin College, met and married a Pella musician, Arie P. Kuyper, and spent the rest of her life in Pella.

A.P. Kuyper and Arta Hospers Kuyper had two sons, Jean M.M. and H. Hospers. Jean and Elva Klein Kuyper have two sons, J. Paul and David B. Hop and Joyce Huibregtse Kuyper have four children, J. Quentin, Susan, Ruth-Ellen, and Lois.

Henry Hospers was also a practicing lawyer and started a Dutch weekly newspaper, the Pella Weekbladied In 1870 the State of Ia. asked him to go to Holland to ask more Hollanders to emigrate to Ia. – the state liked the honest, hard-working people who had settled Pella. Henry advertised, lectured and answered questions in every part of Hollandied Back in the U.S.A. and Orange City, he started De Volkavriend, a weekly, to continue persuading people to move to Ia.

Before leaving for Holland, Henry had advised and legally aided a group of young Pella men who wanted to start their own colony. Orange City was founded in 1870 but because of his work for the state, Henry did not move until 1871. While a member of the state legislature from Sioux County, Henry authored and guided to passage a law to give, for the first time, widows a share of their husband's estate. Henry died in 1901.

by Jean M.M. Kuyper and H. Hospers Kuyper

HUFFMAN FAMILY
F245

Don Huffman Family. Left to right: Jim, Kimberley, Maxine and Donald

Although the Huffman family, Donald, Maxine, Kimberley and James, calls Pella home, all four members were born in different areas of the world. Donald, son of Claude I. Huffman and Florence M. Smith Huffman, was born in Pittsburg, Kan., Nov. 28, 1929. Maxine, daughter of Dr. John W. Fish and Nellie Grey Fish, was born in Decature, Ill., Aug. 18, 1928. Kimberley was born in or around Seoul, Korea, June 2, 1970. The name given to her in Korea was Lee Yoon Yung. James was born in or around Pussan, Korea, Mar. 10, 1969. The name given to him in Korea was Jin Jong Hee.

Probably of most interest is how the four Huffmans came to live in Pella, for none moved here at the same time. Maxine, after graduating from Decatur High School, attended Millikin University in her hometown, completing her B.A. degree in three years. She then attended Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kan. to work on an M.S. in biology. It was there that she and Donald met. She completed her M.S. in 1951 and he his B.S. at Pittsburg State, and they both continued further work in botany at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kan. Donald completed his M.S. in plant pathology and botany in 1952 and transferred to Iowa State University, Ames, to begin his doctoral program in plant pathology; thus the first Huffman arrived in Iowa.

Maxine completed her Ph.D. in botany in January of 1953. She remained in Manhattan, Kan., in a research position until May of that year. However, on March 21 of that year, Don and she were married at the First Methodist Church in Manhattan, Kan. Maxine, seeking a college teaching position in Iowa, was hired by Central College to teach biology. She moved to Ames, Ia., in May and then on to Pella in September. Thus the second Huffman arrived in Iowa, and the first in Pella.

Donald received his Ph.D. in plant pathology from Iowa State University in December, 1955. He accepted a position of plant pathologist for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture and Kansas State University in January, 1956. Maxine had intentions of moving to Kansas that June of 1956 and of starting graduate studies in English, but President Vander Lugt of Central College suggested that she should start her English graduate program, but remain at Central and have Donald consider a teaching position at Central in biology. By then both Huffmans liked Central College and Pella enough that they accepted Dr. Vander Lugt's suggestion, and in January of 1957 Donald became the second Huffman in Pella.

In November of 1970, Donald and Maxine applied to adopt a baby through the Holt Adoption Agency. They learned early in March of 1971 that they would receive a daughter. She arrived on June 24 of that year and the number of Huffmans in Pella grew to three.

Starting from the time she was about four years old, Kimberley began asking her parents for a big brother. So, in November of 1974 Donald and Maxine once again applied to the Holt Agency, this time specifically requesting a boy slightly older than Kim. They learned in March of 1975 that James had been selected for their family and he arrived at Chicago's O'Hare Field on July 24 of that year. This completed the Huffman family, who has since then remained in Pella with the exception of several terms of teaching for Donald and Maxine in Central's campus in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, and a year in Hilo, Hawaii (1984-85) where both Don and Maxine taught at the University of Hawaii, and Kim and Jim took their freshman year of high school at Waiakea High School.

In 1967 Donald and Maxine built a home at 310 Central Drive where the family resides. All four are members of the Second Reformed Church in Pella. Even though the family is a typically American mixture of many nationalities including German, Alsatian, Cherokee Indian, Scotch, Irish, Dutch, and Korean,

they are at home with the values and way of life they found in Pella.

by Maxine F. Huffman

HUGEN, BERTHA NIKKEL

F246

Henry Nikkel was born in Ede, Gelderland, The Netherlands, the son of Jacobus and Cornelia Roelofsen Van Dyke Nikkel. He came to America at the age of six on the steamship *Graafschaap*, in 1907. The family settled on a farm north of Sully. He had two half-brothers, Hendrik and Herman Van Dyke, and six brothers: Jacob and Albert, twins; Marcelis; Will; John; and Tennis — a half-sister, Cornelia Van Dyke and three sisters: Jennie; Alice; and Marie. Henry attended rural schools for several years, and later graduated from the eighth grade of Sully Christian School.

Bertha and Dick Hugen

On Mar. 14, 1921, he married Bertha Sjaardema, daughter of Douwe and Catharina Van Dyk Sjaardema. Bertha was born on Nov. 8, 1900, Wright Co., Ia. The family then moved to the Pella-Sully area where Bertha graduated from the Sully Christian School. She then attended Grundy Academy and College for two years.

After Henry and Bertha were married they worked as farm hands, and soon rented a farm of their own near Galesburg where kathleen Marie was born on Dec. 9, 1923. In 1925 they moved to a farm North of Sully where the remainder of the children were born: Dewey James, Mar. 26, 1925; William Junior, June 26, 1927; Joyce Cornelia, May 20, 1931; Robert George, Feb. 23, 1933; and Alice Jean, Nov. 5, 1944.

On Nov. 29, 1945, Dewey married Betty Lanser and their six children are: Carroll, Robert, Linda ,Douglas, Diana, Michael. Kathleen married Charles Fopma on Dec. 6, 1945, and they have five children: Barbara, Betty, Kathy, Calvin, Steven. Joyce married Gilbert Bandstra on Dec. 7, 1950, and their six children are: Karla, Ronald, Jerry, James, Robert, Lisa. Gilbert passed away on Dec. 9, 1986. William (Bill) married Lillian Geels on June 5, 1952, and they have eight children: Phillip, Keith, Mark, Eric, Paul, Laurel, Jaci, and Thomas. Robert married Joyce Roose on Feb. 29, 1956, and they have six children: Verlan, Beverly, Kevin and Karen (twins), Brian, and Bradley. Jean married Verland Engle on Sept. 20, 1963, and they have three children: Sandra, Randall, and Rustin.

Henry enjoyed farming, woodworking, singing, and his grandchildren. His death came very unexpectedly, due to a massive stroke, on Apr. 25, 1962. Bertha then had a farm sale, and moved to Pella in 1963, where she purchased a home on Spruce Drive. She worked for seven years in Van Sittert's and later Vande Lune's Fabric Shop. On Dec. 1, 1966, she married Dick Hugen. They enjoyed traveling and spending the winter months in Florida. Later they moved too Westview Apartments where Bertha still lives today. Bertha welcomed into her family six step-children: Harold, Bert, Henry, and Bob Hugen, all of Oskaloosa, Melvin Hugen of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Milly Hoeksema (Max) of Pella. Also 19 grandchildren were added to the fold. Dick passed away on Sept. 27, 1981. Bertha is still active traveling and taking part in church activities of the Calvary Christian Reformed church. she is an active member of Pella Senior Citizens and enjoys her family of 12 children, 53 grandchildren, of whom 44 are married and so far have given her 87 great-grandchildren.

by Jean Engle

Henry and Bertha Nikkel Family: Front, l-r: Bertha, Alice Jean, Henry; Back, l-r: Robert, William, Kathleen, Dewey, Joyce.

HUISMAN, ROELF MEERTEN AND ANNA JANS

F247

Roelf Meerten Huisman, born in Scheemer, province of Groningen, was the ancestor of immigrants who came to Pella in 1910. Roelf was born May 11, 1817, and died at Norg, Jan. 16, 1881. He had married Anna Jans, also of Groningen, and they were farmers. She was born Sept. 10, 1816, and died in Norg Feb. 11, 1875.

Their first son was Meerten Cornelius Huisman, born in Norg May 22, 1849. He was a farmer there and died Feb. 4, 1919. His wife was Roelofjen Timmermans, whom he married Dec. 22, 1870. She was born in Norg Jan. 7, 1848, and died in Haarlem Jan. 24, 1931.

Another son, Cornelius, was born in Norg Mar. 9, 1858. He married Geziena Moejes, born Mar. 21, 1864. She died after the birth of her two children in 1887. The two children, Roelof Meerten and Geertje, were born in Haarlemmermeer. After the young wife's death, Cornelius married her sister, Maria Moejes. They had eight children. They were: Cornelius, Arnold, Roelof, Martha, Anna, Nellie, Margaret, and Arie. The parents, with the daughter of the first marriage, and the other children came to America in 1910. They came to Pella.

Mr. Huisman was a carpenter, and folks from Otley encouraged him to go there as they needed his skills. All but one of the sons were carpenters. The other was a farmer. A son Marion was born in Otley.

Their son, Roelof (Ralph), worked with his father and then moved to Pella where he married Johanna Kelderman. Ralph was born in Holland in 1893, and Johanna was

born northeast of Pella on a farm in 1892. They celebrated 60 years of marriage together in June 1974. Johanna died in 1974, and Ralph died in 1984. They were the parents of four children: Marie in 1915, Wilhelmina (Wilma) in 1916, Ralph in 1919, and Anna in 1921.

Marie married Eugene S. Ver Ploeg in 1933. They had no children.

Wilma married Lawrence Daidge in 1941, and made her home in Illinois. They had four children: Helen Jerie, Fred Ralph, Judy Ann, and Carol Marie.

Ralph married Ruth De Haan. They were both teachers, and Ralph served in World War II. They returned to Pella, where Ralph was a carpenter and built several houses. He also started a new industry; the product was a custom Cruisall, a pickup mounted camper. After about two years, Ralph had a heart attack and had to give it up. After recuperation of a year he went back to teaching as an industrial arts instructor until he retired. He and his wife taught in the same school system for 20 years. Their two sons both were born in Pella, Bruce and Terry. Both are employed by insurance companies in Des Moines. They each have a child. Bruce has a daughter and Terry has a son.

Anna Huisman married Maynard Zwart. Their two children are Albert and Joan. Albert attended Central College where he met his wife. They live in Pennsylvania both working as teachers. Their children are Sandy, Mark, and John.

Joan married Dave Vander Hoogt. She had two children; they are living in Plano, Texas.

Anna Huisman Zwart died, the victim of cancer, in 1977. Her husband died a year later of a heart attack.

by Marie Ver Ploeg

HUYSER, FRANCIS AND JEANNETTE

F248

Francis Cornelius Huyser, born Dec. 29, 1907, was named after both of his grandfathers: Frans Huyser (1828-1924) who brought his family over from Holland in 1884, and Cornelius Van Houweling (1836-1897) who was a member of the Aart Van Houweling family that came to America in 1847 on the ship *Maastrom*. His parents were Matthew F. Huyser, Nov. 9, 1874 – May 21, 1948, and Carrie Van Houweling, June 3, 1879 – July 11, 1960). They were married on Feb. 13, 1907 at their farm home in Scott Twp., Mahaska Co., Iowa, three miles west of Leighton. Francis graduated from Pleasant Grove Rural School in Mahaska Co., and Pella High School in 1924. A Model "T" Ford roadster provided daily transportation (eight miles of dirt roads) for Francis and a neighbor, Ernest De Cook, for a portion of their high school days. After two years on the farm, two years at Central College, and three more years on the farm due to his father being incapacitated, Francis entered Iowa State College and graduated in 1934 with a degree in mechanical engineering. This was during the time of the "Big Depression" and jobs were scarce. Only two out of his class of forty-eight had jobs at graduation. Later that summer, temporary work as a draftsman was obtained at a Machine Tool Factory in Rockford, Ill. Initial pay was 40 cents an hour. Francis married Jeannette Dekker (1906) on Jan. 1, 1935, in the Collegiate Presbyterian Church at Ames, Ia. even though there was no assurance of work being available upon their return to Rockford. They recall being able to hold grocery bills down to about four dollars a week.

In 1938 Machine Tool business was slow and he went to work for the Riehle Testing Machine Division of American Machine and Metals, Inc. in East Moline, Ill. The company was later renamed Ametek, Inc. He became responsible for development and the production design of machines and instrumentation for the testing and acceptance of materials and/or components to be used in commercial products, i.e., autos, aircraft, etc., or for materials research. He was issued a number of patents in connection with testing equipment. During World War II, the testing machine division was assigned one of the highest manufacturing priorities in connection with the war effort. In 1956, Francis was sent to Germany for three months to become familiar with a new line of equipment that had been acquired by his company. He retired Jan. 1, 1970, when the testing machine division was moved to another facility in Pennsylvania.

Jeannette had spent four years teaching home economics in the Reformed Church Jicarilla Apache Indian Mission School in Dulce, N. Mex. prior to her marriage and has always continued to be active in church work. Her activities at Central Presbyterian Church in Rock Island, Ill. included teaching, youth group, and women's work, both at the local level and the Presbyterial (regional) level.

In 1981, after living in Ill. for 47 years, the Huysers decided that since their roots were in the Pella area, it would be desirable to move here. They now reside at 806 East Third St. in Pella.

The couple has one son James K.

by F.C. Huyser

HUYSER, FRANS

F249

Frans Huyser was born in Rysoord, South Holland (near Rotterdam) on Dec. 16, 1828, the second son of Willem Huyser (1796-1839) and Lyntje Van Gilst (1803-1883). Frans married Adriana Van Gilst (1824-1862) in 1850. They had six children whose names were: Lyntje, Agatha, Willem, Cornelis, Leendert, and Barbara. Some years after his first wife died, Frans married Adriana de Haan (1838-1914), who may have been his housekeeper. The children of this second marriage were: Regina, Marie, and Matthew.

Frans came to America and Pella with his second wife and six of his nine children in 1884. They left Antwerp in April bound for New York on the *Westernland*, and apparently had a good crossing, making the trip in ten days. Two of the daughters, Agatha and Barbara, married in Holland and did not come with the rest of the family. Lyntje came two years later. Aart, a younger brother of Frans, brought his family from Holland to Pella in 1885. The two sisters in Holland did, surprisingly, make the trip to Pella for a visit in 1911.

When Frans brought his family from Holland, they lived in Pella a short time, then he bought a farm two miles south of Sully. The farm apparently was known as the Tolbert place on which the Bethel Cemetery is located. He and his family did well at farming. Some years later, probably about 1912, after the younger children, Regina, Marie, and Matthew were married, Frans and Adriana moved back to Pella. Leendert, who was single at the time, remained on the farm. The home to which they moved in Pella was at approximately 805 W. First St., a block west of the square. Frans, then in his eighties, did some gardening and thoroughly enjoyed his pipe. Adriana died in 1914 at the age of 76. Frans lived alone for a few years, but old age and failing eyesight were taking their toll. He lived with the Wm. DeGeus family (daughter Regina) east of Pella the last four years of his life. He died in August of 1924 at the age of 95 years.

The families of Frans' seven children who came to America are as follows: Lyntje (1850-1931) married Hendrikus Vos. They had no children.

Willem (1854-1938) married Elizabeth Kool. Their six children were: Frank (1890) married to Gertie Bloem; Andrew (1892) married to Henrietta Blom; Adriana "Jennie" (1893) married to Joe Vande Kieft; Anna (1895) remained single; Lena (1897) married to Joe Vande Kieft after Adriana's death; and Tone (1899) married to Margaret Dykstra.

Cornelius (1856-1943) married Marie Vander Pol. Their seven children were: Francis (1887) married to Gertrude Van Zante; Gertrude (1888) married to John Castorf, and to Pete Hardeman after Castorf's death; Jennie (1889) married to Harry Terpstra; Stoffel (1890) married to Grace Paltzer; Henry (1892) married to Lizzie Maasen; Garret (1892) married to Margaretha VanGalen; and Lena (1899) married to Pete Hardeman after Gertrude's death.

Leendert (about 1858) in later years married Kate Sona Veld Peek.

Regina (1869-1951) married William De Geus. Their seven children were: Nellie, Francis, Cornelius, Andrew, Josie, Marion, and Jeanetta. More detail on this family elsewhere in this issue.

Marie (1872-1951) married Lambertus (Bert) Van Dusseldorp. Their children were: Simon (1911) married to Margaret Hiemstra; Ada (1914) married to Alfred Van Wyk; Margaret (1916) married to Gerrit Van Wyk; and Francis (1921) married to Evelyn Vander Hart.

Matthew (1874-1948) married Carrie Van Houweling. Their son, Francis C. (1907) married Jeannette Dekker. They also raised a niece and a nephew, Carl (1914) and Esther Van Houweling (1919) whose parents, Gerrit Van Houweling and Kate Van Zante both died before Esther was one year old and Carl was six. Carl married Marie Brand. They farmed in the Prairie City area and have four children. Esther lived with her foster parents on the farm west of Leighton, and in Pella after 1945. Esther worked at Jaarsmaa's Bakery and at Lee's Variety for many years.

by F.C. Huyser

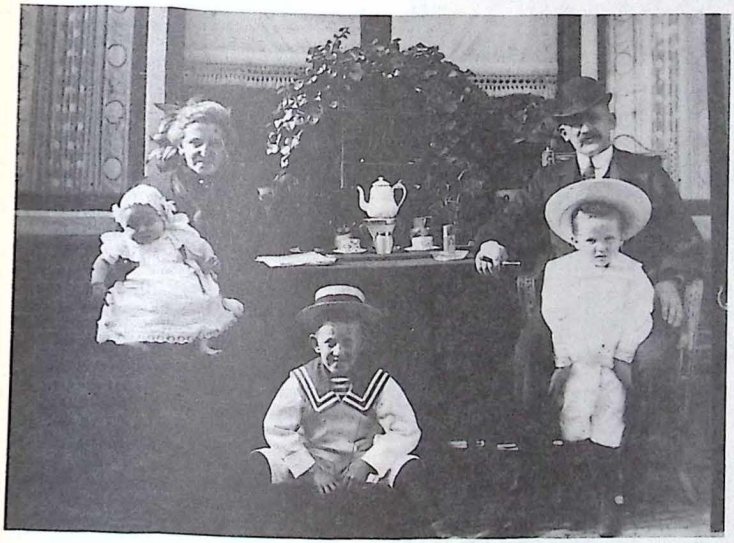
The Frans Huyser Family (1911). Front, l-r: Lyntje, Frans, Adriana (his wife), Agatha (Aagje); Middle, l-r: Willem, Barbara, Cornelis, Regina; Back, l-r: Leendert, Matthew, Marie.

in't VELD, ARNOLD AND ELSIE

F250

Arnold in't Veld was born in Vlaardingen, So. Holland, Sept. 1, 1906, the eldest son of Arie and Christine de Bruin in't Veld. He had a younger brother Klaas and a sister Maartje. They emigrated in Dec. 1920, coming first to Eddyville, Ia. where his father started a meat market for Teunis Den Hartog. In 1923 the family moved to Pella where his father made bologna and butchered for Ulrich's Meat Market.

When the family left from Rotterdam on the steamship, *Nieuwe Amsterdam*, the ship came down the Maas through Vlaardingen. Many relatives and friends gathered on the corner of the Haven and the Maas to wave good-bye, with handkerchiefs and lanterns.



Picture taken on the Plaats (patio) behind the Arie in't Veld Meat Market and home in Vlaardingen, So. Holland. Left to right: Christine holding Maartje (Martha), Arnold sitting in front of the tea table and Arie in't Veld with Klaas.

Front, l-r: Elsie, Judith and "Butch", Back, l-r: Arnold and Marlene.

Many of them did not expect to meet again in their lifetime.

Mother Christine left very reluctantly, but she said the Lord promised "Ik zal met U wezen vandag en morgen", in English, "I will be with you today and tomorrow." She claimed that promise for herself. She did not learn the English language so the in-laws and grandchildren learned to speak Dutch, including many nursery rhymes.

Arnold was a butcher and meat cutter for Ulrich's Meat Market, Klyn & De Winter and later butchered for Farmers' Union Locker Plant. The last 15 years before he retired he worked in the sliding door department at Rolscreen Company.

In June 1934 Arnold was married to Elsie van Dusseldorp and they had three children: Marlene Joan, Aug. 1935; Judith Christa, July 1938; and Arnold Dale, Apr. 1943. Marlene married Kenneth Beck, and they live at Springfield, Mo. They had a son Scott, who died in a dune buggy accident in Oct. 1974. They also have a son Dan and two daughters, Julie and Beckie. Judith married Eddy Owens. They live in Des Moines and have three children: Michael, their son; and two daughters, Michelle and Cynthia. Michael married Peggy Mc Masters, and they have one son Mitchell Scott. Michelle married Joseph Roderick Lane II, and they have a son Joseph Roderick III.

Arnold Dale, known as "Butch", was married in June 1966 to Nancy Meyers of Somerset, Pa. He served in the U.S. Navy for four years and was sonarman of the Submarine *USS Grampus*. He died in an automobile accident in Iowa in Sept. 1966.

After having lived in various rented houses over the years, Arnold and Elsie lived at 1123 West Second St. in Pella from 1951 to 1975. Elsie was employed at Pella National Bank for 26 years. Arnold departed from this life to be with his Lord in Nov. 1975. Elsie continued to live at West Second St. until late in 1977, when she married Ralph Menning and moved with him to serve at the Bussing Reformed Church in Mc Kee, Ky. At present they are living in the East Side addition in Pella.

by Elsie in't Veld Menning

IN'T VELD, KLAAS AND ETHEL

F251

Our family came from Holland in Dec. of 1920, on the steamship, *Nieuwe Rotterdam*. After going through World War I, Holland being neutral, it was hard to make a living. Dad was in the retail meat business.

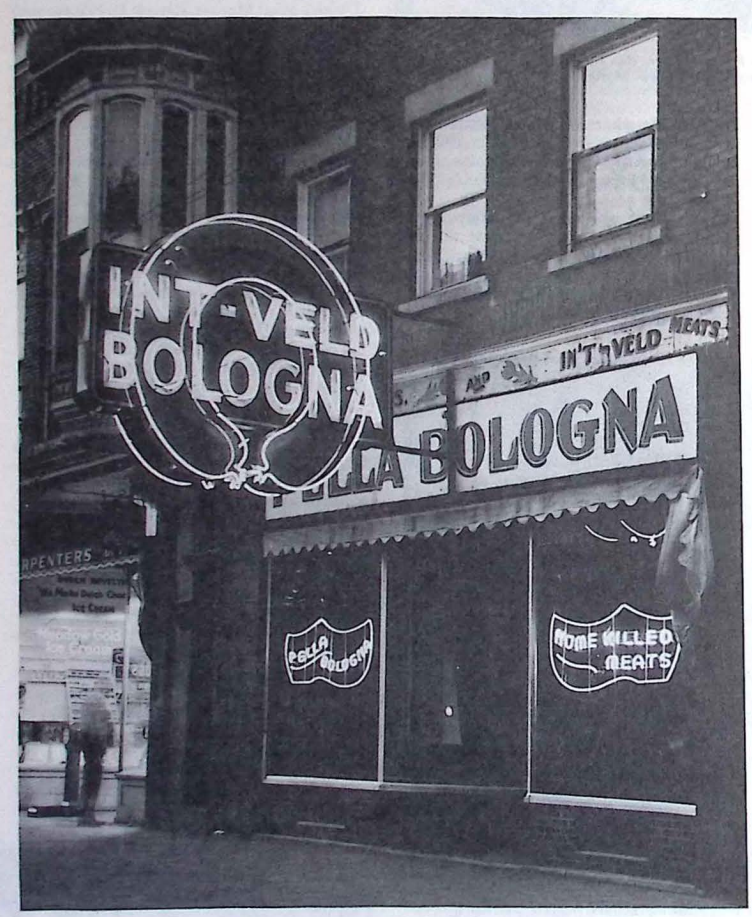
During the war the meat handlers would get together and butcher horses every two weeks or so, and then he would get part of a horse to sell. He also hauled coal during the night and in that way was able to keep food on the table.

He owned his own building, which contained a meat market, living quarters, and a place to butcher and make all kinds of bologna and sausage. The front was the shop, and then the living quarters which had an upstairs for storage and sleeping quarters for us three kids. Back of this was the *plaats*, an open area which had an enclosed shed for livestock until butchering time and, weather permitting, they would butcher here. Back of this was a building where he could butcher during bad weather, and where he would make all kinds of sausage and bologna.

How it came about our coming to America is quite a story. Tuenis Den Hartog, who operated a 500 acre farm near Eddyville, Ia., which belonged to the Gaass family, came back to Holland for a visit. He tried to have his brother-in-law, John Maarleveld, who was a good friend of my father, come to the states and start a butchershop in Eddyville and build a slaughter house on the farm. Since he fed lots of cattle and hogs, it would be real convenient. He wanted to get a couple of his boys in the business. The brother-in-law's wife did not want to leave Holland and they approached Dad on the deal. After much persuasion, I think, they got mother to go along with the plan.

We left Rotterdam, Holland in Dec. of 1920. It took nine days to come to New York traveling second class, and then three days and two nights on the train to Eldon, Ia., where they picked us up and took us to Eddyville. We lived there for three years, the business failing.

Dad had friends in Grand Haven and Muskegon, Mich., and had gotten a job in a furniture factory. When he came back to Eddyville, Luke Vander Linden, who was operating Ulrich's Meat Market in Pella, hired Dad to make bologna and do butchering so we moved to Pella in 1923.



This photo was taken about 1948 for a story in the *Pella Chronicle*. The sign, on the square, was a real landmark in the community.

My father, Arie In't Veld, was born in 1875, and passed away in 1953. His father's name was Arnoldes and his mother's name was Maartje. My mother was born in 1868 and died in 1963. Her father's name was Klaas de Bruin and my mother, Christine, was named after her mother, Christina. I remember all my grandparents. Of the four, two were in their 90's and the other two were in their 80's.

My brother, Arnold, was born in 1906 and died in 1975. He was married to Elsie Van Dusseldorp. I was born in 1910, and married Ethel May Ahrweiler in 1931. We had two daughters, Delores Ann, born 1933, and Sally Lou, who was born in 1937. My sister, Maartje, was born in 1912, and married Jack Mac Donald. They had two daughters, Chris and Ruth, and live in Elgin, Ill. Dody married Carl Boat, and they have two boys, Rick and Steve. Sally married Denny Rust, and they have a daughter, Tracy, and a son named Scott.

I went to a private school in Holland. When we came to the United States, they started all three of us in kindergarten. Anna (Cornelisen) Klaaren, who now lives in Pella, translated and helped us get started in school. By the time we moved to Pella, I was able to start in seventh grade at Webster School.

I was hanging around the store after school, and they put me to work, being pretty good size for my age. I would pack orders for bologna to be mailed, slice dried beef, and cut sandwich meat on Saturday. I would also get casings ready for stuffing.

I went to Pella High School and graduated in the class of 1930, and attended Central College for a year and one semester.

I had met Ethel, and after a two year courtship we eloped in 1931. She had gone to Oskaloosa High School, and to Penn College for one year and one semester, working at the A & P Grocery in her extra time. I started to work full time at the meat market where Arie Schilder had become a partner in the business.

Ethel May (Ahrweiler) In't Veld was born May 18, 1912. She lived east of Oskaloosa and went to country school. Her father, Henry Ahrweiler, 1875-1944, was born in Germany and as a young boy he came with his parents and six brothers and sisters to America. One boy died on the way over and was buried at sea.

They settled at Hawkey, a coal mining area near Albia, where his father operated a saloon. I have been told he ran a few out of the place with a shot gun if they got out of line. Henry worked in the coal mines for many years and after several years bought a farm. He would work in the mine during the day and do the farm work when he got home. Ethel's mother, Maggie (Gegner) Ahrweiler (1877-1968) was a housekeeper and would take care of all the chores. Ethel had one sister, Ella (Babe), who now lives in a nursing home in Norwalk. She married Clarence Fowler and they had three daughters, Patti, Norma, and Nadine.

About 1935, Dick De Wit approached me on operating a meat market in an IGA grocery store he wanted to start. Ethel and I talked it over and decided to make the move. I

worked there until 1941 when John Onstine, who owned the building, which is now In't Veld's Market and was vacant, talked to the Ver Meer boys, Dick and Tone, who had a grocery, and myself. He wanted them to move the grocery, and for me to start a meat market. We came to an agreement and made the move in 1941. We moved into the apartment above the store and sold our house.

I went into the service in 1943, closing the market during that period. I had basic training at Camp Barkley, near Abilene, as a cook and baker. After six weeks we were assigned to the 381st Station Hospital and shipped to Seattle. From there by slow boat it took 30 days to get to Okinawa. Our unit was stationed between Yontan and Kedena airports. While there I was surprised to have several Pella fellows come to see me. Jim "Peely" Kempkes came in a jeep with several guys, and also Herb Vander Waal and Carl De Wit.

The rumors were out that we were going to be in on the main attack on Japan, but lucky for us, they decided to drop the two big ones. After several weeks of waiting, which seemed like an awfully long time, we were sent home again, by slow boat and another 30 days. Were we ever glad to see our families and the town of Pella again.

After buying three lots from Cass Lautenbach with Wayne Hill and each taking half, we built a new home on Marion Avenue in 1951.

In 1971, Carl Boat, our son-in-law bought half of the business, and, when we had a chance to sell in 1972 to Bob Vander Linden, we did so. I was ready to retire and very tired of having to put up with the hard hats and white coats (inspectors).

We also sold our home to Jake Brom and moved into the Pella Manor, spending the winter months in Mission, Tex., but am always glad to get back to Pella. On the way we stop in Spring, Tex., and spend a few days with Sally and her family which is a nice break in the trip.

by Klaas In't Veld

JACK, DONALD E. AND LETTY (KLENK)
F252

Donald and Letty Klenk Jack reside at 501 Madison, Pella, Ia. Donald's grandparents, William Jack I, Glasgow, Scotland, and Jane Greer Jack, Ballymena, Ireland, lived in her hometown and were parents of eight living children: Elizabeth (1878); Joseph W. (1880); Annie (1886); Rebecca (1887); Sarah (1888); Alexander (1890); John (1892); William Jack II (1897). Grandmother Jane died in 1902. Grandfather Jack deceased approximately in the 1940's.

Donald Jack's father, William Jack II, came to America in 1909 following his older brothers and sisters. After being in several states, he married Hazel B. Icenbice 1925, sister of Ernest Lester Icenbice. William Jack II and Hazel had three children: Kathryn Louise, Donald Eugene, and William Harold III.

Letty J. Klenk Jack's background has European beginnings. Her great-grandparents resided in Germany. Her grandfather, John Klenk, became a U.S. citizen in 1898. He deceased in 1953. His wife Louise A. Klenk deceased in 1927.

Letty's maternal ancestors have West Virginia roots dating back at least to 1806 or earlier. The names of Villers, Covalt, Horner and McCoy appear as ancestors.

Donald Eugene Jack (1928) and Letty Jean Jack (1926) were married September 26, 1949. Their two children, Linda Jean and Jane Ann, became Mrs. John (Linda) Henry and Mrs. James (Jane) Goodlaxson. One grandchild, Sara Jean Henry, born in January 1976, deceased in March 1986 and is buried in Calhoun Cemetery near Magnolia, Ia. Other grandchildren are Jack Austin Henry (1977), Patrick Oran Henry (1981), and Michael Kyle Henry (1983); Justin Eugene Goodlaxson (1979) and Jessica Ann Goodlaxson (1981).

Donald and Letty Klenk Jack have been engaged in farming and field tiling while living on their farm near Knoxville from 1970 until 1979 at which time they moved to Pella. Letty has worked at Pella Nursing Home, Pella Hospital and Hill Top Manor South.

by Donald E. Jack

JOHNSON, EDWARD AND CATHARINE
F253

Edward and Catharine Johnson.

We purchased our farm in Summit Twp. from Andrew Jensma in 1954. The first ten years of our marriage was spent living in Monroe where our first three children were born. The spring of 1954 found us moving with Lloyd (1945), Laurel (1947), and LaVon (1952) to begin our years of dairy farming.

The first six years we milked our cows by hand. While the milk was still fresh, we would pour it into a cream separator. We sold the cream and fed the skim milk to the hogs. For the next two years, we sold whole milk in cans. In 1960 the milking machine was purchased and a bulk cooler was added two years later. Edward has served on the Advisory Board of Swiss Valley Farms for the past ten years.

In 1962 and 1964, our daughters LuAnn and Linda, respectively, joined our family. We've enlarged our home and added a silo and several buildings over the years.

A most frightening experience happened May 4, 1985, when I looked out to the pasture and saw our bull tossing my husband in the air as it would a rag doll. Not taking time to think of a wise thing to do, I grabbed a club and ran into the pasture. I hit the bull on the nose and, needless to say, he turned immediately on me. After knocking me down and trampling me, the bull returned to Edward. I don't remember doing so, but I ran from the pasture calling the cows. The bull turned and walked away. A few days in the hospital and help putting in crops by our good relatives, friends and neighbors made us ever so thankful to be alive.

It makes us wonder what our ancestors lived through. Edward's grandfather, Edward Johnson, came over from England followed by Rebecca Thompkins in 1873 from Bozeat Northhamptonshire, England. They were married at Oskaloosa in Dec., 1880. The parents of five sons, one being Lewis who married Sadie Dop, the parents of Edward and Leona Johnson Buwalda. Sadie's parents, Hiddee Dop (1863) and Gretchen Zylstra (1868) met on a boat from Holland to America, Hiddee from Groningen and Gretchen from Enquierum. They married June 16, 1888.

My grandfather, George Forsythe Marshall (1858) was born in Salisbury, Scotland, to Robert and Mary Forsythe Marshall. They came to America in 1867. George married Ulissia Arabella Tool in 1883. "Belle" (1864), was the daughter of James A. and Sarah Fouts Tool who originally came from Virginia of Irish descent. George and Belle were the parents of eight children, Hubert (1901) being the youngest. Hubert married Flossie Wood (1903) in 1922, parents of Hubert "Jr.", Catharine and Paul. Flossie's parents were John Wesley Wood (1865) and Eliza May Nolin (1870). After the Wood marriage in 1888, they purchased 80 acres of timber east of Monroe, cleared the land, and built their first home.

We are proud to pass this heritage on to our children and grandchildren. At this writing our oldest son, Lloyd, is living in Los Angeles, Calif. Our son, Laurel, wife Korena, daughters Denise and Dawn, reside near Willis, Tex. Daughter LaVon, husband Steve Roth children Matthew, Rachel, and Gretchen are at home in Newton, Ia. Daughter LuAnn, husband Doug DeHaan and son Daniel live on their acreage five miles west of Pella. Our youngest daughter Linda, husband Lyle Van Hemert and daughter Ashley reside temporarily in Davenport, Ia.

There may be many changes by the time this article is published. We have signed up for the whole-herd dairy buyout program which means all of our dairy cows and heifers will be sold by Sept., 1987. The government decided to try this program to rid our country of some of the surplus milk.

by Catharine Johnson

JOOSTEN, CALVIN L.
F254

Calvin L. Joosten was born in Todd Co., S. Dak., where he lived until he moved to Pella in 1946 in order to attend Central College. His father, Egbartus (Bert) Joosten, had come as a young boy of 17 from Ede, The Netherlands, the only one of a family of 15 children (six of whom died in infancy) to immigrate. After working as a farm hand in the Leighton area for a number of years, Bert homesteaded

The Calvin L. Joosten Family.

in S. Dak., where he married Clara Porter, a school teacher from Nebraska, and raised a family of three sons. The family, with the exception of Steve, the oldest son, moved to Pella in 1947. Bert found employment as a custodian at Central College, where he worked until his sudden death at the age of 56. His wife, Clara, worked as a practical nurse in Pella and later married Andrew Buwalda. The youngest Joosten son, Lynn, is a minister in the Reformed Church.

After graduating from Central College and teaching school at North English for three years, Calvin became owner and operator of the Garden Square Cafe, until it was destroyed by fire in 1960. He then worked for 12 years as food service manager at Central College and is presently employed by the State of Iowa as survey officer in the Department of Inspection and Appeals.

Calvin married Evelyn Tysseling, daughter of Herman A. and Nellie (Borgman) Tysseling, who was born on a farm near Pella. After graduating from Central College, Evelyn taught school at Annville Institute, Ky, for a year and was then employed as secretary to the president of Central College for ten years, when she retired to become homemaker and mother. She has held several part-time secretarial positions since then and is presently serving in that capacity at First Reformed Church.

Cal and Evelyn are the parents of one son, Kent, born in 1956. He graduated from Pella High School, where he was active in the music department, and received a Master's Degree in aerospace engineering from Iowa State University. He presently lives in Houston, Tex., and is employed at the Johnson Space Center.

by Mrs. Calvin (Evelyn) Joosten

KALDENBERG FAMILY

F255

Hendriekus Caldenberg

Hendriekus Caldenberg came to America in 1847. In April he arrived in Pella, seeking religious freedom and an economic opportunity. Hendriekus and Theuntje, his second wife, migrated from South Holland Province as a laborer, age 46, of the Christ afg. Faith. As a boy, Hendriekus spelled his last name "Caldenberg". In the early 1800's, the government changed the letter "C" to "K". Slowly the people accepted the change with the educated people changing their name spelling first. In the old world, Hendriekus was known to wear ear rings. Hendriekus and Theuntje Helmich, a widow, were united in marriage on Aug. 1, 1843 at Spike, Holland. Theuntje died of Cholera at Liverpool, England on the voyage to America. H. Kaldenberg became a citizen of Marion Co., Ia., on June 12, 1869. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

On June 11, 1823, Hendriekus (1801-1885) and Willemina Margareta Van Beem (1805-1840) were married at Herwijne, Province of Gelderland. Their second son, Theodorus Hendrikus (1826-1900) and Pieternella (Pietje) Van der Werff (1821-1885) came with H.P. Scholte on the ships named "Catharina Jackson" and "Pieter Floris". This couple was married on Mar. 26, 1849 in Mahaska Co. at the house of Perry L. Cropman by Henry Temple, Justice of the Peace. Their only child, Hendrik (Henry David), was born Mar. 10, 1850 in Pella. Hendrik was the first of his line to be born in the U.S.A. Theodorus kept his cows in a pasture which later became the site of the Second Reformed Church, 612 Broadway, Pella. After Theodorus' second marriage to Cella Inez Garrison (1861-1945), they lived in Keokuk. Theodorus and Cella are both buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Hamilton, Ill.

As a boy, Henry went by train to Keokuk for music lessons. He was considered a very good musician. Henry David was united in marriage to Emma Boot by E. Winter, Pastor of the First Reformed Church, Pella, Ia. on Aug. 27, 1875. Emma was born in Pella's Strawtown to Marinus and Hientje Ver Steeg Boot on Aug. 14, 1858. The H.D. Kaldenberg family lived south of Pella at the first curve of the elevator road. Their farming consisted of chickens, five milk cows, pigs, and many fruit trees - lots of apples. The boys milked the cows and hand-carried the can of cream to the south Pella Creamery. The children ran scantily clothed across the pasture to attend Webster School at Pella. Grandma Kaldenberg always read the Bible after dinner, first in Dutch and then in English. On Sunday evenings and other occasions, the family would sing psalms and hymns. When Pella Fair time came, Emma would usually win a blue ribbon with a loaf of her fresh-baked bread. After earning a penny to a nickel baby sitting for their aunt or working in a neighbor's pickle patch, the boys would buy candy at Thomassen's Store in south Pella. their children's names are: Petternella (Nellie) (1876-1943), Marenus Theadore (1878-1953), Theadore Henry (1880-1952), Leendart (1882-1952), Jon (1884-1884), Henrietta (1886-1943), John (1888-1951), Cornelius (1890-1965), Hubert (1892-1971), Arthur (1894-1955), Bertha (1896-1969), Robert William (1898-1980), and George (1899-1982). Henry David Kaldenberg passed away from a heart attack on Mar. 27, 1913. Emma

Henry Kaldenberg family. 1st row, l-r: Henry, Robert, Bertha, George, and Emma; 2nd row, l-r: Hubert and Arthur; 3rd row, l-r: Leendart, Henrietta, Cornelius, and Peternella; 4th row, l-r: Marenus Theadore, Theadore Henry, and John. Picture was taken around 1905.

moved to 506 E. First St. around 1920 and lived there until she passed away on July 18, 1941. Henry and Emma are both buried in Graceland Cemetery.

by Dr. Ronald Kaldenberg

KALDENBERG, LEON AND WILMA

F256

Wilma and Leon Kaldenberg

Leon and Wilma Kaldenberg, both natives of Pella, were married on Oct. 28, 1976, and now reside in Lynnville, Ia. Leon is a self-employed farmer and, as Wilma described him, is the "Socrates" of the area.

Wilma is a special education teacher in the Lynnville-Sully High School. She is a graduate of Central College and has an M.S.E. from Drake University. Leon has degrees from University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and Drake University.

Both Leon and Wilma lived in the Pella area many years before their marriage. Both attended Pella High School in the 1940's and both attended Central College some years later. Leon, the son of Hubert and Johanna (LeCocq) Kaldenberg, combined his career as a student and farmer and took care of his aging parents after they moved into Pella. After they passed on, he continued to live in their house in Pella until he and Wilma married.

Wilma's children from her previous marriage to Gilbert Steenhoek are Lila, Mrs. Glenn Turnbull, and Kyle Steenhoek. Lila and Glenn live in the historical Voorhees home (which they are restoring) located about four miles east of Pella on Highway 163. Kyle lives in Pella and is employed by a local building contractor. Grandsons are Hanson, Travis, and Seamus Turnbull and Kevin and Michael Steenhoek.

Wilma's stepchildren from her marriage to Alfred Vander Werff are Larry Vander Werff of Reasonor and James Vander Werff of Pella. Her stepdaughter from her marriage to Cleo Brush is Sheryl (Mrs. James) Van Weelden of Des Moines.

Wilma's husband Gilbert was killed in an accident in 1955; her husbands Alfred and Cleo were both victims of cancer and died in 1974 and 1975, respectively.

Believing in the divine Providence of a loving Heavenly Father and knowing that all things work together for good to those who love the Lord, we give this testimony: Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, and He will give you a purpose for living and eternal joy that will never pass away.

by Leon and Wilma Kaldenberg

KALDENBERG, ROBERT FAMILY

F257

Robert William is a great-grandson of Hendriekus Kaldenberg who came to Pella from The Netherlands in 1847. Robert was born Feb. 19, 1898, south of Pella. The home of his parents, Emma Boot and Henry Kaldenberg, was located at the first curve on the elevator road. His boyhood days were spent helping on the small family farm and working for neighbors when not in school. Robert attended Webster and Pella Community High School.

After graduation from high school in 1917, Robert worked with a tiling crew in the Pella area. Then he worked in the Lacey Lumberyard. In 1921, Robert was appointed as manager of the Otley Cooperative. Robert married Mintie Van der Garde on Oct. 13, 1923 at the First Reformed Church parsonage, 503 Broadway, Pella, by Pastor John Wesselink. In addition to full-time employment at the Co-op, the family kept a few milk cows and chickens on their Otley town lot and a nearby pasture. Their chickens won many ribbons at different fairs and chicken shows. The price of hatching eggs was one dollar per egg. The eggs were guaranteed to hatch; if not, replacements could be purchased at one-half price.

In 1937, multifever forced him to resign from his manager's position. Since they couldn't sell their house, they moved it from Otley to an 80 acre farm located one-half mile east of Otley. After that Robert farmed, managed farms, and sold real estate. In 1953 Robert moved to 808 Independence St., Pella.

On Oct. 13, 1973, Robert and Mintie celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. Most of the relatives and many friends attended the open house held in the Legion Hall, Pella. A short program of family remembrances was presented. Their children are Ronald Elwin (born May 2, 1939) and Mary Minnetta (born Sept. 3, 1942). Robert passed away Apr. 20, 1980, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

Ronald Kaldenberg earned a B.S. and M.S. in agricultural economics from Iowa State University. In 1969 he received his Ph.D. in agricultural economics from the University of Minnesota. Then until 1976, Ronald was a professor of economics at Mankato State University, Mankato, Minn. Occasionally, Ron is a part-time economics instructor at Central College. Ron is actively engaged in farming, farm management, and selling grain bins. At present Dr. Ronald Kaldenberg resides at 1107 Park Lane, Pella.

Mary Kaldenberg earned a B.S. in textiles and clothing from Iowa State University in 1964. Mary was the assistant buyer in the infants' clothing department of Marshall Field, Chicago. In 1970, Mary Kaldenberg and Melvin Dop were united in marriage at the Robert Kaldenberg family home. The Dops have two children, Michael Dean (born Apr. 28, 1971) and Mindy Michelle (born July 15, 1974). Melvin is actively engaged in farming and providing twin engine airplane charters. The Melvin Dop family resides at 1341 Northwest Drive, Pella.

by Dr. Ronald Kaldenberg

Robert Kaldenberg family. Front: Mintie and Mary; Back: Robert and Ronald.

KALDENBERG, RUTT AND SADIE (SJAARDEMA)

F258

Rutt Kaldenberg came to the Pella area from Heriwynen with a group of friends and other immigrants in 1906. The economy was bad in Holland and opportunities so slim his parents consented to his coming to the "new" country. Rutt was born July 3, 1890 to Jan and Jenneke De Jongh Kaldenberg in Heriwynen. He was the oldest of nine children. His brother Joe joined him in America in 1926 as did his brother Emmert in 1949.

On March 6, 1913, Rutt married Sibbeljke (Sadie) Sjaardema. Sadie was the third child of Douwe and Catoe Van Dyk Sjaardema and was born at Amsterdam on October 13, 1891. When she was a year old she came to America with her parents. They were with the group of immigrants who were promised the great opportunities in the San Luis Valley at Alamosa, Colorado by the America – Netherland Land Co. They soon found the deal very disappointing and unprofitable and moved to Iowa with the help of the First Christian Ref. Church of Pella. The Sjaardemas had eleven children: Jacob, Agnes, Sadie, Emma, George, Dick, Peter, Bertha, Freda, Mike and William. George died of influenza in World War One.

Rutt and Sadie moved to the Peoria area when they were first married where they farmed and had the Peoria Store. They moved to Sully, Ia. around 1919 where he owned and operated a General Merchandise Store which he sold in 1939. After farming in the Lynnville-Grinnel area for eight years they moved to Pella in 1948 where he worked at the Vander Voort Grocery Store. He died of a heart attack on March 26, 1951. Sadie is living at Fair Haven and just celebrated her 95th birthday with all of her twelve children present.

Their children are: John (Ada Ray) Kaldenberg of Omaha, Kathryn (Harris) Van Zante of Newton, Ia., Dewey (Minnie Van Den Berg) Kaldenberg, of Slater, Ia., Jeannette (Jerry) Van Den Berg of Reasnor, Ia., George (Lena Brumaugh) Kaldenberg of Beverly Hills, Fla., Ruth (Edward) Hannay of Grinnell, Ia., Agnes (Ray) Masselink of Grand Rapids, Mich., Josephine (Wm) McKenna of Hialeah, Fla., Sibol (Harold) Hanson of Tuscon, Az., Dorothy (Bob) De Ronde of Newton, Ia., "Chick" (Buck) Visser of Pella and Darlene (Wayne) Klein of Pella.

by E.J. Van Den Berg

KALLEMEYN, JOHN WILLIAM

F259

In the time of Napoleon, many men from The Netherlands were drafted into his army. John W. Kallemeyn was one of these. After the war, he lived at Andijk, The Netherlands and owned a seed store there. Here he married Elzje Groot and had one son. Soon after their son was born, Elzje died of tuberculosis. In 1846 John W. Kallemeyn married Truintje Vermeer of Andijk. Mr. Kallemeyn was of a small religious group composed of Dominie De Cook and Dominie Scholte. These three men would hold their meetings in their homes. Soon a small church was started. In 1848, John William, his wife and small son Maarten, emigrated to America. leaving young Jacob with his maternal grandparents. The name of the ship was *The Catherine Jackson* and had 17 paid passengers. The sea was wild and the food was bad. The trip took 64 days with heavy storms that ripped the end planks off the two masts and some planks off the main deck. From New York they went to Buffalo by steamboat where little Maartin became sick and died. He is buried near Buffalo. Then on to Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Keokuk. Here they stopped, bought horses and wagons, and went on to Pella.

Upon arriving in Pella they noted that all the buildings were new and well-made. There was no poverty at all. John William bought five cows, two calves, a horse and colt, and two oxen. He had 48 acres of cleared land to work. Here he again met Dominie Scholte and together the two of them held meetings in their homes. In a letter John William wrote to his relatives in The Netherlands, he says, "We are very satisfied here and no regrets on coming here. Land is $2.50 an acre, beef and pork 3¢ a pound, fine flour is 2¢ a pound, a cheese factory here and plenty to eat. Crops are so easy to raise here in this fertile soil. We enjoy the preaching of Dominie Scholte and together we now have 30 souls. I have heard the Constitution of the United States and testify that it is pure and holds the true work of God. This is a very blessed land. We are free to hold our meetings and worship as we wish. Soon we will build a house of worship. We are now in the process of making a pulpit to grace our services. We have built a two story house made out of stone found in the hillsides. The roof is wood boards overlapping each other. Toward the top we have windows one foot high and two feet wide. It is comfortable and warm. God has been good to us and we are ever so thankful to him for bringing us here to this wonderful land of America."

In 1844 John William's sister Maria joined them and lived with them until her marriage. John William and his wife had four sons: Klaas; John; Jacob; and Maartin.

Maartin and his family lived in Ackley, Ia. Maartin married Maartje Kooiman and lived on 160 acres of land there. He also had a hardware store and while living there he also served in the Iowa contingent of the Civil War. Soon after, he moved with his family to Leota, Minn. He was the first Dutch settler to move there. He served on the school board, the town board and was the founder of the Reformed Church there. He and his wife had 12 children all raised there. Some were born in Ackley, Ia. before coming to Leota.

Maartin's son, John William Kallemeyn, married Gertrude Masselink in 1908. They lived on a farm of 160 acres near Leota. John William was constable of Noblas Co. He was also the first Ford dealer in the community. When selling a car, Mr. Kallemeyn also had to teach them to drive it. He also owned the only threshing machine around and helped his neighbors during harvest time. They had five children: George, married to Lucille Dierks; Merle, married to Ruth Vande Lune; Marvin, married to Catherine Rus; Etta Joan married to Earl Vermeer; and Edward married to Dorothy Vander Ploeg. Gertrude, John William's wife, was insistent that all her children have a complete education. Thinking that staying on the farm might keep them from that, they moved to Grundy Center, Ia. to enroll the three oldest boys in the Junior College there. When that college closed during the depression, they later sent all but the eldest to Central College in Pella. John William and his wife moved to Pella in 1941 and stayed there until their death.

Etta Joan, the daughter, married Earl N. Vermeer and is elementary librarian at Lincoln School. She and Earl have three girls:

Sadie Kaldenberg and family on her 95th birthday. Back, l-r: John, Ruth, Agnes, Jo, Sibal and Dot; Middle, l-r: Jeanette, John, Sadie, Kathryn and Dewey; Front: Darlene and Chick.

Barbara, flight attendant for Pan Am Airways; Debra Billingsley, a teacher and married to James Billingsley, of Fairfield; Beverly Wagner, married to John Wagner. Earl Vermeer is manager of the unique "Windmill Bank" in Pella. They have four grandchildren: Laura and Kristen Billingsley; and Sara Jo and Daniel Wagner.

by Mrs. Earl (Etta) Ver Meer

KAMERICK, TRAVIS AND PATRICIA

F260

Kamerick Family. Front: Gene and Pat; Back: Tim and Danny.

Travis Gene Kamerick moved to Pella from the Otley area at the time of his marriage to Patricia Ann Stursma on June 1, 1961. Travis, better known as Gene, was the older of two sons of Reuben and Margaret De Jong Kamerick. They lived south of Pella, near the Des Moines River, when he was born Mar. 16, 1940. In a few years they moved to a farm near Otley where he grew up. He graduated from Richland Country School, and later from Pella Christian High School.

Patricia was born Nov. 3, 1943, to William C. and Leona Rus Stursma, the youngest of four children. The family lived at 814 Washington St. in Pella. Pat graduated from Pella Christian Grade School and from Pella Christian High School. While attending high school she met Gene.

Gene and Pat were married at the Little Brown Church at Nashua, Ia., as were Pat's parents in 1930. For the first two years of their married life they lived in a small upstairs apartment at 507½ Franklin St. in Pella, known as the Wyatt Earp House, now part of the Historical Society Complex. They purchased a home at 209 Franklin St. where they live today.

Gene started working at Rolscreen in 1959, immediately after high school graduation. His first job there was cutting veneer. Over the years he has worked as a lift truck driver, quality control inspector, and local service representative. His present job of service specialist gives him opportunity for travel in the U.S. and Canada.

Pat worked a few years as secretary for Arie W. Boot in his bookkeeping and tax office. In 1976 Pat began as food service supervisor at Pella Christian Grade School.

Gene and Pat have two sons. Timothy Gene was born Sept. 17, 1964, and Daniel Jay was born May 17, 1967. Both sons attended and graduated from Pella Christian Schools. They were both active members of the Calvinist Cadet Corps of First Christian Reformed Church in grades three through eight. Tim began working at Rolscreen Company after high school graduation. Presently he operates a finger jointer in the upgrade area there. Danny attended Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa, studying Robotics/Automation Technology.

Hobbies of the family include boating, skiing, and snowmobiling. Gene and Pat and sons are members of First Christian Reformed Church of Pella where Gene's father's great-great-grandparents were members. These ancestors came to Pella from The Netherlands in 1855.

by Patricia Kamerick

KATJE, GERRIT AND JAPJE MEIJER

F261

Gerrit Pieter Katje and wife, Japje Franzes Meijer Katje. 25th Wedding Anniversary (1888) Circa.

Gerrit Pieter Katje, my grandfather, son of Pieter Sjoerds Katje and Jetscke Gerrits Kuiken, born Dec. 20, 1839, at St. Annaparochie, Friesland, Netherlands, married June 11, 1863, het Bildt, and died Dec.14, 1905, Paterson, N.J., U.S.A., buried Fairlawn Cemetery.

Gerrit married Japje Meijer (later Meyer) daughter of Frans Olferts Meijer and Tjetske Jaspers Keizer born Dec. 2, 1841, St. jacobiparochie, died Aug. 22, 1912, Paterson, N.J.

To this union thirteen children were born: Tytscke born July 22, 1864 (Mrs. Sime Fopma); Jetsche born Aug. 11, 1866 (Mrs. Rotewell); Tryntje born Jan. 15, 1868 (Mrs. D. Rosendaal); Sietske born Aug. 21, 1869; (Mrs. Dirk Terpstra – my mother); Peter Gerrit born July 2, 1871; Peitje born November 3, 1873 (Mrs. R. De Groot); Frank born Mar. 1, 1875; Sjoerd born Mar. 28, 1877; Gerrit born Jan. 16, 1879; Fred born Mar. 27, 1880; Tittie born Aug. 22, 1882 (Mrs. John Jansma); Cornelius born July 22, 1884; Japje born Aug. 28, 1889, (Mrs. Pete Dykstra.

The reason for their coming to America is not known, but we do know in May, 1893, they arrived in America with their thirteen children, and my father Dirk Terpstra (bachelor). Dirk Terpstra, in order to come, had to pay his brother Martin to take his place in the army so he could come to America with his bride-to-be.

Gerrit and Japje spent their entire life in the Paterson, N.J. area.

My mother, Sietske (Sadie) Katje Terpstra, was the fourth child born to this union, Aug. 21, 1869, St. Annaparochie, and died Mar. 15, 1947, Pella, Ia., Marion Co.

by Frank Terpstra Sr.

KELDERMAN, ARVIN AND JUDY (VANDER MOLEN)

F262

Arvin Kelderman Family. Front: Judy, Randy, Curt, and Arvin; Back: Ryan and Peggy.

Arvin Lee Kelderman, the second child of Wm. C. and Johanna (Beekhuizen) Kelderman, was born on May 10, 1944. He attended school in Tracy and Twin Cedars in Bussey. After graduating from high school, he joined the Army National Guard. Upon completion, Arvin was employed by Ulrich Motor Company at Pella. On May 19, 1974, Arvin married Judy VanDer Molen, daughter of Ben and Christine (Struik) VanDer Molen. Judy went to Peoria Christian Grade School and graduated from Pella Christian High School. After graduation, Judy was employed by Vermeer Manufacturing as a secretary in the engineering and drafting department.

The couple bought a home at 315 Elm St. in Pella. Judy quit her job at Vermeer shortly before Peggy Jo was born on May 25, 1974. Within the year a son was born. Ryan Jay came bouncing into the world on May 13, 1975. A third child was welcomed on Mar. 5, 1977 – another son, Curt Alan. Randy Lee completed the family on Jan. 21, 1980. All four children presently attend Pella Christian Grade School.

In the fall of 1982, Arvin and Judy were hired for an additional job to be custodians of Calvary Christian Reformed Church. It didn't take much time before every member of the family, from the youngest to the oldest, found his own part to do. Although there have been five minor surgeries and two times in traction to relieve back problems, each person is involved in church and school activities. Each has his own favorite thing, whether it be music, sports, gardening,

woodworking, crafts, working, or playing. Together they remember the vacation times, whether in a tent or motel, whether they lasted two days or two weeks, whether it was hiking a trail or swimming.

In 1986 approximately two weeks were spent in seeing the beauty of Niagara Falls, the busyness of New York City, the grandness of the Statue of Liberty, the many historical keepsakes in Philadelphia (even though the garbage collectors were on strike), the making of history in Washington D.C., and the Colonial memories in Virginia. This time together will never be forgotten.

by Christy VanDer Molen

Albert Stam Family, Front: Brent, Wilma, and Albert; Back: John, Dennis, Stephen, and Calvin.

Tunis Kelderman Family, Front: Lois, Joann, Jim, and Julie; Back: Dianne, Tunis, and Connie.

KELDERMAN, JOHN AND SUSAN (MENNINGA)

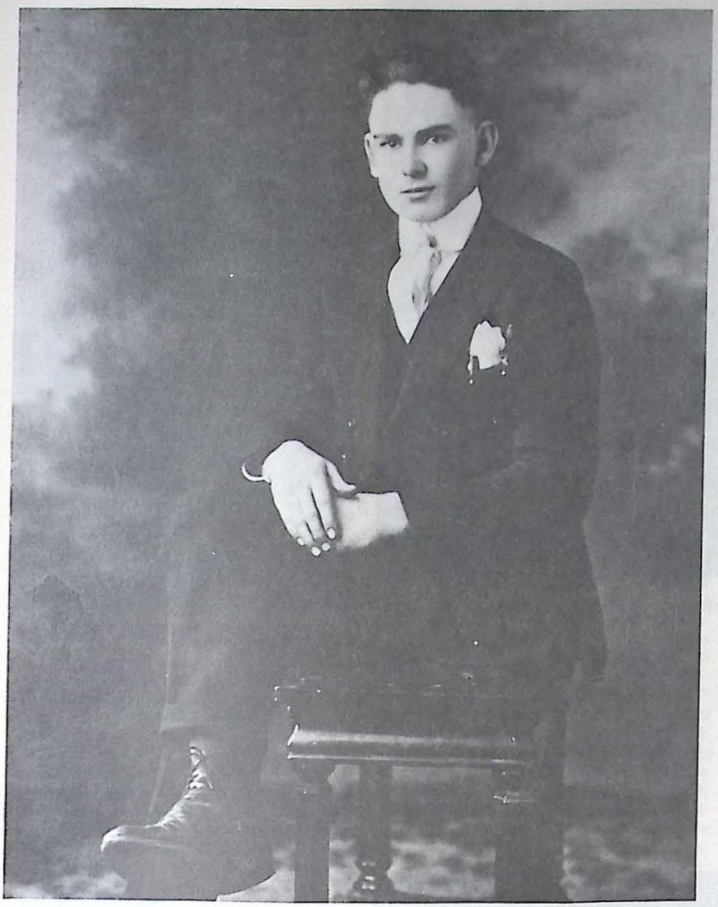
F263

John Kelderman was born in Mahaska County, Iowa, in Richland Township on Aug. 15, 1900, in the Lower Grove area. He was the second son of Teunis and Emma Ryken Kelderman who were both born in Holland. John Kelderman was named after his grandfather Johannes Ryke (Dutch) or Ryken (American). He attended Hickory Grove

Susan "Susie" (Menninga) Kelderman, Feb. 21, 1903 – Feb. 27, 1960.

Evalena (Van Zee) Kelderman

Elmer Kelderman Family, Front: Cynthia, Elmer, Shirley, and Judy; Back: Bonnie, Dwight, and Debbie



John Kelderman, Aug. 15, 1900 – July 8, 1984.

School and for a short time attended Grundy Center College, with intentions of becoming a veterinarian. He gave that up and started farming on his own. He met Susan Menninga (Minenga Dutch), whom he courted with horse and buggy. They chose March 3, 1924, as their wedding day, and were married by Rev. H. Walkotten. They professed their faith in the Christian Reformed Church.

Susan was born on Feb. 21, 1903, in Lake Prairie Township, the third child of Minnie Keegel (Kegel Dutch) Menninga and William Menninga. Susan was named after her grandmother Susan Dieleman Keegel and great-grandmother Susan Boejea Dieleman (French descent). They were Huguenots. Her father, William Menninga was born in Friesland, Holland, the son of Yella and Hendrika Gasterland Menninga. Susan received her education in Marion County in the Otley and Monroe area (walking to country schools).

Three children were born to this couple, all in Marion County, Iowa.

Wilma Irene was born March 22, 1925, in Lake Prairie Township, south of Pella. She was delivered by Dr. Harry Payne of Pella. It was a muddy day and they also had new baby lambs. Wilma Irene was named after the Menninga side of the family and baptized in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella by Dr. Ralph Danhof. Wilma married Albert Stam of Oskaloosa, the son of Cornelius and Johanna Vande Kieft Stam. They became the parents of five sons: Calvin Lee, John Alan, Dennis Wayne, Stephen James, and Brent Arthur Stam. Albert and Wilma live in Oskaloosa (see Stam story).

The second child, Tunis Elmer Kelderman, was born on Feb. 23, 1928, north of Pella near the Jasper County line in Lake Prairie Township. He was also delivered by Dr. Harry Payne of Pella and baptized in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella by Dr. Ralph Danhof. He was named after the Kelderman side of the family. Tunis married Elizabeth Joan Fynaardt of Oskaloosa, the daughter of Peter and Delia Ringelstein Fynaardt, Sr. They became the parents of four daughters and one son: Dianne Sue, Connie Louise, Lois Patricia, James Arlin, and Julie Elaine Kelderman. Tunis and Joan live at Rt. 3, Oskaloosa, south of Leighton.

Their third child, Elmer John Kelderman was born on Nov. 16, 1936, west of Tracy in Clay Township. He was delivered by Dr. Ralston of Knoxville and baptized in the Protestant Reformed Church in Oskaloosa, Iowa. Elmer was also named after the Kelderman side of the family. Elmer married Shirley Goemaat of Pella, the daughter of Johanna Vande Wiel Goemaat and Bastian Goemaat of Pella. They have one son and four daughters: Dwight Eugene, Bonnie Faye, Debra Ann, Cynthia Joan and Judy Lynn Kelderman. Elmer and Shirley live south of Red Rock Dam on White Breast Road.

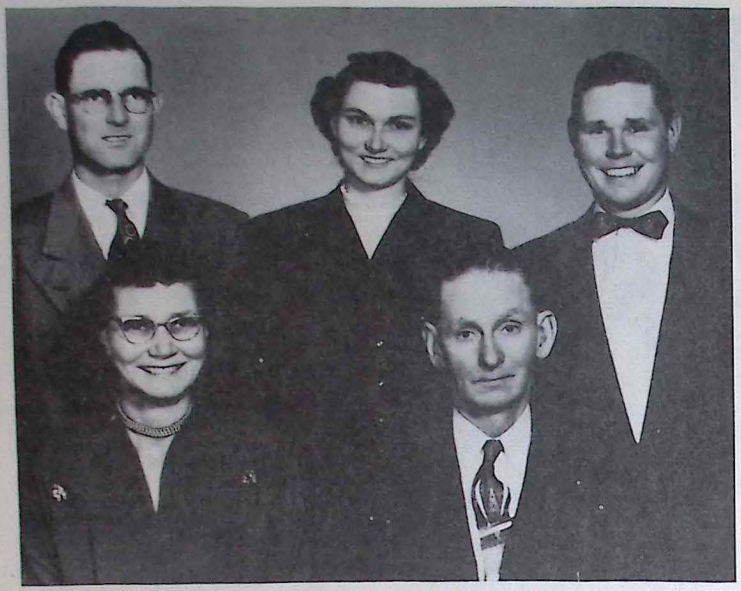
John and Susie were an industrious pair. They had incubators and hatched their own chicks. They also caponized chickens with a surgical knife. Dad had many beautiful horses and liked to "break" them. Mother enjoyed quilting and crocheting rugs and doilies and sewed for the family.

In 1942, John and Susie bought a farm two miles northeast of Oskaloosa and lived there until 1957, when they moved to Oskaloosa. Dad became a custodian for the Mahaska County Court House until his retirement in 1965. Mother worked at Mercy Hospital. She passed away in Feb. 1960. Dad later met and married Evalena Van Zee, the daughter of Jozena Schipper Van Zee and Antonie Martin Van Zee of Pella, Iowa. She was born in Lake Prairie Township on March 24, 1904. They enjoyed fishing. Evalena does beautiful hand work, made afghans for us, and always has the coffee pot on. They lived in Oskaloosa until after Dad's death. Evalena then moved to Fairhaven East in Pella, Iowa.

Our parents instilled the work ethic in us at a young age and saw to it that we knew our Catechism. They were concerned whom we dated and that we walked in God's precepts and married Christians. We are thankful for our Christian parents and the guidance they gave us. To God be the glory!

by Wilma (Kelderman) Stam

(See photo next page.)



John Kelderman Family, Front: Susie and John; Back: Tunis, Wilma, and Elmer.

KELDERMAN, TEUNIS

F264

Teunis Kelderman was born in Arnhem, Gelderland, Holland, on Dec. 19, 1869. His parents were Pieter and Gysie Van Dyk Kelderman. They were farmers. Teunis received his education in the Netherlands. After the death of his parents, he lived with relatives for a while. At the age of 19 (1888) he came to America. He first worked as a farm laborer where they spoke only the Dutch language. Being a common-sense person and having a desire to become fluent in the English language, he found a job in the Cruzen neighborhood. After learning English he was seldom heard speaking Dutch.

Teunis married Wilempe (Emma) Ryke (sometimes spelled Ryken). She was born in The Netherlands, May 30, 1875. Her parents were Johannes and Petronella Rozenboom Ryke. Her education was in the rural schools in Marion County. She was an excellent seamstress and made many lovely lace dresses that she enjoyed wearing with a lot of jewelry and a fur coat.

Teunis and his wife Emma had six children: Pietrus (Peter, 1895-1971), Johannes (John), 1900-1984), Gys (1901-1984), Petronella (Nellie), (1906 –), Teunis (Tunis), (1910-1983), and Gerrit (1912 –).

Mr. Kelderman was an avid reader. He enjoyed reading about genealogies and that is why the Books of the Chronicles in the Bible were among his favorite reading materials.

Mr. and Mrs. Kelderman were an interesting couple. She liked to crochet tablecloths and bedspreads for her large gambrel (hipped roof) houses. Mr. Kelderman was an inventor. He liked to do things in a different way. He died just two months before their sixty-second wedding anniversary on Oct 26, 1956, at the age of 87. She died May 26, 1958, at age 83. They are both buried in the Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa, Ia.

by Emily J. Dieleman

The Teunis Kelderman Family. Front, l-r: Gerrit, Mrs. Kelderman (Emma), Teunis Kelderman, Sr.; Back, l-r: Peter, John, Nellie, Gys, and Tunis.

KEMPKES, TUNIS (TUDOR) AND JEANETTE

F265

Tunis Kempkes was born in Pella Jan. 17, 1889, the eighth child of Tunis Kempkes and Adrianna Vander Pol Kempkes. Jeanette De Vries Kempkes was born July 1, 1894 in Pella, the third child of J.H. De Vries and Martha (Mattie) Vander Meiden De Vries.

Tunis' father died when he was two years old. His mother was left with eight children. Tunis attended Pella schools and Central Academy. He started working in the Post Office in 1910 and was there for seven years.

Tunis and Jeanette were married on Aug. 29, 1917. On Sept. 1, he and his brother-in-law, A.B. (Lon) Wormhoudt started the Wormhoudt & Kempkes Clothing store on the east side of the square.

In 1918 he went into the service and was discharged at the close of World War I.

Tunis and Jeanette had four children, Virginia, Mrs. John P. Ver Meer, Philip, Elisabeth Van Horn, and Mary Ruth who died in 1980.

Tunis was very active in civic affairs and the church. He was the choir director at Second Reformed Church and several other churches. He sang many solos in various capacities. He was on the steering committee that started Tulip Time in Pella. He was the chicken peddler in the Tulip Time parade for many years.

They survived the 1929 crash but the store burned in July of 1931. They rebuilt and reopened the first of the year.

In 1954 his partner passed away and he had the store and continued to work until his death in 1965. Jeanette was a homemaker and passed away on Aug. 28, 1984.

by John P. Ver Meer

KEUNING, CHARLES AND SANDRA

F266

Front, l-r: David, Sandy, Kevin; Back, l-r: Charles

Charles Duane Keuning (Chuck), son of Harold and Ada (Vander Pol) Keuning, was born June 5, 1949, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Chuck married Sandra Schuring, born Mar. 19, 1952, daughter of Jacob and Arvena (Rietveld) Schuring. They were married in Pella, Sept. 15, 1970, in Trinity Reformed Church.

Chuck and Sandy are the parents of two sons. Kevin Mark was born July, 19, 1972, in Pella. David Brent was born Mar. 28, 1976, in Pella.

Both Chuck and Sandy were raised in Pella and graduated from Pella Community High School. After graduation Chuck started working with his father in the plumbing and heating business. At the present time Chuck is owner of Keuning Plumbing and Heating, Inc. and Sandy is a secretary for the company. Chuck and Sandy are both members of Trinity Reformed Church in Pella.

by Sandra Keuning

KEUNING, CORNELIUS AND WILHELMINA

F267

Cornelius Henry Keuning (Case), was born Aug. 13, 1893 near Otley to Henry S. and Teuna (Hansum) Keuning. He was the sixth child of eleven children in the family. He attended Liberty Corner rural grade school near Otley. After his education he helped on the family farm.

On Mar. 23, 1918, Case married Minnie Vanden Berg in rural Pella. Wilhelmina Vanden Berg (Minnie), daughter of John and Neltje (Paltzer) Vanden Berg was born Oct.

Cornelius and Minnie Keuning

12, 1897, in rural Pella. She attended a Pella rural school until the age of 11, when her mother died, after which she helped in the family home. Case and Minnie had a daughter Junella, who died as an infant and a son Harold born Oct. 4, 1917. Harold is married to Adrianna (Vander Pol) Keuning, daughter of Christopher and Tena (Roorda) Vander Pol. Case and Minnie farmed in the Otley and Pella area until 1936, when they moved to Pella. He worked for Kersbergen Plumbing and Heating. Later he worked for Hoeksma Hardware and the City of Pella in the Water Department. They were both members of the First Christian Reformed Church where Case sang in a men's quartet for many years. Minnie Keuning passed away Dec. 7, 1984, and Case died Feb. 11, 1986.

by Sandra Keuning

KEUNING, HAROLD AND ADRIANNA

F268

Harold Keuning was born Oct. 4, 1917, son of Cornelius and Minnie (Vanden Berg) Keuning, in rural Pella. He attended Pleasant Grove School south of Pella. In 1943, he married Adrianna Vander Pol (Ada) at her parents' home near Monroe, Ia. They had one son, Charles Duane, born June 5, 1949.

After his schooling, Harold helped on the family farm until his parents moved to Pella in 1936. Because of the poor economy, he found seasonal work until he started working for Kersbergen Plumbing and Heating in about 1940. Kersbergen Plumbing and Heating later became Van Sittert Plumbing and Heating and he worked for them until going into business for himself in 1960. In 1971, his son Charles became a partner in the business. Ada worked in the maintenance department of Central College for 14 years. Harold and

Harold and Adrianna Keuning

Ada are members of Trinity Reformed Church in Pella.

by Sandra Keuning

KIMMEL FAMILY

F269

Cyrus Kimmel was born Apr. 13, 1826, and died Feb. 25, 1865. He married Rebecca L. Kline, born 1820, and died June 6, 1891. Their family was: Henry Kimmel, born 1844; Oliver Kimmel, born 1846; George W. Kimmel, born in 1848, became a doctor and moved to Calif.; Helen A. Kimmel, born in 1849; William Wallace Kimmel, born in 1852, became a doctor in Pella; Lydia A. Kimmel, born in 1853; Eliza Jane Kimmel, born in 1856; Caroline Kimmel, born in 1858; Emeline Amelia Kimmel, born in 1861 (our grandmother); Marion Kimmel, born in 1860; Mary Ann Kimmel; John Hiram Kimmel.

Cyrus Kimmel was born in Pennsylvania and the Kimmel family was of German descent. Cyrus was the tenth child of twelve. His father was Joseph Kimmel, 1769-1843, and he was married to Hannah Welde, 1772-1851, in Stark Co., O. Cyrus Kimmel was a farmer. He died, along with four of his children, during a typhoid epidemic in Feb., 1865.

His wife, Rebecca Kimmel, did an outstanding job of raising their children. Two sons became doctors and one a teacher.

by Emeline Vos

KINGMA FAMILY

F270

Gerrit Kingma, son of Albert and Wopkje Kingma, after having served in the Dutch Marines in Indonesia, migrated to Pella, Ia. from Hallum, Friesland, The Netherlands. The year was 1951 and about two years later he brought his stepfather Ido (Jim) Veenstra

and his three brothers Dewey, John, and Gerben Veenstra to the U.S. His sister Mrs. Pete (Tina) Kingma Bosma remained in Belkum, Friesland, The Netherlands. Soon after bringing his family to the U.S., he was married on July 30, 1953 to Theresa Nieburg, daughter of John and Nina Marie (Van Gorp) Nieburg. To the Kingma family were born three sons: John, Gary, and Paul and one daughter Jeannetta. After working in Pella and Des Moines, Gerrit started an auto repair business in Pella and not long after bought the Chrysler, Plymouth auto dealership in Oskaloosa, Ia., which he owned and operated as Kingma Motors. About two years later his Pella auto repair shop became the Pella Chrysler, Plymouth, Dodge dealership which also operated under the name Kingma Motors. In addition to the operation of these two dealerships, Gerrit also carried on a large business with the state of Iowa, delivering autos and trucks to the various state agencies.

His wife Theresa after graduating from Iowa State University, taught in the Pella Community High School, and after Gerrit died in Sept. of 1977, she took over the management of both the Pella and Oskaloosa dealerships along with two sons, John and Gary. Paul attended Central College and later also joined the family business. The daughter Jeannetta started a women's clothing business, known as Netta's Boutique, the year she graduated from Pella Community High School. As of this time Gary is married to the former Beth Keuning and John is married to the former Barbara Vos. There are three additions to the Kingma family: Melissa, Ross, and Wesson, all children of John and Barbara Kingma.

by Mrs. Gerrit (Theresa) Kingma

KLEIN, ANTONIE AND ADRIANA

F271

Antonie Klein, born Nov. 3, 1820 at Leerbroek, was the third child and second son of Gerrit and Hendrika Klein. He married Jan. 26, 1843 Adriana De Leeuw, widow of Adrianus De Leeuw, who had two daughters from her former marriage. Antonie had been named guardian of these children by their father in his will. Antonie had a head for business, and the family went to him to handle business matters often, so when it was time to leave Holland in 1847, and some of the family business affairs had not been finalized, it was Antonie who stayed behind to take care of that.

Antonie and Adriana had three daughters and a son born in Schonrewoerd, South Holland, but their son, Willem, died before they left for America. In 1849, with the second wave of Hollanders to join the Scholte settlement, Antonie and Adriana brought their children on the sailing ship "Nagasaki". Shortly before reaching the American shores, two of their daughters – Antonia, nearly two, and Adriana De Leeuw, age 9, died during the ocean crossing, and were buried at sea. Surviving were Geertruijda Adriana De Leeuw, born Aug. 20, 1838; Annigje, born Aug. 14, 1844; and Hendrika, born Dec. 15, 1845.

Two daughters were born in Marion County: Adriana (Jennie) Klein, about 1852, and Gerardina (Geraldine) Klein, Jan. 28, 1854.

Antonie Klein died Aug. 28, 1882; Adriana De Leeuw Klein died Sept. 5, 1884. They are buried at Klein's Cemetery.

Geertruijda Adriana De Leeuw married Teunis Hendrikus Klein Mar. 16, 1855.

Annigje (Annie) Klein married Albert Van Houwelingen; their children were Antonie (A.T.) Van Houlinge, born Sept. 24, 1866; Merrigje (Maggie), born Feb. 6, 1869; Adrijanna (Jane), Dec. 23, 1870; Gertrude, Aug. 19, 1878; Bertha, Mar. 12, 1881; Anna, Jan. 30, 1884; Albert, June 8, 1885.

*Antonie (A.T.) Van Houlinge married Pauline (Lena) Dykstra. Their children were Albert, Gerard, Abram, Annie, Gertrude, and Marion. Merrigje (Maggie) married John D. Rietveld. Their children: Dirk, Anna, Elizabeth, Albert, Alma, and Antoinette Adrijanna (Jane) married Gysbert Van Zante. Their children: Delis, Albert, Edna, Anthony, and Anna. Gertrude married Dirk Vander Ploeg. Their children: Bessie, Antoinette, Edward, and Alfred. Bertha married Wiggert Langerak. Their children: Albert, Ruth, and Clarence. Anna married Meyer Langerak. Their children: Robert and Anna. Albert B. Van Houwelingen married Nettie Van Zante. Their daughter: Elva May Van Houweling married Martin J. Heerema.

Hendrika Klein, born Dec. 15, 1845 in Schoonrewoerd, South Holland, married Hendrik Van Roekel Apr. 20, 1864 in Pella. Their children: Barend born June 4, 1866; Adriana, Apr. 7, 1868, Wilhelmina, Jan. 13, 1871; Gertrude, Mar. 20, 1873; Martha, Oct. 5, 1876; Antonie, Dec. 1, 1878; Hendrik, May 4, 1882; Dena, June 7, 1886; John, Mar. 23, 1889.

Barend Van Roekel married Lena Steenhoek. Their children: Henry, Bert, Henrietta, Lizzie, and Dena. Adriana Van Roekel married Henry Van Oostrum. Their children: William, Hattie, Tena, Minnie, Jennie, and Gertrude. Wilhelmina Van Roekel married Adam Peter De Yong. Their children: Gerrit, Henry, Catolena, John, Hendretta, and Adrian. Gertrude Van Roekel married Cornelius Rietveld. Their children: Dirk, Henrietta, Elizabeth, Harold and, Denabell. Martha Van Roekel married Cornelius Synhorst. Antonie Van Roekel married Frances De Vries. Their children: John, Henry, Edna, and Harriet. Hendrik Van Roekel married Arundena Van Gorp. Their children: Minnie, Harry, Gertrude, Arthur, Margaret,and Pearl. Dena Van Roekel married Henry Bensink. Their children: Verna, Ardellia, and Elvin. John Van Roekel married Blanche Witzenberg. Their children: Henrietta, Ada, Jenella, Johanna, and Bernie John.

These families remained in the Pella vicinity.

Adriana "Jennie" Klein married Dirk De Jong; and Gerardina "Geraldine" Klein married Henry Bakker. These two families moved to southeast Nebraska.

*Grandchildren of Antonie and Adriana Klein

by Winona R. Snell

KLEIN, DAVID E. AND JANICE

F272

David Edwin, son of John Edward and Katie Leydens Klein, was born Mar. 20, 1948, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Janice Ruth Ver Ploeg Klein, daughter of Gradus H. Ver Ploeg and Fannetta Van Wyk Ver Ploeg, was born Feb. 13, 1948, in Oskaloosa, Iowa. David and Janice both attended Pella Community Schools. They were married Nov. 21, 1967 at the First Reformed Church in Pella. David is a graduate of Iowa State University and has been employed at Rolscreen Company since 1970 as a facilities engineer. Janice has worked as a secretary and homemaker and is currently a student at Central College. The couple purchased the Marion De Geus farm five miles east of Pella in 1971. The Kleins have lived there since that time and grain farm the 95 A. In 1979 they began the construction of a new home, doing much of the plumbing, electrical, and finishing work themselves. The house, completed in 1981, replaced the old De Geus home, part of which was built in 1859.

David and Janice are the parents of two daughters: Kara Leigh, born Apr. 16, 1970, and Kristie Beth, born Dec. 23, 1972. Both attend Pella Community Schools. Kara is a manager for the girls' basketball team, plays the bass clarinet in symphonic band, and is a member of the Marching Dutch Color Guard. Kristin plays volleyball and basketball and plays flute in the band. Both girls play piano, accompanying various vocal groups and Jazz Band. The family are active members of First Reformed Church of Pella. David has served as a deacon, Janice is an organist and a Sunday School teacher, Kara is a member of the choir, and Kristin plays in the bell choir.

by Mrs. David E. Klein

KLEIN, GERRIT AND HENDRIKA

F273

In 1847 Gerrit and Hendrika (Heikoop) Klein left Leerdam, South Holland with the Scholte followers. They endured the hardships and the excitement of the group migration. The sailing vessel "Nagasaki" brought them to Baltimore. After arduous overland and river travels, they finally reached St. Louis. When Rev. Scholte and his scouts returned to St. Louis from Iowa with news that land had been acquired in two townships of Marion County, a happy group of Kleins welcomed the news, and were among the first to arrive and claim a farm for clearing and settlement. Their farm was about three and one half miles west of Pella.

Gerrit was born May 30, 1793 at Leerdam, South Holland Province. Hendrika was born Dec. 17, 1791 at Leerdam. They were married at Leerdam June 14, 1814. Their families were members of the Reformed Church. Gerrit was 54 and Hendrika was 57 when they came to the Pella area. Their 10 children, all born in South Holland were: Teunis born Mar. 16, 1815; Merrigje, Dec. 22, 1818 (never

came to Iowa); Antonie, Nov. 4, 1820; Hilligje, Sept. 3, 1822 (did not come to Iowa – but six of her children were here by 1900); Jan Teunis, Mar. 16, 1824; Gerrit, Nov. 20, 1825; Piet, Dec. 14, 1827; Teunis Hendrikus, Oct. 11, 1830; Evertje, July 12, 1833 and; Maartinus, July 2, 1836.

Gerrit died in Marion County Aug. 10, 1855. Hendrika (Henrietta) died Jan. 6, 1877 in Marion County. They are buried at Klein's Cemetery, which is located on land which was part of the first Klein farm.

Traveling with Gerrit and Hendrika on the "Nagasaki" were their unmarried children: Jan Teunis, Piet, Teunis Hendrikus, Evertje, and Maartinus (Martin). Piet Klein was the first Klein to die in the Iowa community. He drowned in the Skunk River Mar. 22, 1849.

On the ship "Maastroom" were two more sons: Gerrit, single and about 18; and Teunis Klein, eldest son of Gerrit and Hendrika, with his wife and four children. Only one of their children survived the sea journey – Gerrit Tz.

Antonie, third child of Gerrit and Hendrika, arrived in Pella in 1849 with the second wave of Scholte followers, sailing on the "Franziska". He was married and brought his wife, Adriana; a step-daughter, Geertruijda; and two daughters, Annigje and Hendrika. Two children were lost at sea.

John Teunis Klein, fifth child of Gerrit and Hendrika, was 21 and single when he arrived at Pella. He earned his first stake digging wells. Next he purchased a team and wagon and operated a dray business in Pella. As he was able, he purchased land, and became a farmer in Jasper County, with 700 acres of land in the Kilduff and Reasnor areas. In 1848 he married Pieternella Van Meveren in Marion County. They had eight children born in Iowa; Pete, Nellie, Garret, John, Henrietta, Abe, William, and Jacob.

Gerrit Klein, sixth child of Gerrit and Hendrika, became a farmer. He married Jane Kornegoor, who later died of burns resulting from a coal oil fire. He then married Hendrika Hessel. All together 13 children (six to Jane and seven to Hendrika) were born and grew up in the Pella area.

Teunis Hendrikus Klein, eighth child of Gerrit and Hendrika, was 17 when he arrived at Pella. He purchased a farm about two miles west of Pella where he built a log house in which his eight children were born and grew up. "T.H.", as he was called, married Gertrude De Leeuw in Marion County.

Evertje Klein married Egbert Jelsma. They had 10 children, five died young. Three daughters remained in the Pella area. Two sons went to Oklahoma.

Martin Klein married Johanna Hoogenakker. In the 1880's this family moved to south-eastern Nebraska. They had five children. Two died young.

John and Winona Snell of Ravenna, Nebraska, have in 1986 completed a trace of descendants of this family and have identified more than 4600 family members. Their findings are published in a book titled, "The Klein Family from Holland who Settled in Marion County, Iowa in 1847, and Their Descendants."

by Winona R. Snell

KLEIN, GERRIT TZ (TUNIS' SON)

F274

Mrs. Gerrit R. Klein

Gerrit Klein Tz came to America at the age of nine with his parents, Tunis and Pleuntje (Blanch) Klein on the ship Maastroom from Rotterdam, Holland, in Apr., 1847. They had lived in Leerdam, Holland. They landed at Baltimore and traveled some 200 miles on a crowded boat on the Susquehanna and Juiata Rivers to Pittsburg, Pa., then on the Ohio river to St. Louis where they rested a while. Rivers were the principal means of travel. Scouts were sent out to find a suitable land for the colony to settle. Pella was the chosen site as it was said to be fertile and between the Des Moines and Skunk Rivers. From St. Louis they traveled by steamboat to Keokuk, which was the end of the line. In Keokuk, they purchased oxen and wagons for their journey to Pella, paying for them in gold.

Most of the immigrants settled in Pella, but the Kleins, Tooms, Rietvelts, and Lints settled in Amsterdam, three miles south of Pella.

Gerrit Klein Tz, was primarily a farmer, but also did custom butchering. As there is no known picture of him, memory tells us he was a man of slight build, with a dark complexion and dark hair. Of late years he wore a chin beard. His father died when he was sixteen.

On June 15, 1859, Gerrit Klein Tz, was married to Arendiena Koornegoor. Arendiena Koornegoor was the eighth child of Gerrit Jon and Arendiena Ebbink Koornegoor. They were from Almen, Holland, and had 13 children. Nine of these children came to America with the parents in 1855. Four children had died in infancy in Deventer, Holland.

Rynier, one of the nine children, became ill at sea. As no diseased people could embark, the ship floated in the harbor until he died in the night on July 27, 1855. In the morning he was buried at sea and they were allowed to come ashore. He was 16 years, 11 months, 18 days old.

Gerrit Jon Koornegoor was born Mar. 17, 1799, at Almen, Holland and died Feb. 7, 1885, in Jasper County.

Gerrit Klein Tz and Arendiena Koornegoor Klein had 14 children. Eleven of these children grew to adulthood: Blanch, Dena, Tunis, John (died at age two, buried in Klein cemetery), Hendreka, (never married), John (never married), Jane (died of croup age four), Gerritji (Hattie), Jane (lived ten days), Arie G., Antiona, William, Jane, and Richard.

There is a Klein cemetery three and a half miles west of Pella. There are many unmarked graves and 17 stones. There is no formal road to reach it, as it is off the gravel road, about a half mile in a field. Immediately across the railroad track on highway 163, west of Pella, turn south on gravel road, go until you come to a long shed on the right side of the road. On the north side of the shed is a field road. Follow that road west across a gully, and it turns north a bit and you will find it. On a dry day it can be reached by car. In later years it has had some care.

Note: Tz stands for Tunis' son.

by Dorothy Reed

KLEIN, JOHN E. AND KATIE

F275

John Edward Klein, the son of Tunis and Tonie Brand Klein, was born in Otley, Ia. Oct. 11, 1914. The family moved to a farm north of Pella and John attended school in Pella. He drove a livestock truck and worked at Rolscreen Company for a short time before he began working for the Farmers Union Co-op, where he was employed for 19 years.

On Jan. 25, 1938, John married Katie Leydens, the daughter of Matthew R. and Minnie Kloet Leydens. Katie was born on Dec. 6, 1915 in Jasper Co., Ia. After their marriage they made their home in Pella. For a time Katie worked at the overall factory.

In 1956 John began driving a bulk petroleum truck for Grootveld Oil Company where he was employed until his retirement in 1981. In 1960 John became a member of the Pella Volunteer Fire Department, for which he still serves as treasurer. He enjoys playing golf.

John and Katie have two sons: Ralph, born Mar. 28, 1942 in Oskaloosa, Ia., and David, born Mar. 20, 1948 in Oskaloosa, Ia.

Ralph married Clara Hoven, the daughter of Clarence and Agnes Spoolstra Hoven, of Tracy on Oct. 12, 1962. Ralph is a sergeant in the Iowa State Patrol. They are currently living in Clear Lake, Ia. where Clara is employed in the school lunch program. They have two sons: John, born May 5, 1967 in Cedar Rapids, Ia., and Ross, born Feb. 23, 1970 in Grinnell, Ia. John is a student at Northwestern College where he is a Computer Science major. On May 30, 1987, he will be married to Lisa Gendlesperger, the daughter of K. Donald and Kathy Glover Gendlesperger of Cleveland, Ohio. Ross is a student at Clear Lake Community High School.

David married Janice Ver Ploeg Nov. 21, 1967. Janice is the daughter of Gradus and Fannetta Van Wyk Ver Ploeg. They live near

Pella where David is employed by Rolscreen Company as a facilities engineer and Janice is a student at Central College. They have two daughters: Kara and Kristin, both students at Pella Community Schools.

by Mrs. David E. Klein

KLEIN, RICHARD

F276

Richard Klein, 14th child of Gerrit and Arendiena Klein,Tz was born May 14, 1887, and was married Mar. 25, 1914, to Jennie Van Wyk (born Sept. 11, 1891). To this union four children were born: Gerrit Raymond, Gerrit Jacob, Dorothy Margaret, and Ruth Jean. Jennie Klein died Aug. 16, 1924. She was 32 years old. Richard was left to raise their four young children. He never remarried. He was a farmer, living his entire life in and around Pella vicinity. He died June 11, 1955, at age 68 years, 27 days. Richard and Jennie are buried in Oakwood cemetery.

Gerrit Raymond Klein, first son of Richard and Jennie Klein was born Sept. 21, 1915, three miles west of Pella. Gerrit served in the army during WW II. He married Wilma Elizabeth Hevlin, Dec. 20, 1946. They had four children: Raymond Laverne, Ester Mae, Joyce Louise, and Ruth Ann. She was a housewife. He was a trucker and farmer. He retired from Van Gorp's Manufacturing. in 1980. He lives three miles west of Pella close to his birthplace.

Gerrit Jacob (Jake) Klein, second child of Richard and Jennie Klein, was born Nov. 18, 1916. He was married to Dorothy Carol Lantz Feb. 14, 1940. They had four boys: Jerry Lewis, Robert Lee, James Lislie, and David Wayne. Jake was a self-employed trucker and farmer. Carol is a housewife and works at 3-M Company in Knoxville. They live five miles west of Bussey on their farm.

Dorothy Margaret Klein, third child of Richard and Jennie (Van Wyk) Klein, born Apr. 17, 1922, was married to Leland Marvin Reed Dec. 7, 1940. They had four children: Donna Lee, Richard Marvin, Thomas Gene, and Harold Dean. Leland was a coal miner, trucker, and worked 30 years at The Maytag Company retiring Dec., 1977. He served in the army during WW II. Dorothy is a housewife, and worked 26 years for The Vernon Company at Newton. She retired in 1984. They live in Colfax, Ia.

Ruth Jean Klein, fourth child of Richard and Jennie (Van Wyk) Klein was born Nov. 2, 1923, graduated from Harvey High School, married Forest Eugene Harrington, Sr. on Feb. 7, 1942. They had four children: Sharon Kay; Twins, Merle Roy and Merrill Ray; and Forest Eugene, Jr. Forest Sr. was a farmer all his adult life. Ruth Jean is a housewife and retired in 1986 after 20 years work with Rolscreen at Pella. They live on their farm, a mile south of Harvey, Iowa.

There are many children and grandchildren from these four children of Richard and Jennie Klein that are still living at home or around this vicinity.

Note: Tz means Tunis' son.

by Dorothy Reed

KLEIN, ROBERT JOHN AND DORETHA (VOGELAAR)

F277

Bob married Doretha Vogelaar (1917) in 1938. Doretha is the daughter of Benjamin Vogelaar and Gertrude Van Ommen. Bob retired in 1981, from Pella Products, Inc., after 40 years as the second generation of the Kleins in operation of the company. Bob was responsible for the first "Dutch front" in the Pella business district on the Pella Products building on the west side of the square. He later assisted in the design of many other Dutch front projects. In 1979, he received the Pella Community Service Award. Bob has always devoted much of his time to the Pella Historical Society and historic preservation of buildings.

Doretha retired in 1978, as manager of the Central College Bookstore. Bob and Doretha were co-founders of Strawtown Inn, selling their interest in 1983. Their home is one that they restored in 1952. It was built in 1853, and was the original McClatchy Woolen Mill.

They have three children. Sandra Ann Klein (1940) married Martin Bruce Heerema in 1960. At the present time, she assists in the operation of their home furnishing store, Boat Furniture, in Pella, and they live in a country home on the Skunk River. They have three children: Julie Ann, Martin Timothy, and Steven Robert. Julie Ann was born in 1961. Julie lives in Des Moines and is in charge of the Men's Department at Younkers' downtown store. Martin Timothy was born in 1965. "Tim" lives in Tempe, Ariz., where he is a student at Arizona State University. Steven Robert was born in 1970. "Steve" lives with his parents and is a student at Pella Community High School.

Pamela Ruth Klein (1945) married Henry Andrea (1944-1986) in 1967. Pam is at present living in Irvine, Calif. and is west coast sales manager for Rose Marie Reed Company. Their daughter Stacie was born at Weymouth, Mass. in 1970, and lives with her mother in Irvine, Calif.

Robert Vogelaar Klein, "Bobby" (1950) married Gretchen Miller (1951) at Burlington, Ia., in 1973, after attending school. He is the third generation of the J.G. Klein family to serve as chief executive officer of Pella Products, Inc. Gretchen is a teacher in the Pella Community Schools. Their three children are: Molly, born 1978, John Pieter, born 1981, and Robert Oakley, born 1985.

by Joyce Wesselink

KLEIN, TEUNIS AND PLENTJE

F278

Two sons of Gerrit and Hendrika Heikoop Klein were married and had children born in South Holland. Teunis, the eldest, married Pleuntje Klijn, daughter of Arie Klijn and Adriaantje den Hartog. Four children were born in South Holland. Gerrit Tz, the eldest, born Jan. 27, 1838, was the only one of the four who survived the trip to America. Three others died and were buried at sea. They were: Arie, born Feb. 13, 1840; Hendrike, July 10, 1842; and Adriana, Jan. 10, 1845. This family were aboard the sailing ship "Maastroom" in 1847. A younger brother of Teunis, Gerrit, travelled with them. This brother Gerrit, born Nov. 25, 1825, was about 18. Teunis, who was born Mar. 16, 1815 at Leerdam, was 32, and Gerrit Tz, was 9 when they came to Pella.

Teunis became a butcher in the new Pella community, and operated the first meat market in Pella. Teunis and Plentje had two children born in Iowa: Arie, the first Klein birth in the new country, born Nov. 25, 1847; and Hendrika, Mar. 12, 1851.

Teunis died Sept. 24, 1854. In his will he named his brother, Antonie, guardian of his minor children: Gerrit Tz, Arie, and Hendrika. His widow married Jan. 23, 1855 Henry Kars, a cousin of Teunis, who had been a witness at the wedding of Teunis and Plentje in Leerbroek, South Holland Mar. 4, 1837. Plentje (Blanche) died in Marion County Feb. 26, 1901 and is buried at Graceland, Pella.

In Marion County, on June 15, 1859, Gerrit, Teunis' son, married Arendina Kornegoor, daughter of Gerrit J. Kornegoor and Arendiena Ebbink, who had come to this country in 1855. They remained in the Pella community. Fourteen children were born to them. He died Aug. 7, 1923. Arendina died Feb. 19, 1932.

Arie Klein married Feb. 22, 1871 Maaijke (Maggie) Van Gorp. They lived in the Otley area and had nine children. Maaijke and three children died about 1886. Arie put his three sons: Teunis, Peter, and John, in the wagon and went to join his Uncle Martin Klein near Adams, Nebraska, leaving his three daughters, Henrietta, Blanche, and Maggie, with relatives in Iowa. Henrietta and Blanche eventually went to Nebraska, but Maggie remained in the area. She married Mar. 5, 1901 Gerrit Van Ommen, son of Beerend Van Ommen and Dirkje Franzen, who came to America in 1884. They were farmers. They had 15 children, all of whom remained in Marion and Mahaska counties. Arie died Sept. 1, 1936 in Adams, Nebraska.

Hendrika Klein married Oct. 5, 1889 Lubbertus Plette, a merchant in Pella. He was born Sept. 26, 1850 in the Netherlands; died in 1882 in Pella. Hendrika died in 1883. Their children were very young at the time of the death of both parents. The children were: Everett Plette, born in 1870; Kate; Blanche Plette, born Mar. 12, 1876; Teunis Plette, born in 1878; Gerrit and Henry. Henry was raised by a Jelsma family and used the Jelsma name.

Everett Plette married Dec. 4, 1895 Dirkie Langerak. He was an undertaker in Pella. They had three daughters: Mae, Henrietta, and Lucille. Mae married (1st) James Phillip Brockway, father of her children. She married (2nd) Harold Thomasson.

Kate Plette married Feb. 23, 1898 Martin Van Peursem. They had five children: Sarah, William, Lester, and two who died young.

Blanche Plette married Dec. 13, 1899 Thomas Vander Linden. They had five daughters: Carrie, Henrietta, Mabel, Irene, and Luella.

Teunis Plette married June 12, 1901 Lucy Vander Linden. They had daughters Bertha and Clara. Bertha married Gerrit J. Rozenboom. Clara married Rev. Everett Van

Engelenhoven.

Gerrit Plette married Josephine Vroom; had Henrietta and Willena.

Many descendants of these families live in the Pella and Orange City areas of Iowa.

NOTE: Tz means Teunis' son.

by Winona R. Snell

KLEIN, TEUNIS HENDRIKUS "T. H."

F279

Teunis Hendrikus, "T.H." Klein, 1830-1887, son of Gerrit and Hendrika Klein, was born in Leerdam, province of South Holland, The Netherlands. He came to America with his parents and unmarried brothers and sisters on the (Nagasaki) with the original colonists in 1847. He married Gerturde "Moene" De Leeuw in Mar., 1855. She came from The Netherlands in 1849, on the (Franziska) and passed away in Dec., 1912. They had nine children. One of the children was Gerrit.

Gerrit T. H. Klein, born in 1856, was known as G.T.H. and also "De Witte Gerrit" (White Gerrit). He was married to Jane Van Bentum in 1878, and they farmed in the "Kleine Beurte", an area known as "The Klein Neighborhood". That area stretched for about six miles west of Pella on what was known later as the Fifield Road. He also ran steam-powered threshing machines in and around Pella for many years until his death in 1934. He was assisted by his eight sons at various times. They had 10 children. One of the sons was John Gerrit.

John Gerrit "J.G." Klein, 1883-1968, married Nelle Neels, 1892-1978, daughter of Y. Neels and Anna Sterrenberg, in 1912. J.G. helped his father with farming and threshing operations. In leisure hours, he spent time outdoors and played the fiddle in a band with his brothers. J.G. later became one of the principals in the firm established as Pella Overall Company in 1907. This firm became known in the 1930's as Pella Products, Inc., and their offices are still located in the factory building purchased in 1907 at 835 Broadway in Pella.

Nelle Klein was a granddaughter of Ernestes Sterrenberg, who came with the original colonists and was assessor and "overseer of the poor". (The Sterrenberg office and home is still known as the "Sterrenberg Library and Delft Museum" in the Historic Village in Pella). After finishing her schooling, Nelle became a teacher at Amsterdam School near Pella. She traveled to and from school on horseback, and often rode over the fields and fences through deep snow in the winter. Nelle was a great lover of music and passed this interest down to her children. She did a great deal of singing in community and church groups. Nelle also had the reputation of being a "fine" cook. She used her creative and artistic talents in baking and decorating cakes for her family and for the weddings of others in the community. She also worked in ceramics, creating objects of art some of which her family still proudly display in their homes.

J.G. and Nelle had two children: Robert John (Bob), 1916, and Anna Joyce, 1920.

by Joyce Wesselink

KLEIN, TUNIS AND TONIE

F280

Tunis Klein, son of Gerrit T.H. Klein and Jane Van Bentum Klein, was born Aug. 28, 1880 in Sioux Co., Ia. On Mar. 11, 1908 he married Tonie Brand, daughter of John Brand and Maggie De Penning Brand. Tonie was born Apr. 16, 1880 and raised near Pella. After their marriage they farmed near Otley and Pella. Tunis owned and operated the Klein Threshing Rig with his father and brothers.s

Tunis and Tonie were the parents of six children: Gilbert, born in 1909, died Apr. 27, 1944; Margaret, Mrs. James Wanders of New Sharon, Ia., born Sept. 24, 1910; Jane, Mrs. Gilford Winegar of Pella, born Aug. 17, 1913; John Edward of Pella, born Oct. 11, 1914; Marvin of Fairfield, Ia., born July 29, 1917; and Everett of Fairfield, Ia., born Jan. 5, 1922.

Tonie died of cancer on Sept. 23, 1935. After her death Tunis moved to Pella, where he was employed by Pella Canning Company. In 1939 he married Virginia Bowers of Pella, who died a few years later. In 1953 he married Ruth Bolden of Oskaloosa, Ia. She died Aug. 1976.

Tunis died of a stroke July 19, 1961, while vacationing in Spooner, Wis.

by Mrs. David E. Klein

KLEIN, WILLEM AND CORNELIA AGATHA

F281

(Klyn)

Willem Klein was born on Jan. 18, 1845, in Dodewaard, The Netherlands. He was the son of Jan and Neeltje (Willemsen) Klein.

Willem and Cornelia Klein

Cornelia Agatha was born on June 15, 1849, in Kisterin, The Netherlands. She was the daughter of Johannes and Grada Agatha (Meiring) Jansen.

Willem and Cornelia sailed to America in 1881 with their children: Grada Agatha (Jonkers) (1871-1948); Johannes (1874-1948); Geurtje (Kaldenberg) (1877-1951); Willem (1879-1944); and Cornelia Gerdina (Anderson) (1881-1945). The following children were born in Pella, Iowa: Neeltje (Van Gilst) (1883-1976); Mina (Koeleman) (1884-1934); Anna Maria (Vande Voort) (1885-1966); and Aleberta (Gosselink) (1887-1965).

Willem was a basket maker, as was his father before him, and a wooden shoemaker.

In 1911, Willem made a pair of wooden shoes, which were decorated by Nora Keables Scholte, the daughter-in-law of the Rev. Henry Peter Scholte. These shoes were presented to Teddy Roosevelt at a "whistle stop" when he passed through Pella while campaigning for the presidency.

by Mari Savery

KLEIN, WILLIAM (BILL)

F282

William Klein, 12th child of Gerrit and Arendiena Klein, Tz was married to Hendrika Monster, Mar, 1904. To this union, Hendrikus William Klein was born Mar. 17, 1905. His mother, Hendrika, died Apr. 10, 1905. Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Klein, Tz took and raised this three-week old grandchild to adulthood. He lived with them until their deaths. William married Mary (Van Ginkle) Van Peursem on Oct. 28, 1909. Mary had a child by a previous marriage, Peternella Van Peursem. Mary and Peternella were well known seamstresses in Pella for a number of years. Peternella later worked in Black's Style Shoppe. She never married. William worked for Beurkens' wagon factory. They lived on South Main St. for many years. Peternella died July, 1982, at age 76 years. They all are buried in Oakwood cemetery.

Hendrikus Klein, only son of William and Hendrika Monster Klein, married Henrietta Johanna Nunnikhoven Jan. 27, 1937. Henrietta was a housewife and Hendrikus was a farmer and laborer. They had no children. Hendrikus died Nov. 12, 1970, and Henrietta died Dec. 11, 1984. They lived on North Main St., Pella, for some years after he quit farming.

Note: Tz stands for Tunis' son.

by Dorothy Reed

KLEIN, WILLIAM G.

F283

William G. Klein was born in Pella, Ia. on Nov. 17, 1868, to Gerrit Klein and Jane Kornegoor. On Oct. 28, 1915, he married Marie Van Gent daughter of Daniel Van Gent and Jana Schenkel Van Gent, born May 10, 1892, in the Netherlands. She lived at Vianen, Zuid Holland, the Netherlands until 1900, when she sailed with her family to America from Rotterdam. Her family settled in the

Front, l-r: William G. Klein, Marie Klein; Back, l-r: Arie Klein, Daniel Klein, Jennie Klein.

Firth and Panama, Neb. area and attended the Pella Reformed Church at Pella, Neb., which is located close to Adams, Neb. When she was married, she came to Pella, Ia.

William was employed in the Pella area. Among his jobs was taking care of the Graceland Cemetery. Marie worked for the Pella Canning Co. and also was employed at the Central College kitchen for many years.

They were the parents of three children; Daniel G. Klein, born July 1, 1917, married Beatrice Carter, living in Eldorado, Ill.; Jennie H. Klein, born Jan. 16, 1919, married William Vos III, living in Pella, Ia.; and Arie G. Klein, born Nov. 29, 1923, married Nellie M. Schuring, living in Pella, Ia.. William G. Klein and Marie had three grandchildren. William died Mar. 9, 1949. Marie died May 1, 1974.

by Mary J. Meinders

KLEINENDORST FAMILY

F284

Life Along the South Skunk River

Lakes are for enjoyment and recreation. We enjoy their shimmering beauty and use them for boating, swimming, water skiing, and fishing. Right? Wrong in the early 1900's. Lakes were a means of livelihood – of adding to a family's meager income.

The case in point is a lake lying along the north side of the South Skunk River approximately five miles northeast of Pella in Lake Prairie Twp. The lake was known as the Kleinendorst Lake, because it was located on land owned by Mrs. Adrajana (Steenhoek) Kleinendorst, maternal grandmother of the author of this story. (Today the lake is called the Vermeer Lake, because the land belongs to Gary Vermeer of Vermeer Manufacturing Co.)

According to Cyrenius Cole's *Souvenir History of Pella*, Mrs. Kleinendorst's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arie Steenhoek, arrived from The Netherlands in 1858. The wife, Peternella, died in 1865, and when the husband, Arie, died in 1890, the land owned by him passed to the four children: Adrajana, Teuntje, Jan, and Cornelius. The family farm was then purchased from the other heirs by Adrajana and her husband, Teunis Kleinendorst.

In 1894, Mrs. Kleinendorst's husband, Teunis, died suddenly at the young age of forty-four. His wife was left with a month-old baby and six children ranging in age from two to thirteen years. The widow and her sons, Arie, Cornelis, Art, and Peter did the chores and farm work while the oldest daughter, Adrajana, aged five, cared for the house, her two-year-old sister, Cornelia, and baby brother, Jacob.

Attendance by the children at Sandridge Rural School was only possible for a short time during the winter months when their mother was not busy out in the fields. Small wonder that my mother, the five-year-old with the responsibilities of an adult, years later urged her children to make the most of their educational opportunities. She knew what it was like to join in with a class who could attend school on a regular basis while she could attend only now and then when she was not needed at home by her mother. She knew the difficulty of struggling through life without the ability to read and write.

One of the advantages of growing up under adverse conditions is the development of resourcefulness. When the South Skunk River overflowed its banks, water and fish spilled over into the Kleinendorst Lake. (Today this is prevented by a dike that has been built along that area of the river.) When the water of the river receded, many of the fish were left stranded in the lake.

At those times, the Kleinendorst brothers and sisters, having grown somewhat older, would wade into the water and catch the trapped fish. These were then cleaned, placed in a farm wagon between layers of wet slough grass, and taken to Pella the following morning. There they were sold to supplement the meager income of the Kleinendorst family.

by Catherine Vander Wiel

KLEINENDORST FAMILY

F285

Two Final Resting Places – One of Them Known Only to God

Listed among the arrivals from The Netherlands in 1856 in the *Souvenir History of Pella* by Cyrenius Cole, published in 1922, are the names Cornelis Kleinendorst, Mrs. C. Kleinendorst, Teunis Kleinendorst, and Cornelis Kleinendorst. (The Dutch name Kleinendorst could be translated "little thirst.") Cornelis Kleinendorst and Mrs. C. (Aartje Weijerse) Kleinendorst were the maternal great grandparents of the author of this story.

This couple, aged thirty-four and thirty-two respectively, and their two sons, ages five and six, came from Maasdam, in the province of South Holland. Maasdam is not far from Rotterdam, and its name indicates it is located where a dam crosses the Maas River.

The family purchased forty acres of farm land approximately eight miles northwest of Pella in Lake Prairie Twp. As with immigrants at that time, life had many difficulties. Work was done by hand labor; farm machines appeared on the scene later. Each member of the family was expected to do his share of the work.

Corneilius and Aartje (Weijerse) Kleinendorst, who came from The Netherlands in 1856.

One hot day in the year 1868, after having lived in America for some twelve years, the family was out in the field making hay. The mother suddenly became very ill and died. This being before the time of county coroners and autopsies, the cause of her death remains undetermined. A wooden box was made to be a casket for the body of the forty-four-year-old mother. The box was then placed on a lumber wagon and taken to its place of interment. The place is thought to be somewhere on the farm where they had lived and worked. Today her burial place is known only to God.

Her husband succeeded her by many years, attaining the age of eighty-seven. He made his home with his children and grandchildren who cared for him until his death in 1909. He lies buried beside his grandson, Arie Cornelis Kleinendorst, at Graceland Cemetery located at the north edge of Pella, where an obelisk stone marks his grave. The place is well known to his family – it being the first stone south of the maintenance building at the entrance to the cemetery. It is beneath an evergreen tree that whispers and sighs when the wind sweeps across the resting place of those lying there.

by Catherine Vander Wiel

KLYN, ADRIANUS

F286

Arie (Klijn) Klyn born May 10, 1750 in Oosteriwijk, Holland, married Pleuntje Van Es who died Dec. 10, 1806 in Oosteriwijk. Arie remarried his brother Jacob's widow, Adriana (Den Hartog) Klyn, born Sept. 1, 1774 in Nieuwland, Zuid Holland. Their son Arie Ariese Klyn (born in Meerkerk, Holland Sept. 11, 1811 – died May 17, 1889) was married Sept. 11, 1839 to Neeltje Klein (born Feb. 21, 1816 at Meerkerk, Holland – died June 21, 1902). Neeltje's parents were Gerrit

Front, l-r: Father Adrianus, Henry, Anna (De Bruin), Andrew (Brooks), Mother Dirkie (Boland); Middle, l-r: Dena (Vander Wilt), Jose (Grandia), Minnie (De Winter), Nellie (Kuiper); Back, l-r: Hattie (Owens), Arie. Taken about 1905

J. Klein (born May 31, 1793 in Leerdam, Holland) and Hendrika (Heikoof) Klein (born Dec. 17, 1791 in Leerdam, Holland). Arie Klyn died Dec. 10, 1806 and Adriana Den Hartog Klyn died Dec. 31, 1834 in Holland.

Arie Ariese and Neeltje Klyn had six children, all born in Nieuwland, Zuid Holland. He was a well-to-do merchant in Nieuwland. He came to America to Pella, Ia. in 1856 at the age of 45 years with his wife and five children. Their children were: Adriana (born Nov. 20, 1840 – died Mar. 4, 1841); Gerrit (born July 18, 1842) married to Bertha Plette; Arie Adrianus (born Apr. 11, 1844 – died July 6, 1931) married Sept. 24, 1871 to Hattie Breuklander (born Apr. 23, 1852 – died Dec. 13, 1929); Hendrieka (born Feb. 11, 1846) married July 18, 1865 to Gysbert Steenhoek (born Aug. 27, 1837); Adrianus (born Apr. 5, 1847 – died Apr. 4, 1932) married Mar. 2, 1877 to Dirkie Boland (born Oct. 11, 1855 – died Apr. 1, 1945); Jana (born Mar. 11, 1854) married to Jake Monster.

Adrianus Klyn and Dirkie Boland Klyn, whose parents were Hendriek Boland and Wilhelmina (Hoogenakker) Boland, had eleven children. They were: Henrietta and Jennie who died in infancy; Neeltje, Nellie, (born Feb. 5, 1878 – died Feb. 13, 1973) married Feb. 22, 1899 to Gerrit R. Kuiper (born Feb. 27, 1873 – died August 20, 1941); Wilhelmina, Minnie, (born Sept. 23, 1879 – died Mar. 4, 1967) married Sept. 11, 1902 to Nick De Winter (born June 7, 1876 – died Aug. 5, 1944); Arie (born Mar. 3, 1881 – died Dec. 5, 1978), married May 28, 1908 to Marie C. Hagen (born May 19, 1883 – died Mar. 3, 1968); Dena (born Sept. 19, 1882 – died July 20, 1945) married Aug. 14, 1901 to Gerrit G. VanderWilt (born Aug. 28, 1878 – died May 23, 1943); Hendrika (born Jan. 20, 1884 – died Mar. 23, 1885); Hendrika, Hattie, (born Feb. 11, 1886 – died Jan. 15, 1959) married Oct. 4, 1915 to Arthur P. Owen (born July 30, 1880 – died May 8, 1935); Josena, Jose, (born May 27, 1888 – died Dec. 3, 1975) married Feb. 12, 1913 to John A. Grandia (born Aug. 31, 1888 – died June 16, 1973); Jana, Jennie, (born Sept. 18, 1891 – died May 1, 1894); Johanna, Anna, (born Dec. 24, 1893 – died Oct. 28, 1975), married on Feb. 21, 1918 to Marinus De Bruin (born Feb. 24, 1891 – died Dec. 31, 1985); Hendrik, Henry, (born May 1, 1895 – died Oct. 12, 1951) married Mar. 16, 1920 to Bertha Den Burger (born Sept. 18, 1900) and now living in FairHaven); Andrew Dirk, Brooks (born Apr. 13, 1897 – died Nov. 4, 1986) married Dec. 30, 1920 to Cora Grootveld (born Oct. 20, 1898 – died Dec. 5, 1970, and remarried Aug. 17, 1974 to Henrietta Branderhorst Sels (died Nov. 9, 1984).

Adrianus and Dirkie spent most of their lives farming in the Pella area, except for six years at Adams, Nebr. They moved to 912 Franklin St. in 1915 when they retired from farming.

by Nellie Kuiper

KLYN, EDWARD DALE AND MARY ANN VANDER PEUT

F287

Dale is one of twins and the second of six children of Ed and Ella (Van Weelden) Klyn. He was born Mar. 5, 1943, in the house where his father was born and raised in the Fifield area along the Des Moines River bottom.

He attended and graduated from the eighth grade at Whitebreast country school. He then attended Pella Community High School, graduating in 1961. At that time the Red Rock Dam was being built and the Klyn farm had been purchased by the government. It would eventually be Red Rock Lake. His parents moved to a farm east of Otley and he

Front, l-r: Mary Ann, Cristin; Back, l-r: Mark, Dale, Mike

and his brother continued to farm there for two and one-half years.

Mary Ann was born on Feb. 18, 1944, the first of two children of Albert and Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut. She lived the first five years of her life on a farm north of Sully. In Feb. 1949, her family moved to a farm west of Otley, where she attended Fair Oaks country school through the fifth grade.

In Nov. of 1950 her brother was born. She went to school that day and told everyone that her folks had gone to Sears Roebuck in Oskaloosa to buy her a baby brother.

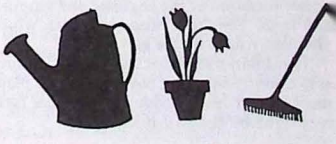
She attended sixth, seventh, and eighth grades in the Otley school. She then went to Pella High, riding the bus for one hour. It was those long bus rides that brought the couple together. Many dates were arranged between Dale and Mary Ann on those rides.

On Sept. 3, 1963, they were married and Dale continued to farm in the Fifield area until Nov. 1965 when they moved to 1007 Liberty in Pella. At this time Dale started Central College, worked at Vogelaar's Hardware, and drove school bus for Pella Christian Schools. Mary Ann worked at Central College and Third Reformed Church until their first son Michael D. was born Aug. 22, 1966. Mark Edward was born Feb. 15, 1969. Cristin Deann was born Apr. 25, 1975.

In Mar. of 1981 they moved next door, to 1009 Liberty. Dale worked over the years at Van Gorp Manufacturing, Foulke Rubber, and now owns and operates Red Rock Rubber. Other involvements include Pella City Council and Third Reformed Church. Mary Ann has been a housewife involved in various community and church activities. They have enjoyed traveling in the United States and Europe.

Mike graduated from Pella Community High in 1985 and is presently working at Red Rock Rubber. He enjoys cycle riding and hunting. Mark graduated from Pella Community High in 1987 and will continue with a college education. He has been active in the high school band and working part time and HyVee in Pella. Mark enjoys fishing and hunting. Cristin is in the sixth grade at Pella Middle School and is active in band and enjoys babysitting, reading, and handwork.

by Edward Dale and Mary Ann Klyn



KLYN, GERRIT A. AND KATHERINE (VANDER WIEL)

F288

Father and Mother Klyn

Gerrit A. Klyn was born Jan. 28, 1895, to Arie Ariese Klyn and Sadie Van Hulzen. Gerrit was one of three children: Dena, Gerrit, and Jim.

Katherine Vander Wiel was born Jan. 22, 1898, to Sieger Vander Wiel and Silvia Wouda. Katherine was one of three children: Sarah, Katherine, and Johanna.

Gerrit and Katherine were united in marriage on June 8, 1918. They lived in the town of Otley for about nine years. Gerrit worked as a mechanic and the children attended school there. Thirteen children were born to this marriage: Ruth, Arthur, Gerald, Sylvia, Raymond, Marjorie, John, Marion, Marvin, Sidney, Kenneth, Lawrence, and Lester. The six oldest children were born while living in Otley.

Then they moved to a farm in the Fifield area which they rented from Gerrit's parents. It was here that the other seven children were born. One of the children, Kenneth, died in infancy. The family attended the Otley Christian Reformed Church. For a family of fourteen, two cars were needed when they went to church or other places.

They raised hogs and also did some milking. They had a large tomato patch where the children were put to work picking tomatoes. This patch was along the railroad tracks. This family of boys had a lot of energy, so one time when the train came through they threw tomatoes at the engineer and stopped the train. They also raised sorghum, which the family used by the gallons.

The children attended the Fifield Community Country School. They lived at this place until around 1942. Today much of this farm is covered by the Red Rock Lake.

They then bought a farm three miles southwest of Monroe. While living here Katherine had goiter surgery. She died from complications of surgery on May 27, 1947, at the age of 47 years.

It was difficult for a large family to be without a mother, the youngest was only seven years old. For a few years the children went to school in Monroe. Later Gerrit drove the Otley-to-Pella Christian School bus and they attended school at Pella Christian Grade School.

Around 1948 Gerrit bought a farm on the east edge of Otley. In 1951, he married Bertha De Wit. A few years later he sold his farm and bought a 170-acre farm located eight miles north of Pella in the south Skunk River bottom. In Feb., 1954, Gerrit had a closing out sale. He then rented the farm out until the time of his death, when it was sold.

On June 23, 1961, Gerrit died from complications of a stroke. All of the Klyn children are members of the Christian Reformed Church. Ten of them still live in Pella and surrounding areas, while the other two reside in Michigan.

by Kathy Arkema

KLYN, HENDRIK HENRY A.

F289

Corp. Henry A. Klyn, Co. M 350 Infantry, 88th Division, 1918.

Henry A. Klyn was born in Marion Co. May 1, 1895, the tenth child of Andrianus (Apr. 5, 1847-Apr. 4, 1932), and Dirkie (Boland) Klyn (Oct. 11, 1855-Apr. 1, 1945). To speak of Henry without his younger brother Andrew Dirk, born Apr, 13, 1897, would be nearly impossible. The two brothers were so close as children they were nicknamed "Hempie" and "Broukie" (Dutch words for shirt and pants). Andrew's nickname "Brooks" was a lifetime name for him. The boys were educated at Lincoln School in Pella. They were separated first when Henry was inducted into World War I, first training at Camp Dodge and then serving with the 88th Division (nicknamed the Hunhusker Division) on the European front.

Henry kept a diary and his sister, Hattie Owens, compiled a scrapbook of news clippings, postcards, and pictures he sent home. His diary includes accounts from Aug. 5, 1918, at the time he was leaving Camp Dodge for Europe, until his return on June 14, 1919. He made entries on Aug. 16 as they left the U.S., taking 12 days to sail to Liverpool, England, and arriving in France on Oct. 1, 1918. "The Channel was rough, lots of boys were sick sick . . . got on our heavy pack and hiked 4 miles . . . had nothing to eat for 36 hours . . . rest camp . . . we was there 2 days and got in box cars for another camp . . . was on the train to (2) days and nights . . . got off the train and hiked 12 miles with a heavy pack. All in. Slept in a barn on a pile of straw . . . no eat and no money . . . Its no Joke." On Nov. 11, 1918, Henry writes in his diary "No more fighting. But we still drill." On Nov. 12. . . "Walked 14 miles to get a poor bath. No Joke. Rest." On Jan. 28, 1919, still stationed in Givrnval, France, Henry writes a letter to the *Pella Chronicle* stating, "I'm sleeping in the same old barn that I sent you a picture of. We have a little stove in it but it gets cold at night. They are going to send 37 divisions home right soon. I hope the 88th in one of them. We are in the second army and not the army of occupation . . . I was up to Verdun to see the battlefield. It sure was all turned up side down. In the city there is not a building that is not broken up. I was up on dead man's hill and in dead man's valley. There are several skeletons of men laying there yet. Thousands of shells laying around that did not explode. I was all thru the big forts that the Kaiser wanted to take to go to Paris. I also saw the underground city of Verdun . . . That place would hold 60,000 soldiers . . . There was a big forest but there is hardly a stump left now. They fought for 90 days and nights without stop."

Henry returned to Pella and was married Mar. 16, 1920, to Bertha Den Berger, born Sept. 18, 1900. The *Chronicle* gives this account of their wedding, "At the home of Mrs. John Den Berger, mother of the bride, occurred Tues evening at seven o'clock the marriage of her daughter Bertha to Henry A. Klyn, son of A.J. Klyn of Pella, Rev. J.M. Bruins being the officiating clergyman. Mr. Klyn is a returning soldier and his bride is a well known and popular young lady. We understand they will make their home on a farm east of town."

Henry and Brooks farmed during the depression years, finally selling their farms and equipment to repay their mother money she had loaned them to begin farming. In 1936, with money borrowed from their brother Arie and the Pella National Bank, they established Klyn Bros. Hatchery on North Main Street (building presently the Village Florist). The *Chronicle* account of the new business was "the building will house three mammoth incubators with 20,000 egg capacity each. The size of the building is 20x50 feet . . . in these incubators will be hatched the leading breeds of chickens. The registered 'Klyn Bros. Leghorn' breeding flocks are well

Bertha Klyn and her family, Thanksgiving, 1978. Front, l-r: Alf Renaud, James Renaud, Paul Klyn, Jill Klyn, Jean Renaud, Dorothy Renaud, and Kent Ver Meer; Stairs, top-bottom: Spencer Ver Meer, Matt Ver Meer, Joan Klyn, Jana Klyn, Bertha Klyn, Willard Ver Meer, San Ver Meer, and Ruth Ver Meer.

known throughout central Iowa." Henry and Brooks were also in the feed business and became well known auctioneers. They were very active softball players and instrumental in starting money-raising for installation of lights at the playing field.

Henry and Bertha had three children: Dorothy Juline, born Oct. 14, 1921, married June 13, 1941, to Alfred Earl Renaud. They had one son James Paul born July 29, 1942, married May 20, 1966, to Jean Margaret Clark.

Lora Ruth, born Sept. 4, 1927, married Sept. 4, 1946, to Henry Willard Ver Meer. They had three children: Kent Henry, born June 4, 1949, and married Jan. 16, 1971, to Grace Deur (parents of Matthew, born Nov. 20, 1973); Sandra Lynn born Jan. 19, 1952, and Spencer Will born June 16, 1969.

John Paul Klyn, born Sept. 8, 1934, married Sept. 4, 1958, to Joan Ruth Gosselink who are the parents of Jana Ruth, born Sept. 5, 1961, and married Sept. 22, 1984, to Jeff Hughes and Jill Alison, born Apr. 9, 1964, and married Aug. 9, 1986, to Tim Hillygus.

Henry died very suddenly while watching his son Paul play in a high school football game at Chariton, Ia., on Oct. 12, 1951, at the age of 56.

Bertha continued to live in their home at 1332 Main St. for many years and is now a resident of Fairhaven.

by Joan Klyn

John and Lois (Hoksbergen) Klyn, wedding picture taken in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where they were married on Dec. 23, 1950.

KLYN, JOHN AND LOIS HOKSBERGEN

F290

John Klyn was born July 31, 1930, to Gerrit A. Klyn and Katherine Vander Wiel. John was one of thirteen children: Ruth, Arthur, Gerald, Sylvia, Raymond, Marjorie, John, Marion, Marvin, Sidney, Kenneth, Lawrence, and Lester.

John and Lois Klyn Family. Front: John and Lois; Back: Bonnie, Kathy, and Jon.

Lois Hoksbergen was born June 25, 1931, to Ray Hoksbergen and Johanna Van Haaften. Lois was one of seven children: Ralph, Harold, Lois, Dorothy, Alma, Theresa, and Janice.

Courting days began on Nov. 23, 1947, in a 1931 Chevrolet. They were married Dec. 23, 1950, in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church by Rev. Fred Huizenga. Their first home was about five miles northeast of Peoria. John worked for Lois' father on the farm. Lois taught fifth and sixth grades at the Sully Christian School.

In January, 1952 John was drafted into the United States Army and sent to aid the American effort in the Korean War. John was sent to Fort Eustis, Va. Later, Lois joined him there, and they lived in the town of Williamsburg. At this time their first child, Judith Lynn, was born on August 13, 1952. In January of 1953, he left for one year of overseas duty in Korea. He was discharged in January, 1954. They moved to a farmstead eight miles north of Pella in the South Skunk River bottom, where John began his farming career. While living there their second child, Kathleen Joan, was born on Jan. 12, 1956. On Aug. 2, 1957, Bonnie Lou, their third child, was born.

While they were living here the river often overflowed their farm ground, even coming up to their buildings. Therefore, to supplement their income, in 1960 John became employed at the Pella Implement Store as a mechanic. John began farming with an F-20 Farmall tractor which he purchased for $350.00 from Terpstra Implement in Lynnville. He also bought a used two-bottom plow.

The family attended the Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella. John and Lois were both Sunday School teachers, and Lois was a member of Calvary Lamplighters Society. Judy and Kathy attended Pella Christian Grade School.

Nineteen sixty-two brought another move for the family. They returned to the Peoria area, to a farm three miles northeast of town. This home was furnished with the luxury of indoor plumbing facilities.

Tragedy struck the family when Judith was killed in a bicycle-car accident on July 8, 1964. Rev. Donald Van Beek officiated at the funeral which was held at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. Two years later, in January of 1966, their daughter Julie Lynn was born, but she died three hours after her birth.

Kathy and Bonnie attended the Peoria Christian Grade School, graduating from there in 1970 and 1971, respectively. During their junior high years they both took organ lessons at Central College from a music student there. Lois taught kindergarten at the Peoria Christian School for seven years until 1972, when son Jon Alan was born on July 20.

In the year 1970 John purchased a self-propelled I.H. combine. This was quite an improvement in harvesting crops over the pull-type he had previously used. He also used this machine to do custom combining for others. In 1977 central Iowa suffered from a serious drought. The summer was hot and dry. The crops were damaged by lack of moisture, and some of the short fields of corn yielded only seven bushels per acre.

Summer on the Klyn farm was a busy time for home canning and preserving. Dressing

chickens or freezing corn was often more than a family project. Lois' sisters and their families, along with her mother, would come to spend the day and everyone would work together at the task. Much of the work was done outside under a shade tree. Hot water for scalding was heated on a gas hot plate, and the picnic table or hay rack was the work bench. Everyone helped where they could. The older girls cared for the young children. Many containers of food were put away for winter use.

After the work, however, came the recreation, as many times the family would resort to the large timberland on the farm for an evening walk or some fishing in the pond. Relatives sometimes joined them for this, too.

In the 1960's, the Klyns enjoyed some sightseeing vacations. In 1966 they traveled to Niagara Falls, and in 1968 they spent time in the Western region of the United States touring Colorado, Utah, Wyoming, and the Dakotas. They made several summer trips to the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri during the 1970's.

In January, 1980 the family moved again. They went to a farmstead five miles northeast of Peoria, a move of only two miles. This is their present residence.

Both of the couple's daughters are graduates of the Pella Christian High School. They are now married. Kathy was wed to Verland Arkema in 1974, and Bonnie was married to Darrell Boot in 1982. Jon is still in school, attending the Peoria Christian Grade School. He plays the clarinet in the school band and is a member of the Peoria Cadet Club for boys. He also works with his father on the farm.

John and Lois are members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where John has served many years as a member of the consistory, and Lois attends the Queen Esther Society. She is also a World Home Bible League key lady for the Peoria church. They have also devoted ample time to the Christian School in Peoria, John as a board member, and Lois as a teacher's aide. She was also a charter member of the Peoria School Circle, and is presently a Willing Worker with that organization. She is an associate member of the Pellal Christian High School Auxiliary. Lois is a part-time employee of Hilltop Manor in Pella and is a volunteer with Birthright of Oskaloosa. In past years she has been active as a member of the Committee for Human Life Amendment and served many years as a Sunday School teacher.

John and Lois are lovingly devoted to their children and six grandchildren, sharing with them their Christian faith and heritage that are such a vital part of their lives.

by Kathy Arkema

KLYN, JOHN PAUL

F291

John Paul Klyn was born Sept. 8, 1934, the youngest of three children of Henry A. (May 1, 1895-Oct. 12, 1951) and Bertha Den Berger Klyn (born Sept. 18, 1900). John Paul was given Bible names by his grandmothers but called Paul by his family as he had several uncle Johns. Paul attended the Pella Community schools from kindergarden through high school, then enlisted in the U.S. Navy for four years receiving overseas assignment in Japan and aboard the USS Kearsarge, and attended Iowa State College in Ames.

Paul was married Sept. 4, 1958, to Joan Ruth Gosselink born Nov. 10, 1937, to John Alfred (June 22, 1910-Sept. 6, 1974) and Ruth Visser Gosselink (born Feb. 15, 1913). Joan lived her younger years on a farm south of Pella attending North Porterville country school, then Pella Community schools, and graduated as an RN from Iowa Lutheran School of Nursing in Des Moines, Ia. Paul and Joan lived in Denver, Colo. from 1960 to 1966 and Bayard, Neb. from 1966 to 1970 before returning to Pella at which time Paul became associated with Renaud Farm and Garden Center. Joan has been employed as an RN at VA Hospitals in Knoxville, IA., and Denver, Colo., Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia., and Christian Opportunity Center in Pella.

Their two daughters, born in Denver, Colo. are Jana Ruth born Sept. 5, 1961 and Jill Alison born Apr. 9, 1964. Jana graduated from Pella Community schools and Marshalltown Community School of Nursing and was married to Jeffery Lee Hughes Sept. 22, 1984. Jill, after graduating from Pella Community School, graduated from Marshalltown Community College and Buena Vista College with a degree in elementary education and was married Aug. 9, 1986, to Timothy Robert Hillygus.

The Klyns hosted an AFS high school exchange student, Veronique Vanderperre, from Brussels, Belgium, the school year 1980-81 and have enjoyed an ongoing relationship with her family.

In 1982 Joan and Paul bought their home at 1336 Main St. which has been in the Klyn family for 50 years. This house was built in 1911-12 by a Mr. Gradus Bensink, then owned by Dr. Ver Ploeg family, bought by Paul's uncle "Brooks" Klyn in 1937 and later by Paul's sister, Mrs. Alfred Renaud.

by Joan Klyn

Left to Right: Jeff and Jana Hughes, Joan and Paul Klyn, Jill and Tim Hillygus, taken Sept. 22, 1984, on the Central College campus the day of Jana and Jeff's wedding.

Klyn home at 1336 Main in Pella.

KOENIGS, RAY, LORRAINE, AND LAURIE

F292

Ray Koenigs was born in the western Ia. town of Mapleton, Jan. 22, 1924. His wife Lorraine Anker Koenigs was born Sept. 5, 1924, in southeastern So. Dak., near Vermillion. The couple came to Pella via a circuitous route, originating (for the purpose of this chronicle) in Vermillion, So. Dak. in the 1940's. Vermillion is base for the University of South Dakota from which both graduated — Lorraine in 1946 and Ray in 1949 (following U.S. Army Air Corps service, World War II, Italy) — and the place where they married, Sept. 1, 1948. They moved to Des Moines where Ray joined an advertising agency and Lorraine was employed by Meredith Corporations' *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. A newspaper ad led to the Advertising Manager job at Rolscreen Company in 1957. Lorraine worked for Van Gorp Manufacturing, Pella, until 1963. Daughter Laurie was born Oct. 24, 1965, graduated from Pella Community High School, and enrolled at Ia. State University in 1984. Ray retired from Rolscreen Company in 1986.

by Ray Koenigs

KOLENBRANDER, DIRK AND NELLIE

F293

Dirk and Nellie Kolenbrander

Dirk John Kolenbrander, only son of Henry W. and Martha DeBruin Kolenbrander, was born on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 26, 1908, seven miles northeast of Pella. He joined three older sisters: Johanna, Rachel, and Dena.

Those were the days when life was very simple on the farm. No T.V., radio, or daily papers! The Sears and Ward's catalogues held a child's interest for hours. Building blocks and Tinker Toy were played with constantly but carefully, so they would last. The party-line telephone was a source of neighborhood news, and the "General Ring" called all on the line to hear about special events, bargains in the stores, and emergency calls for help.

The country one-room-school, where Dirk and his sisters were taught by dedicated teachers, was a mile from home. No school bus came by their door and parents provided transportation only in very severe weather.

In 1914 the family experienced real excitement when Father drove a brand new model T Ford touring car home. Whooping cough kept young Dirk home for a few weeks, but soon he experienced the thrill of traveling the seven miles to church at 20 miles per hour.

When Dirk was in sixth grade, the family moved to Pella and Dirk continued his education at Lincoln, Webster, and Pella High, graduating with the class of '26. He was undecided about further education, but when convinced that God was calling him to the Gospel Ministry, he enrolled mid-term at Central College in Jan., 1928, graduating with the class of '31. It was while at Central that Dirk took note of Nellie Van Heukelom's smile and asked her to be his date to the Washington Banquet, which was then the social event of the year. In the Fall of '31 he enrolled in Western Theological Seminary, Holland, Mich., graduating with the class of '34. That was in the middle of the Great Depression. Many banks closed and since there was no FDIC (Fed. Dep Ins. Corp.) then, many people lost heavily.

But love finally had its way and Dirk and Nellie exchanged marriage vows on the afternoon of Aug. 28, 1934, in Third Church. The extreme heat of that summer had broken, and a cool rain fell that evening. Nellie's father was Gerrit T. Van Heukelom. Her mother, Alice Hoksbergen Van Huekelom had died in Sept. of 1931.

Together they dedicated their lives to serve their Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Dirk was ordained to the Gospel Ministry and installed as pastor of the First Reformed Church of Sibley, Ia. Oct. 7, 1934. Other churches served were at Springfield, S. Dak., Steen, Minn., Holland, Nebr., and Prairie City, Ia. Starting annual salary in depression '34 was $640.00, which was increased bit by bit.

Their home was blessed by the birth of four children: Aletha Gertrude and Harold Mark in Sibley, Paul Edwin and Eunice Ruth in Springfield. Three were married in Holland, Nebr., and Eunice in Prairie City. In due time, Dirk and Nellie became proud grandparents and great-grandparents. They thank God for the love that joins them all together.

After 39 years in the Gospel Ministry, Dirk and Nellie decided to retire and moved to Pella in Oct., 1973. Life had not always been easy for them, but that was not all bad. It tested their faith in God and made it stronger. It also helped them to minister to the people they served. They thank God for the support they received from so many of their people.

In retirement they appreciate the relaxed pace, but continue to serve in various ways in their effort to honor Jesus Christ. To God Be The Glory.

by Dirk Kolenbrander

KOLENBRANDER, HENRY W.

F294

Henry and Martha Kolenbrander

Hendrik Willem Kolenbrander was born in Varseveld, the Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands, on Feb. 2, 1861. His family name, Kolenbrander, evidently reflected the fact that they were engaged in making charcoal for use in the iron works. Netherlands records, dating back to 1640, indicate that it was a common name.

Hendrik's father was Derk Jan Kolenbrander, born Oct. 16, 1824, and his mother was Johanna Aleida Heenk, born Nov. 7, 1830. His father died Jan. 8, 1869, and his mother soon after, on Mar. 12, 1869, evidently both victims of a severe epidemic.

At any rate, Hendrik was orphaned by the time he was eight. He had a younger brother, Gerhardus Bernardus, two years younger. He also had three younger sisters: Berendina Willemina, Gesina Willemina, and Dela who lived only one day. She died about the same time her parents died. The four orphans were cared for in the homes of different relatives who were very poor. Naturally, they added to the poverty, as then there was no government aid for dependent children. So their life was not easy.

When Hendrik grew up, he listened with interest to reports of the marvelous opportunities in the great new country across the sea. At that time many of his age group migrated to America to escape the military draft. So at the age of eighteen, on July 21, 1880, Hendrik and a friend, who had connections in America, set sail for The Land of Promise. They came to Wisconsin, where he found work with English-speaking farmers, to help him learn the new language. He also attended winter school classes and gained a practical reading and figuring (arithmetic) skill in the language of his adopted country. He also adopted the American version of his name, Henry William, and became an American citizen.

When he had saved enough money, he urged his younger brother Gerhardus (Gerrit) to come and join him. Gerrit left The Netherlands on Feb. 8, 1882. He came to Wisconsin, but for some reason soon left to seek his fortune in the Pella, Ia. area. He soon convinced Henry that there were marriageable Christian young women in the Pella area. As a result they married sisters, Martha and Wilhelmina De Bruin, daughters of Jan and Rijkie De Bruin. Rijkie's maiden name was also Kolenbrander. The relation of the Kolenbranders is not known.

Henry and Martha were married Dec. 6, 1893. They made their home on a farm seven miles northeast of Pella, Martha's birthplace. That was their home until they retired and moved to Pella. Four children were born there: Johanna Alida, Aug. 11, 1898; Rachel, Apr. 2, 1902; Dena Wilhelmina, Sept. 19, 1905; and Dirk John Nov. 26, 1908. As a father, Henry was a strict disciplinarian, combined with a loving desire to train his family to know and love the Lord.

Henry was active in community affairs. He served for many years as the director of their country school district, always seeking for teachers with academic excellence and Christian character. He served for many years as a member of consistory of the Third Reformed Church of Pella.

Martha was first of all a loving homemaker, but was also active in the women's organizations of the church. She died at age 71, following thyroid surgery, when she suffered a severe stroke. Henry died a year later on

July 20, 1943. Their main aim in life was to live to the honor of their Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. Their children rise up and call them blessed.

by Dirk Kolenbrander

KOOI, EDWARD C. AND MURIEL "MURT"
F295

Ed and Murt moved to Pella in 1969 when both accepted positions in the public school system. They have taught here since that time, Ed at the Middle School and Murt at Webster Elementary.

Fulton, Ill. is the home town of both. Ed was born Oct. 16, 1926, to Mino and Anna (Drolema) Kooi. He has an older brother, Harold. Murt was the only child born to the marriage of Dean Winthrop and Hazel (Holsinger) Byers. She was born Dec. 27, 1926.

The Kooi ancestry is Dutch as is Murt's on the maternal side. Friesland and Groningen are the ancestral provinces. Murt's Dutch ancestors arrived in 1866 and were among the first Dutch settlers in Fulton. Ed's came in the early 1900's. Murt's paternal ancestors were from the British Isles and settled in Nova Scotia in the early 1700's. Others arrived with the settlers of Plymouth, Mass. in 1620 on the Mayflower.

The Kooi's attended schools in Fulton, graduating with the class of 1944. Ed had enlisted as a senior in the U.S. Air Force Cadet Corps and attended school with the Air Force after high school graduation, being honorably discharged at the end of World War II. Murt attended Central College from 1944-46 completing a two-year teacher program. While Ed was attending Central, Murt taught in two rural schools in the area, Bunker Hill and Black Oak Center. She later went on to attend Wartburg College in Waverly, Ia. and graduated from there in 1969. Ed graduated with the Central College class of 1950.

August 20, 1947, was the date of their marriage in Fulton. Three children were born to the couple. Kent Edward was born Jan. 16, 1949, in Oskaloosa, Kristi Lynn on Mar. 2, 1951, and Carol Maureen on Sept. 20, 1954. The girls were both born in Winterset, Ia.

Kent and his wife, Amanda, live in Lordsburg, N.M. Kristi and her husband, Darryl Switzer, live in rural Pella as do Carol and her two sons, Klint Adam and Konner Douglas Kooyman. The other grandchildren are: Karilyn Joy and David Edward Switzer and Kent's children, Shannon Marie, Kevin Michael, Kyle Robert, and Katherine Elizabeth.

The Koois attend Second Reformed Church. Ed is active in Lions' Club and serves on the board of the Carnegie Vierson Library. Murt's varied interests concentrate on serving on the board of the Pella Historical Society, C Club Board and genealogic organizations. She is a member of the New England Historic Genealogical Society and of the Society of Mayflower Descendants. For many years Murt has been a free-lance writer with articles in several magazines, especially articles about Pella in *The Iowan* and later in book form in a children's book about Pella's first year, *Path of Delft*. To celebrate Tulip Time's fiftieth anniversary, she compiled a commemorative book, *Festival*.

Two of the Kooi grandchildren, Klint and Konner Kooyman, are direct descendants of members of the original settlers who came in 1847 on the 'Maastroom' which arrived in Baltimore in Apr. 1847. This heritage is on their father's side. The early ancestors were Adam Peter Hasselman and his wife, Alida Christina Gerdesse Timmermans. Klint Adam is a namesake for this ancestor.

by Murt Kooi

Front: Murt and Ed Kooi; Back, l-r: Kristi, Kent, and Carol.

KOOLBECK, JAN JACOB AND AAGJE (VAN DER GAAUW)
F296

Jan Jacob Koolbeck was born on June 1, 1811 in Rotterdam, Holland, the son of Jacob Koolbeck and Johanna de Heer.

On Apr. 16, 1834, Jan married Aagje van der Gaauw at Maassluis, Holland. Aagje was born Jan. 31, 1807, at Maassluis, the daughter of Jan van der Gaauw and Maartje Ligtermoet. Her father had died Apr. 5, 1812, and one of the signers of the marriage certificate, apparently in his stead, was Garret Ligtermoet, possibly Maartje's brother or uncle.

Jan and Aagje had three children before coming to the United States in 1849. They were: Jacob, born in Jan. 1836; Garret, born about 1839 in Amsterdam, Holland; and Johan, born May 16, 1841, also in Amsterdam.

Jan, Aagje, and their three sons came to the United States and Pella as part of the second important expedition of emigrants in 1849, under the committee of Jan Hospers, A.C. Kuyper, and J. Maasdam. This group put out to sea at 11 p.m. on Thursday, May 5, 1849, from Rotterdam, on the Danish sailing vessel *Franziska*, flying the Russian flag. They arrived in New York Harbor, Wednesday, June 13th, and disembarked two days later. At the time of emigration, Jan Koolbeck was a well-to-do agent or stockbroker from Woerden, South Holland. In the 1850 U.S. Census for Marion Co., his occupation is listed as "store clerk." It is possible he worked for the early mercantile firms of Herman van Dam or Bousquet, Wolters and Smeenk, as the Bousquet, van Dam and Koolbeck families all came over on the *Franziska*. Possibly he later worked for Gerrit Rysdam.

The first record of his owning land after reaching Pella is a deed dated June 20, 1855, from Henry P. Scholte and wife conveying Lot 5 in Block 42 in the Town of Pella to John J. Koolbeck for $50. This lot is located on the northeast corner of Liberty St. and East Second St., and is presently occupied by a residence at 414 Liberty St. and a commercial building at 708 East Second St. Less than a month later, on July 14, 1855, he bought two tracts of 30 acres and 20 acres in Sec. 15 and 22 respectively, T-76N, R-18W, in Lake Prairie Twp., about two miles south of Pella, for $1,000. The town lot was sold Aug. 25, 1856, and the land in Sec. 15 and 22 was disposed of on Jan. 1, 1858 and July 14, 1858. By 1860 Jan, Aagje, and son Jacob were living and farming in Summit Twp. Son Garret was living in Pella with a blacksmith and his family, Hendrik de Haan, and was engaged as a blacksmith's apprentice.

When the call went out for volunteers following commencement of the Civil War in 1861, the father and two sons responded. The father, Jan, enlisted in Company I, 17th Iowa Infantry, and, newly promoted a 3rd Sergeant, died at Iuka, Miss., Sept. 21, 1862, from wounds received Sept. 19, 1862, in the

Battle of Iuka. Place of burial is unknown.

The middle son, Garret, found his way to Bexar County, Tex., where he enlisted July 11, 1861, at Camp Clark, Tex., in Captain Ed. H. Cunningham's Company, The Mustang Grays. This company was subsequently mustered into the Confederate service as Company F of the 4th Texas Volunteer Infantry (Hood's Texas Brigade). Garret, a teamster, was severely wounded June 27, 1862, at Gaines' Mill in Virginia and subsequently died Sept. 5 or 6, 1862, at Chimborazo Hospital No. 1 in Richmond, Va. Place of burial is unknown. No evidence has been found to date that Garret ever married.

The youngest son, John (Johan), was a private in Company F of the 4th Iowa Veteran Volunteer Cavalry. He was severely wounded on Oct. 22, 1864, in fighting west of Independence, Mo., in the early stages of the Battle of Westport. He survived the war and returned to farming in Marion Co. where he had married Rebecca Caroline Frazer, daughter of S.H. Frazer and Rebecca ?, on Mar. 24, 1864, while on furlough. John and his family moved from Marion Co. about Mar., 1873 or 1874, eventually settling in Shelby Co., Ia.

The oldest son, Jacob Koolbeck, married Vogaltje Sipma on Aug. 23, 1860, in Pella. Bogaltje was born in Oct. of 1840 in Holland, emigrating to the United States in 1852. They farmed northwest of Pella in Summit Twp. until moving to the new Dutch colony in Sioux Co., where they were early pioneers. This move occurred sometime between July 2, 1870, when they were enumerated in Summit Twp. in the 1870 U.S. Census, and Oct. 14, 1873, when Jacob was elected Justice of the Peace at the formation of Floyd Twp. in Sioux Co. He continued to farm. He later served as Mayor of Hospers, where he engaged in the agricultural implement business, real estate, and insurance.

Eight children were born to this couple, three sons and five daughters. They were: Aagje (1864-?); Richard (1867-?) married Nellie ?; John J. (1869-1895/1900) married Maggie?; Annie (1871-?); Dina (1873-?); Lillian (1876-?) married Dr. French about 1899; Jacob (1879-?); and Flora (Florence 1882-?).

After Jan Jacob's death, his widow, Aagje, lived with son Jacob and his family, moving with them to Sioux Co. She died there Feb. 26, 1880, and was buried in Orange City.

by Freeman B. Swift

KOOLBECK, JOHN AND REBECCA CAROLINE (FRAZER)

F297

John (Johan) Koolbeck was born on May 16, 1841, in Amsterdam, Holland, the youngest son of Jan Jacob Koolbeck and Aagje van der Gaauw. He came, with his parents and two brothers, to the United States and Pella in the summer of 1849, as part of the second important expedition of emigrants, sailing from Rotterdam on the Danish sailing vessel *Franziska* to New York.

It is unknown when John left his parents' home to go on his own. He does not appear in the 1860 U.S. Census in Marion Co., but is listed as a resident of Pella, and a farmer, at the time of enlistment on Jan. 1, 1862, in the 4th Iowa Cavalry, following the outbreak of the Civil War. He served throughout the war as a private in Company F of that regiment until discharge Aug. 8, 1865, in Atlanta, Ga. He was severely wounded on Oct. 22, 1864, in fighting against General Price's troops west of Independence, Mo., a preliminary to the Battle of Westport. John reenlisted Jan. 2, 1864, at Vicksburg, Miss., as a "veteran volunteer," and took advantage of his 30-day reenlistment furlough to return home to Pella and be married to Rebecca Caroline Frazer, daughter of S.H. Frazer and Rebecca ?, on Mar. 24, 1864, by Rev. Abram Thompson of the Second Reformed Church of Pella. Rebecca was born Jan. 17, 1844, at New Castle, Ind. During the war she periodically traveled to Des Moines to sew soldiers' clothes.

Following his discharge John returned to Marion Co. where he farmed until Mar. of 1873 or 1874. He and his family then moved to western Iowa, where he eventually settled at Harlan in Shelby Co. in the spring of 1874, which place continued to be his home until his death. He farmed in partnership with Colonel Swain for a number of years and later was in the elevator business until 1892, when he opened a restaurant on the south side of the square in Harlan. He subsequently built a two-story brick building on the east side of the square for his restaurant, which he continued to operate until 1918, when he retired. John died July 21, 1923, having been preceeded in death by his wife, Rebecca, on Jan. 2, 1919. They are buried in Harlan.

To this couple were born four children, one daughter and three sons. They were: Tina Ellen (Sept. 22, 1865-July 3, 1925), married Curren Freeman Swift; Thomas Benton (Dec. 19, 1872-?), married Francis Walters; John Henry (Feb. 20, 1877-Aug. 7, 1951), married Laura Louise Huff; and William Roy (Jan. 18, 1879-Apr. 25, 1958), married Marie Meyers.

Tina Ellen married Curren Freeman Swift, son of Washington Sylvester Swift and Lovina Jane Dunlavy, on July 22, 1886, at Harlan. Curren was born Mar. 16, 1861, in Davis Co. Ia. He had completed the teacher's course at the Southern Iowa Normal and Commercial Institute at Bloomfield, after which he taught in Davis Co. In Mar., 1882, he came to Shelby Co. and engaged in teaching until being elected County Superintendent of Schools in 1885, serving two terms. He became active in politics, serving two terms as mayor of Harlan, and two terms in the Iowa Legislature. He was active in the real estate business and was postmaster of Harlan at the time of his death on Nov. 28, 1921. His wife died July 3, 1925, and both are buried in Harlan. Four children were born to this couple. They were: Gaillard K. (Aug. 10, 1887-Apr. 2, 1980), married Bess Husband and married second time Irma Stewart Beutel; Helen (Feb. 25, 1889-May 22, 1976), married Winfield Verner Mayne; Russel Freeman (Jan 20, 1893-Dec. 23, 1977), married Aasta Kristine Boysen; and Katharine (Sept. 13, 1904-), married Ralph Oetgen Bartling.

Curren and Tina's son, Russell Freeman, was married Nov. 22, 1922, at Harlan, Ia., to Aasta Kristine Boysen, daughter of Andrew Boysen and Kristine Schack. Aasta was born Apr. 15, 1900, in Atlantic, Ia. To this couple four children were born: two sons and two daughters. They were: Freeman Boysen (Oct. 30, 1925-) married Virginia Mae McLaughlin; Russell Allan (Aug. 23, 1931-Jan. 27, 1978), never married; Nancy (Aug. 11, 1933-), married Richard Edmund Onnen; and Cynthia (Sept. 20, 1940-), married William David Murphy

Russell Freeman was a graduate of the University of Nebraska Law School, an aviator in the United States Air Service in WW I, and a successful practicing attorney in Harlan his entire life. In 1941 he was appointed a member of the Iowa Liquor Control Commission, serving 12 years. During this period the Swifts lived in Des Moines. He returned to Harlan in 1960 and resumed his law practice and was retired when he died Dec. 23, 1977. Aasta was a graduate of the State University of Iowa and taught school before her marriage to Russell. She died May 23, 1983, and both are buried in Harlan.

Freeman Boysen Swift was married Feb. 16, 1952 at Des Moines, Ia., to Virginia Mae McLaughlin, daughter of John Francis McLaughlin and Lucile Mercer. Virginia was born Aug. 23, 1927, in Des Moines. The Swifts have two children: a daughter, Rebecca Kristine, born May 28, 1960; and a son, Michael Freeman, born Sept. 30, 1963.

by Freeman B. Swift

KOOPMANS, DICK

F298

Dick Koopmans was born in the Pella-Knoxville area Dec. 18, 1871. His parents, both Holland born, were Cornelus (1815-1886) and Neeltje Van Hees (1835-1921) Koopmans. Cornelus was a gardener and small farmer all his life and sold vegetables for a living. His wife also worked in the fields. To help support the family, she made and sold quilts and sewed clothing for other people.

Dick was the sixth of seven children born to them. The others were: James K. (married Lizzie Ver Steeg); Lucas (Luke) married Maria (Mary) Ver Steeg); Garrett (Gerrit) (married Jane Ver Steeg); Maria (Mary) (married Johannis (John) Ver Steeg); Cornelius (Neal) (married Mary Van Dusseldorp); and Nellie (married Cornelius (Neal) Ver Steeg).

All the family were laborers and as soon as Dick and his brother Neal were big enough to handle a hammer and saw, they got jobs helping to build houses and farm buildings.

In 1870 some Pella families went to Kansas to investigate new land to buy or homestead. Good reports came back and more residents went down, including some Koopmans. In 1879 they experienced very hard times due to drought and returned to Pella in 1880. By 1882 conditions were good again and the Cornelius Koopmans family, including Dick, moved in a covered wagon to Abilene, Kan. The group also included other family members and their friends, the Klass Ver Steeg family.

The Koopmans and Ver Steegs reopened the brick yard and most of the men worked there. Part-time, or in slack season, the men helped on the John Eisenhower (President Eisenhower's grandfather) farm. A few of the men were farmers.

Playing baseball was the biggest recreation. Dick was the best pitcher for the Mud Creek Nine, an ambitious, proud, play-hard-to-win team of Dutchmen — the Koopmans and Ver Steegs. Mud Creek was a serpentine creek that ran near the brickyard.

Another popular activity enjoyed at least every Saturday night by the Koopmans and Ver Steegs . . . furniture was moved, the fiddle tuned, and dancing began. The families lived within walking distance and had no close neighbors so they saw a lot of each other. Koopmans had seven children, Ver Steegs twelve; five brothers and sisters married five brothers and sisters.

In 1889 drought struck again. There was a recession and the Koopmans were forced to close the brickyard. There were no other jobs, so they were forced to load their covered wagons again and start back. They camped all the way with the men doing whatever odd jobs available. There were many hardships and the trip took them six weeks.

Dick did not marry a Ver Steeg, for in Abilene he met Anna Jane Feather. She was the daughter of James R. and Margaret Hauck Feather and was born in Ohio, Mar. 10, 1871. She had four sisters and three brothers: Bern, Ellsworth, Will, Maude, Clara, Roy J., and Maggie. Her family traveled a lot and were in Abilene when the Koopmans lived there. Later her father, Will Feather, brought her to Pella to be with Dick. They were married in Pella Mar. 9, 1896.

Dick continued his carpentry and in 1908 built his own two-story home at 214 East Third (now the home of his granddaughter Norma and Bob Houser). In later years he was employed at Garden City Feeder.

Six children were born to the Koopmans. The oldest son Harry C. died of typhoid fever at age 23. Paul married Minnie Weyers, and had Harry. Nellie Alice married John Hoeksema and had Freda, Dorothy, Max, and Shirley. Grace Marie married William Albers and had Donald and Robert. Myrtle Moline married William Van Dyke and had Norma and Roy). Erma Mae married John G. Vander Werf and had Stanley Douglas and Glen.

The Koopmans were both members of the Methodist Church and Anna belonged to the Methodist Circle until her death. She was also an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary. "Annie" was always busy, if only making quilt blocks. She made so many quilts that the quilting frame was left up permanently. She liked to cook and loved playing cards.

Both died in Pella — Dick on Jan. 2, 1923; Anna on June 19, 1945.

by Dorothy L. Gaass

KOOYMAN, CAROL MAUREEN (KOOI)
F299

Carol Maureen Kooi Kooyman, youngest child of Muriel and Edward Kooi, was born Sept. 20, 1954, in Winterset, Ia. She lived in several Iowa towns where her parents were teachers.

She moved with her parents and sister from Aplington, Ia. to Pella in July, 1969, and was enrolled as a sophomore at Pella Community High School from which she graduated in

Klint Adam and Konner Douglas Kooyman, sons of Carol (Kooi) Kooyman.

1972. She then attended the University of Northern Iowa for three years and was affiliated with Alpha Xi Delta Sorority. She graduated from Central College in Pella in 1986 with a degree in business management and is employed in Des Moines.

As an infant she was baptized in the Methodist Church in Woodward, Ia., and was confirmed at First Presbyterian Church in Aplington, Ia.

Her two young sons are Klint Adam Kooyman, born June 15, 1981, and Konner Douglas Kooyman, born May 14, 1984. Both boys were born in Pella. They were baptized in the Second Reformed Church in Pella.

The Dutch heritage in Carol's family is from the province of Groningen where her ancestors left from Warffum to settle in Fulton, Ill. Her father's Dutch family ties are from Friesland, Groningen, and Drenthe. They also settled in Fulton, Ill.

Carol is employed in Des Moines and the family will live in Altoona, Ia.

by Murt Kooi

KOOYMAN, SIMON A.
F300

Simon A. Kooyman, son of Peter Kooyman and Aartje van Tuijl, was born in Leighton, Ia., on July 1, 1898. As a small boy he was

About 1950. Front: Simon and Bertha Kooyman; Back: Marvin, Kenneth, and Wallace.

raised on a farm near Fifield, Ia. At the age of 14 he started work for Andrew Vander Waal at the "Harness Shop" in Pella. Later he bought the shop and expanded it to retail shoes and other leather goods, along with harnesses and saddles.

On Dec. 1, 1926, he was united in marriage with Bertha Van Zomeran. To that union three boys were born: Wallace, June 6, 1930; Kenneth, May 31, 1931; and Marvin, Oct. 10, 1935.

They raised their family in a small brick home in south Pella. The boys have many fond memories of the times at the Pella swimming pool and nearby pond.

Simon was very active in the First Christian Reformed Church. He also helped start a saddle club in south Pella in the late 1930's. Simon worked in the "Harness and Shoe Shop" until his death on Oct. 3, 1956.

Bertha remained at home near the town square for several years. She had a reputation of a wonderful cook and baker. She then moved to the Pella Manor and later passed on at the Pella Community Hospital on Nov. 27, 1977.

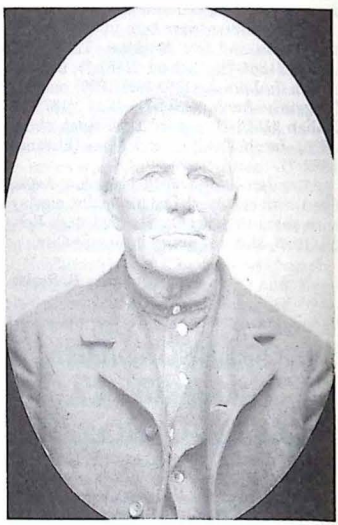
Wallace married Carol Klein in 1958. They live in Moline, Ill.

Kenneth married Phyllis Hasselman in 1954. They live in Pella, and have three sons: Craig, Curtis, and Joel.

Marvin married Neola Terpstra in 1953. They live in Pella and have two children: Douglas and Debra.

by Debra Braafhart

KORVER FAMILY
F301



Simon Korver (1838-1920). Taken in Pella about 1900.

Simon Korver

Simon (Sijmen) Korver, the eldest son of Jan and Maritje (Van Deijl) Korver, was born Jan. 6, 1838, in Vinkeveen, Province of

Mrs. Simon Korver (Gertrude Vander Myde) 1839-1892. Taken in Oskaloosa about 1880.

Marretje (Van Dyl) Korver Breuklander (1819-1879), widow of Jan Korver, mother of Simon Korver. Taken in Pella about 1870. Marretje brought her Korver children to Pella in 1856.

Utrecht, Netherlands. Through at least five generations the Korver family followed the pattern of alternating "Jan" and "Sijmen" for the eldest son of each generation. Simon was only 11 years old when his father, Jan Korver, died, leaving a family of seven children. His mother then married Willem Breuklander.

On June 26, 1856, they reached New York on the sailing vessel, *Arnold Boninger of Prussia*. Although they traveled in the relative comfort of Second Class, rather than Third Class or Steerage as many Dutch immigrants came, they were served salt-cured fish every day. This destroyed Simon's taste for fish for all time!

Simon went into farming with his step-father, Willem Breuklander, and followed that occupation for his lifetime. The family grew up in Richland Twp., Mahaska Co., but all married partners from The Netherlands. The eldest daughter, Fitje, had married Dirk Freeke, in 1855, before the family came to America. Geertje married Christoffel Vander Pol in 1857; Styntje married John Terlouw in 1859; Woutje married Andries Vos in 1864; Willem married Martena Van Roekel and moved to Sioux Co. with the 1870 migration from Pella; Simon married Gertrude Vander Myde in 1862, a sweet young lady from South Holland.

For a number of years Simon and Gertrude and their family farmed in the Peoria area. It is recounted that once when two of the children were sent to the Peoria store to get paper, the English-speaking storekeeper mistook their request for pepper, and sent that with them. The children did their assigned tasks faithfully. The parents insisted on mutual helpfulness, love, and peace within the family. Regular school attendance was very important so that the children, who spoke Dutch at home, could learn the English language and basic skills. The wooden shoes in winter scooped up the snow as they trudged to school, and the heavy knit sox often were soaking wet, sometimes frozen, for all day.

When the first steel bridge was built across the Skunk River on the Pella-Peoria road, Simon was the very first to drive across that strong, new bridge!

Soon thereafter, Simon moved his family to the Black Oak School area, north of Leighton. The young people of the family enjoyed the activities of the Union Church near the school, particularly the young peoples' Sunday evening meetings and the singing! Everyone in the family loved to sing — and sang well.

The illness and death of beloved wife and mother, Gerturde, Feb. 7, 1892, left a deep void in the family. The two oldest daughters, Mary (Married Cornelius Sedrel 1884) and Lena (Married Arie De Raad 1888), were gone. Jennie married Peter Vanden Berg also in 1892, leaving the family of four sons and two daughters with Simon. Franzena at 22 capably managed the home with the help of the others at home until her marriage to Nickolas K. Vos in 1896. In 1894, John, the eldest, married Jennie Gesman and went to farm on his own. Walsey, 23, then looked after the family until her marriage to Gysbert Vos in 1899.

Tragedy struck the remnants of the family again on Mar. 6, 1900, when the youngest, William, the darling of the family, died of the red measles. Within the year, Arie married Nellie De Reus. Gerrit left to work in Fifield and there married Estella Carpenter in 1901.

Simon, left alone, looked about and found a pleasant, capable widow in Leighton, Sophia Wielard De Lieuw. On May 5, 1901, they were married and moved to Fifield with Sophia's five children. On Jan. 30, 1903, a daughter, Corena Kay, was born of this marriage. About 1910 Simon, Sophia, and Corena moved to a home on East Third in Pella.

Respected by his friends and nieghbors, and beloved by his children, Simon passed away on Oct. 3, 1920, at age 82, leaving his widow, Sophia, and daughter, Corena, at home, and survived by eight children of his first marriage. He was also survived by his sister, Woutje Korver Vos (Mrs. Andries), and a half-sister, Huibertje Breuklander Klyn (Mrs. Arie). On Dec. 14, 1922, Corena married Cordell Hardy and the couple moved to Los Angeles, Cal. Corena, now widowed, presently lives in Arcadia, Cal.

Although Simon Korver's children and grandchildren did not inherit a large fortune in money, they inherited something very precious: a religious dedication, willingness to work hard, and the desire to help their fellowmen.

by Greta (Korver) Mount, Jennie Marie (Vos) Bogaards, and Beulah (Korver) Mathes

KORVER FAMILY

F302

Mr. and Mrs. John Korver, Oskaloosa, Ia., 1894.

John Korver

John Korver, eldest son of Simon and Gerturde (Vander Myde) Korver, named for his grandfather, Jan Korver, of Utrecht Provence, The Netherlands, was born Oct. 7, 1864, in Mahaska Co., near Peoria. In 1894, John married Jennie Gesman, daughter of N.J. Gesman, Sr. who served as minister of the Reformed Church in Lieghton for many years.

John and Jennie went to live on the farm known as the "Hoover Place," northeast of Leighton until 1905, when they moved to a farm on the east edge of Leighton. Later they moved to Pella, living first on East Third St. John was employed by local businesses, and was well known for his beautiful garden. Some time before 1922 they built a new home on East First near Lincoln, in Pella.

Jennie's brother Nick Gesman, who served as mayor of Pella from 1909 to 1912, made his home with them. When Nick was later elected to the State Legislature, John assisted him in Pella and in Des Moines.

John and Jennie were members of the First Reformed Church in Pella. They had no children.

by Beulah (Korver) Mathes, Mabel (Korver) Van Haaften, and Catherine (Korver) Klein

KORVER FAMILY
F303

Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Korver and Greta, Des Moines, Ia., 1919.

Gerrit Jacob Korver

Gerrit, second son of Simon and Gertrude (Vander Myde) Korver, was born Feb. 12, 1869, in Richland Twp., Mahaska Co. For the Korver children the Scholte religious heritage, which had brought their parents here, was the keystone of home training. The parents insisted on love and good will in all family relationships. School attendance was regarded as essential. Living in a community, predominately American at that time, they were noticed for their Dutch shoes, sox, mittens, "Dutchy" names and accents.

Gerrit, influenced by his cousin John Terlouw, and encouraged by his parents, dreamed of entering the ministry. Because he had been unable to attend school the year 'round when needed for farm work, Gerrit went back to Black Oak School at age 19, to improve his skills and to get his Eighth Grade Deploma, needed for further education.

Working for fifty cents a day as a farmhand did not count up very fast for his educational fund. He looked for other ways to earn money. Everywhere homes were going up, built of sawed wood, and carpenters earned more than twice as much as farm workers! He became a carpenter's apprentice, and learned the trade well.

When he was 23 his mother died, and in a few years his youngest brother, William. He had some savings, but not enough to go away to school. So, he went to live with his sister, Jennie, in Fifield and help her husband, Peter Vanden Berg, in his saw mill and creamery businesses. He particularly enjoyed driving the horse-drawn wagon on the creamery route, and meeting the farm families.

Here, too, he met a country school teacher, Estella Carpenter, daughter of George and Minerva (Harriot) Carpenter. They were married June 19, 1901. Although Gerrit was a partner in the Fifield Store with his brother-in-law, Nick Vos, he took time out to build a neat four-room house for his bride near the store.

Recognized for his skill in handling horses, he soon had an opportunity to drive a huckster wagon for Van Spanckeren's Store in Pella, taking the store to the farmers. Van Spanckeren found him capable and dependable and asked him to manage his Olivet Store. Here Gerrit drove the huckster wagon and Stella kept store. One miner who shopped frequently for Lemon Extract caused her anxious moments as he emptied one bottle after another!

Gerrit next took a job with Rynsberger's Creamery in Pella, driving the creamery route. Stella kept busy with church and community activities, among which was the door-to-door solicitation for funds to build the "Home for the Aged", now Fairhaven.

In 1906, news of new land open for homesteading in eastern Colorado attracted the Korvers. Gerrit filed on a claim in the Limon-Genoa area, and built a sturdy house, still standing. Since a building boom was going on in Limon, Gerrit easily secured a job as a carpenter. Daily he rode into town on horseback, often racing jackrabbits across the rolling prairie.

Two years later the couple sold the claim and returned to Fifield, where they again owned and operated the store. Gerrit worked as a carpenter and Stella kept store.

In 1911, Stella's father, George Carpenter, urged them to try farming. They bought 80 acres in Madison Co.; Gerrit built the outbuildings and an attractive Dutch Colonial home. On June 14, 1914, their first and only child was born, a daughter, whom they named Greta. When she was five, they moved to Des Moines where Gerrit worked for a contractor, building homes. Soon he learned of an opening at Tone Bros. Coffee & Spice Co. through John Kuiper of Pella who worked there. The idea of inside work appealed to him.

For 23 years Gerrit worked closely with Jay Tone, who had just graduated from MIT. Together they improved the spice line, adding such blends as Apple Pie and Pumpkin Pie spices, and perfected non-alcholic vanilla. Gerrit and Estella were very active in work at Gatchel Methodist Church. Greta grew up, graduated from North High and Drake Univeristy, and became a high school teacher. In 1944 she married Roy E. Mount.

From the early thirties on, Gerrit spent much of his spare time in Christian counseling at Bethel Mission in downtown Des Moines, helping the men who came in get a new hold on their lives. Encouraged by Rev. J. Owen Smith, a retired minister who preached at the Mission, Gerrit found the Christian ministry for which he had yearned in his youth.

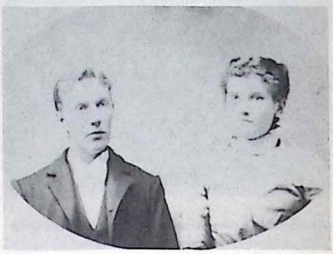
Throughout his life, Pella and Fifield were "home;" visits were as frequent as possible. Following his death, June 21, 1944, Gerrit's funeral was held in the Second Reformed Church in Pella, with burial in Oakwood Cemetery. In 1970 Estella was laid beside her husband.

Gerrit's daughter, grandson, and granddaughter have followed his dream of higher education, and have dedicated their lives to helping others, in teaching, dentistry, and health care.

Dutch and American records also show Korver spelled as Corver and Carvar. Gerrit used the latter from about 1900. (See also Roy Mount).

by Greta (Korver) Mount and Cornie Vandenberg

KORVER FAMILY
F304



Mr. and Mrs. Arie Korver, Pella, Ia., 1900.

Arie Korver

Arie was the third son of Simon and Gertrude (Vander Myde) Korver, born Mar. 12, 1875, in Mahaska Co. near Peoria.

Located two miles north of Leighton, near a crossroad, stood a small meeting place known as the Union Church. Young people from the various nearby farms would walk to attend the Young Peoples' Meetings held there on Sunday evenings. That is where Arie Korver met Nellie De Reus, daughter of Marinus and Catherine (Tol) De Reus. Marinus had come from The Netherlands in 1850 with his parents and three brothers.

Arie and Nellie were married Mar. 27, 1900, and lived and farmed in the same neighborhood, northeast of Leighton, for nearly forty years.

One memorable event in their early married life was the purchase of a 1914 Ford car, one of the first in the neighborhood. Some of the neighbors weren't so happy to see the car coming down the road as their horses were frightened and hard to handle until the car was past! It was quite an improvement over the family carriage with a team of horses, as they made their way each Sunday to the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton, where they were members and Arie was in the Consistory for a number of years.

Arie and Nellie were the parents of three daughters: Mabel, (Mrs. Arie Van Haaften); Catherine (Mrs. Elmer W. Klein); and Beulah (Mrs. William Mathes). So the family name of Korver was not carried on. But the next generation consisted of six grandsons and one granddaughter: Willis, Arlen, Ervin, and Nelva Van Haaften, Marvin Klein, Eugene, and Wayne Mathes.

Four of these grandsons served their country in the Military Service: Willis in Austria, (Korean War); Arlen in France, (Korean War); Eugene in Japan, (Vietnam War); and Wayne in the States (Vietnam War). At present three are farming in the Leighton area, Willis and Arlin Van Haaften

and Marvin Klein. Ervin Van Haaften teaches art in the High School of Algona, Ia.; Nelva Van Haaften Vander Linden is an X-ray Technician in Des Moines, Ia.; Dr. Eugene Mathes is a Professor of Psychology at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Ill.; Wayne is a Museum Curator and Supervisor of the restoration of an 1883 Victorian Mansion in Modesto, Cal.

by Beulah (Korver) Mathes

KORVER FAMILY

F305

William Korver

William, youngest of the four sons of Simon and Gertrude (Vander Myde) Korver, was born Jan. 5, 1879, and died Mar. 6, 1900.

He and his brother Arie attended a wedding where someone with the red measles exposed many to the disease. Both Arie and William were very ill. Arie survived; Will did not.

So, of the four sons, there were no grandsons to carry on the name of Korver. For a number of years the name was missing around the Pella area. Now, once again, the name is appearing as some of the descendants of Willem Korver, Simon Korver's brother who moved to Sioux Co. in 1870, have come to Central College, married and are living in the Pella area.

by Beulah (Korver) Mathes

KORVER FAMILY

F306

Jan Korver was the son of Sijmen Korver, born 1755, and Stijntje Gizen who were married Oct. 4, 1807. According to civil records in Holland, Sijmen died at age 58 on Aug. 17, 1813, in Breukelen, Holland.

Jan was born to this couple Sept, 24, 1807, at Ruwiel, Providence of Utrecht, Holland. He enrolled in 1826 for National Military. He married Marretje Van Dijl, a housemaid, Apr. 1, 1834, at Breukelen. Marretje was born July 20, 1814, to Gerret Janse Van Dijl and Fitjtje Marijgje Ver Sloot Van Dijl.

Jan and Marretje were the parents of ten children born before he died on June 18, 1849 at Uithoorn during the cholera epidemic at age 41 years. He was a farmer and later worked in construction. Their children were Maaritje, born Mar. 9, 1835; Geertje, born June 18, 1836; Sijmen, born Jan. 6, 1838; Gerrit, born Dec. 11, 1839; William, born Oct. 31, 1840; Stijntje, born Mar. 12, 1843; Woutertje, born Feb. 22, 1845; a stillborn male child, Dec. 29, 1847; twins Marretje and Jan, born Dec. 4, 1848, died Dec. 25, 1848. All 10 children were born at Vinkeveen, Holland.

After Jan's death Marretje Van Dijl Korver remarried to Willem Breuklander, born 1816, a well to do farmer in Holland. They had three children, Albert, born Aug. 8, 1850; Huibertje, born Apr. 23, 1852; William, all born in Holland. They came to America to join other family members and for economic improvement. They arrived in New York June 26, 1856 on the ship *Arnold Boninger of Prussia* from Uithoorn in Province of Noord Holland. Marretje's six children were still at home, her eldest daughter Maaritje Korver (Mrs. Dick Freeken) her husband Dirk, born Feb. 18, 1827, and son Jan Freeken plus the three Breuklander children. They first settled in Pella.

In the spring of 1870 about sixty wagons left Pella for Sioux County led by Leendert Van Der Meer and Dirk Van Den Bos. In this party was the Willem Brueklander's and sons, Albert Breuklander, Willem Korver, and son-in-law Andrew Vos. Willem and Albert homesteaded the West half of the northeast quarter of Sect. 32, in twp 44.

Maaritje Korver Freeken died Apr. 27, 1893; Dirk Freeken died Sept. 30, 1911, both in Marion County. Geertje Korver died Feb. 7, 1904, married Stoffel (Chrisstoffel) Vander Pol, born Apr. 11, 1833, in Noord Holland, died Nov. 16, 1917 in Jasper County. Willem Korver, died Apr. 2, 1909, was married in 1896 to Maartina Van Roekel born June 8 in Sioux County. Stijntje, died Feb. 20, 1921, was married in 1859 to John Ter Louw, born Apr. 22, 1825, died Dec. 28, 1908 in Jasper County. Woutje Korver, died May 7, 1928, married Nov. 15, 1864 to Andrew Vos born Dec. 27, 1841, died June 19, 1933, in Pella. Sijmen (Simon) Korver married in 1862 to Gertrude Vande Myde born Nov. 13, 1841, in Noord Holland. She was brought to America at the age of 13 by her Uncle and Aunt Phillip Vander Myde in 1854.

Simon and Gertrude had ten children born in Mahaska County where he was a farmer in the Leighton and Peoria area and the children were educated in Leighton area. Mary, born May 30, 1863, died Feb. 1, 1940, married Jan. 8, 1884, to Cornelius Sedrel, lived in Leighton; John Korver, born Oct. 7, 1864, died Aug. 17, 1934, married to Jennie Gesman, lived at 1010 East 1st, Pella; Lena Korver, born Feb. 6, 1866, died Feb. 1, 1922, married Arie De Raad, Fifield; Jennie Gertrude, born June 20, 1867, died Jan. 3, 1947, married Peter VanDenBerg, Fifield; Gerrit J., born Feb.12, 1869, died June 21, 1944, married to Estella Carpenter, Des Moines; Franzena, born Sept. 18, 1870, died Mar. 17, 1949, married Nicholas K. Vos, Des Moines; Walsey, born Mar. 22, 1873, died Aug. 3, 1950, married Gysbert Vos, Pella; Arie, born Mar. 12, 1875, died Apr. 12, 1941, married Nellie De Reus, Leighton; William, born Jan. 5, 1879, died Mar. 6, 1900; Christena born Oct. 27, 1880, died Sept. 7, 1881. Their mother Gertrude died Feb. 7, 1892.

Simon remarried May 5, 1901, to Sophia (Wielaard) DeLeeuw, born Dec. 8, 1860. They had two daughters: Corena Kay, born Jan. 30, 1903, married Dec. 14, 1922 to Cordell E. Hardy, born Oct. 15, 1901, died Feb. 13, 1976; Wilda Sophia, born May 12, died May 16, 1907. Simon died Oct. 3, 1920, and Sophia died Nov. 13, 1944. Corena (Korver) Hardy resides in Arcadia, California.

by Nellie Kuiper and Donna De Heer

Front, L-R: John Korver, Walsey Korver Vos, William Korver and Mary Korver Sedral. Back, L-R: Lena Korver De Raad, Gerrit Korver, Jennie Korver Vandenberg, Arie Korver, and Franzena Korver Vos.

KORVER, GERTRUDE (VANDER MYDE)

F307

Gertrude vander Myde Korver, daughter of Jan and Lena (Herrewijnen) vander Meijde, was born Nov. 13, 1839, in Zuidland, Zuid (South) Holland. Her father died in 1845 when Gertrude was only six; her mother six years later, leaving a family of six children: Arij, 28; Francena, 25; Gerrit, 22; Hellegouda, 21; Huibrecht 15; and Gertrudi, 11.

Gertrude's uncle, Jacob vander Myde, a carpenter from Nieuw Hellevoit, Z.H., with his wife and child had sailed for America on the Good Ship *Nagasaki*, which had left

Taken from a miniature on glass photographed in 1854, age 15, when Gertrude came to the U.S. with her uncle Philip VanderMyde. Given to Gerrit Korver by his mother in his youth, this picture was his life-long memorial of his mother, who died when Gerrit was 23.

Rotterdam Apr. 11, 1847, bound for Baltimore with the first group of Dominie Scholte's followers. On the same ship was a cousin, Johanna Vanderjeijde Visser (Mrs. Willem) and her husband, from Poortugaal, Z.H. Willem Visser started a brick-making business in Pella, supplying materials for many of the earliest buildings.

Their reports particularly interested Gertrude's uncle, Philip van der Meijde, an architect who wanted to join the Pella colony. Vander Meidje family members are recorded in Dutch records as carpenters and construction workers. During the French occupation of The Netherlands, 1895-1814, French records sometimes referred to Dutch workers as "peasants," a term the Hollanders heartily resented! The vander Meijdes escaped this hated classification.

In 1854 Philip vander Meijde with his wife Stijntje (van Bodegom) left Zuid Beyerland for America bringing along four of the children of his eldest brother Jan's orphaned family: Francena; Hellegouda; Huibrecht; and Gertrude. They reportedly stopped to visit another cousin, Arie vander Meijde, who had settled in South Holland, Chicago area, Ill. The four children remained in Illinois while Philip and his wife went on to Pella. In 1857 another brother, Gerrit, emigrated from Zuid Holland, and at that time or soon thereafter, Gertrude came on to Pella. The other three children elected to remain in Illinois, married, and reared their families there.1 In 1868 Gertrude's eldest brother, Arie, emigrated from Zuidland to Pella, after a stop in Illinois. All the children of Jan and Lena vander Meijde were then in the New World. One of the leaders of the Sioux Co. migration in 1870 was Arie.

By the time of the 1860 Census of Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co., a number of vander Meijde families, all from Zuid Hilland, were living in the area. By 1870 the number had again increased, until some joined the Sioux Co. migration soon thereafter.

In Aug., 1862, Gertrude Vander Myde was married to Simon Korver and, in time, became the mother of four sons: John; Gerrit; Arie; and William and of five daughters who grew to adulthood: Mary Sedrel (Mrs. Neal); Lena de Raad (Mrs. Arie); Franzena Vos (Mrs. N.K.); Jennie Van den Berg (Mrs. Peter); and Woutje Vos (Mrs. Gysbert). Her death on Feb. 7, 1892, at age 52, was deeply mourned by her husband and children. She is buried in Black Oak Cemetery east of Pella. (See also Korver, Simon)

Gertrude's father, Jan vander Meijde and his ten younger brothers and sisters including Philip, the youngest, were the children of Arij and Francijna (Vermaat) vander Meijde of Spijkenesse and Abbenbroek, District of Voorne, southwest of Rotterdam in Zuid Holland, and north of the Haringvliet River channel. Gertrude's great-grandparents were Jan and Maartje (vander Hoeve) vander Meijde, also of Spijkenesse.

The parents of Gertrude's mother, Lena (Herrewijnen) vander Meijde were Jakob Gerrits and Hillegom (de Labije) Herrewijnen of Zuidland, Zuid Holland. Gertrude's maternal great-grandparents were Gerrit and Lena (de Raaf en der tyd) Herrewijnen of Zuidland, and Willem and Maria (Haertwijk) de Labije of Schoonhoven, east of Rotterdam. These family lines have been researched to the mid-1700's, and followed, as they followed new "Polder" needing homes.

The name, spelled vander Meijde on records back to the 1700's, has also appeared on records in Holland and the United States as: vander Mijde, vander Meide, vander Myde, vander Meijden, vander Meiden, and vander Myden, as various recorders have struggled to spell it as pronounced.

1 Cook County, Ill. census of 1900 shows Huibrecht, age 63, living in Chicago, wife Wilhelmins, age 53. Huibrecht indicated he had emigrated from Holland in 1854. Notes taken from vander Meiden descendants in 1939 in South Holland, Ill., show that Franzena (Frances) vander Meiden had married Pete Krock, and that Hellegouda (Helen) vander Meiden had married a Vanden Berg.

by Greta Korver Mount (Mrs. Roy) and Opal VanderVelde Longino

KUIPER FAMILY

F308

Noontime on the Wigert Roorda farm – Horses Ralph Kuiper used to do field work with – taken mid 1920's.

Family picture taken 1948. Left to right: Mother – Hattie, Tena, Father – Ralph, Leonard Kuiper.

Ralph J. Kuiper

Ralph J. Kuiper was born on a north Lake Prairie Twp. farm, in Marion Co., Ia. The farm was located south of the Bethel Church, six miles northwest of Pella. He was the oldest son of five children born to John R. and Tena Roorda Kuiper on June 11, 1903. His grandfathers, Roelfe (Ralph) E. Kuiper and Anne E. Roorda, were both born in Friesland, The Netherlands, and were some of the first settlers of Pella.

Ralph's education started at Lincoln School in Pella. He had to walk over two miles to school, one way, from the farm where he lived northwest of Pella. Ralph also attended school at Liberty Corner, but he finished his sixth grade at Webster School. In 1922, he attended one-half year of Academy (high school) at Central College.

Ralph worked on a farm that his father owned near Indianola, Ia. and later lost to hard times. He also worked for Amos Trusler, a step-brother, for a year. His payment for that year's labor was a new Singer sewing machine and a little cash money. He then worked six years as a hired hand for Wigert Roorda, an uncle. Ralph's wages, while working for his uncle, were room and board and $50 per month, but only for the spring and summer months. The farm that he was working on belonged to his grandfather, Anne Roorda. His grandfather had purchased the 52 acres in 1866 for $1500. Later on, Anne bought 500 acres more, which is now part of Big Rock Park. Gerrit, Ralph's brother, later worked on the same farm.

In 1925 Ralph met his wife-to-be, Hattie Langstraat, at a church meeting in Pella. Hattie was the daughter of Lendert and Wilhelmina De Heus Langstraat. They lived one mile east of Pella on the Garden City Dairy Farm, which they owned and operated. Hattie's father Lendert lived from 1863 to 1952 and her mother Wilhelmina lived from 1878 to 1958. When Hattie and her sisters were at the courting age, they had to put a wash boiler full of water, on the stove Sunday night. The reason for this was so that the water would be hot enough, early Monday morning, for their laundry.

Ralph and Hattie were married on Feb. 15, 1928, at her parents' farm by Rev. N.D. Gordon from Indianola, Ia. On their honeymoon, they drove Ralph's 1927 Model T Ford, which he had purchased new for $668. The newleyweds went to Souix Co. Ia., where they visited Langstraat relatives. Each of the Langstraat children received a Holstein cow, for milk, when they started farming on their own.

After Ralph and Hattie were married,

Ralph worked one year as a hired hand on the Anthony (Tone) Van Zee farm located southeast of Oskaloosa, Mahaska Co., Ia. for $50 per month.

In the early spring of 1929, Ralph and Hattie moved to the Joe Foster farm located in Jefferson Twp., around the Eveland area. While they lived on this farm, in a large square farm home, the depression set in and the weather seemed to be just as dismal as everything else. But there were a few bright spots during this era. On May 15, 1929, Ralph and Hattie had a baby girl. They named their new bundle of joy Tena Willene, after Ralph's mother. The very next year, the blessed event took place again, when a bouncing baby boy was born, whom they named Leonard John, on Oct. 27, 1930. The doctor, Dr. C.N. Bos, had to drive ten and one-half miles by car to deliver both of the babies. Tena was born before the doctor could get to the farm. He charged Ralph $25 for the delivery.

The winter of 1934 was very cold with temperatures of 33 degrees below zero for approximately three weeks. The roads would blow shut with three or more feet of snow. Ralph and the neighbors would try to keep the roads shoveled free, but the blowing winds would only close them again. Snow plows would make roads through the fields, so that people could get out to get their groceries and other necessities. Coal, used for heat and cooking, could only be gotten in small amounts at the time and by using a team of horses and a wagon to get it. The children of today would have liked it during this time, because the schools closed for four to six weeks at a time.

The Des Moines River flooded the back area of the farm and Ralph would gig fish, when the water was high, by using a pitch fork. During the year of 1934, Ralph bought 100 bushels of corn from Pete Van Ham, Hattie's sister's husband, for 35 cents a bushel. The corn was delivered to the Eveland area farm by John Van Arkel.

Farming, at the time, was done with horses. Ralph walked many miles behind a plow, a cultivator, and a harrow, putting his crops into the ground. Threshing, the means of separating the grain from the chaff, would always seem to be done on the hottest days. On those hot days, when the neighbor women cooked the meals for the working men, the kitchen would be extra hot. Since the only air conditioners or fans they had at the time were the open windows and doors, it was hard to stay cool. After the ice man delivered the ice, one way they cooled off was by drinking iced tea.

Ralph and his family attended the Coal Creek Church, where he sometimes taught. Tena and Leonard's first Sunday School teacher was Ruth Mattix.

In 1935, a car battery was only $3.50 and a box of 15 12-gauge shotgun shells was just 75 cents. In January of 1937, five gallons of gas was just 80 cents; the license for their 1927 Ford was $9; a hair cut was 25 cents; a pair of pliers was 43 cents; 15 gallons of lamp kerosene was $1.50; and boys' overalls were 50 cents a pair. A girl's dress was 53 cents; a lady's dress was $1; a tie was 26 cents; a men's blue chambray shirt was 76 cents; men's blue overalls were only $1; ladies' hose were 39 cents a pair; and a spool of thread was only 4 cents.

In the winter, hogs were butchered for the family's yearly meat supply. Most of the meat was canned and cooked in a steamer on a wood cook stove. Sausage was made into balls, fried down, and stored in crocks in a cave close to the house.

After Ralph and his family had lived near the Eveland area for nearly eight years, they had a farm sale in the fall of 1936. They then moved south of Oskaloosa for a year. While there, Ralph worked with turkeys for the Ramseyer Hatchery. That winter it was very cold and there was a lot of snow. Tena and Leonard attended the Jefferson School in Oskaloosa, Ia.

In August of 1937, they moved east of Beacon, Ia. to a 20-acre farm that was owned by Iota Rowland. Having moved back onto a farm, they had to buy a new team of horses and cows for their farm work. Ralph would drive the team of horses three and one-half miles to University Park, Ia. to work on the John Ter Louw place. He also cut weeds for the City of University Park and the Shady Lodge. Ralph also did some farm work for Hjort Teachers, who lived on the property next to him. The rent for their farm was only $15 per month.

Laundry was done with a gasoline engine operating a washing machine, in a wash house that was close to the house. They used a wind charger to charge the batteries for their Philco radio. Hattie did a lot of canning to supplement their food for the winter. The children helped with the canning process by doing such things as snapping the beans. The first Christmas tree the family had was a cedar branch and the lights they used were hooked to a radio battery.

by Tena and Verlan Frederick

KUIPER FAMILY

F309

Ralph J. and Nellie Kuiper – Married July 14, 1973

Ralph J. Kuiper
Life in Pella

In February of 1940, Gerrit Kuiper, Ralph's brother, with his Ford truck, helped Ralph and his family move to three miles east of Pella. Here Ralph rented the land for one year from John H. Klein, and the pasture land for one year from Bob Rouwenhorst and a 50 percent share in the crops. At this time he started using a John Deere "D" tractor, that he and Gerrit owned, for the plowing. Also on the property was a log cabin that Ralph used for a tool shed. Ralph and his family had better crops here than anywhere else up to this point.

The children, Tena and Leonard, attended the Plain View School where approximately 15 to 18 other pupils attended. Some of the favorite games played at the school were Kick-the-wicket and Anne-anne-over. In the fall, they would watch the Central College freshmen and sophomores have a tug-o-war at Paul Ver Meer's farm pond. The children of the one room schoolhouse usually had very long parts to learn for their Christmas program. So when the night of the program came, the schoolhouse was packed with proud parents. Beulah Grandia and Emily Hiemstra were Tena and Leonard's teachers.

Ralph drove 1500 miles to find another farm to rent, as Bob Rouwenhorst wanted to move back to the farm. The family moved on Feb. 18, 1942, to O.H. Viersen's 80-acre farm west of Pella. When they moved, the last thing moved out was the old heavy cook stove, but it also had to be the first thing moved into the new house. Ralph rewired the new house because the other wiring was old and they needed outlets. Their wash house was 20 feet away from the house. They again had an outdoor toilet, which, by the way, was very cold in the winter. Ralph also rented, for 27 years, 37 acres just west of Pella from a Mrs. Slob. This property is now where Central College has its gym and athletic field.

While they lived west of Pella during WWII, rubber tires and other items were hard to acquire. During this time the gas and sugar were rationed. You even had to have a permit to get wire for a brooder house for your chickens. Hattie made the soap that they used for their laundry.

Tena and Leonard attended and graduated from Lincoln and Webster schools in Pella. Ralph and his family attended the Open Bible Church and it is where Ralph still attends church today. He was a board member there for 18 years, and in 1960 put many volunteer hours into the building of the present day structure.

In 1966, Ralph, Hattie, Tena and her family, and Leonard and his family had a wonderful Christmas together, as a family, at the home of Tena, now Mrs. Robert Frederick, in Pella. But then on Dec. 28, Hattie passed away due to a massive stroke, which was a shock to her family. It was also a blessing, in that she did not have to suffer long. Ralph farmed, for two more years, until Jan. 8, 1969. At that time, he sold his farm equipment and moved to a home at 915 Franklin in Pella, that he had purchased from Martha Vander Hart. He, along with his brother-in-law, Robert E. Roorda, ran errands part-time, for the Ford Garage, while he lived there.

On July 14, 1973, Ralph married Nellie De Haai Hall. They, Ralph and Nellie, remodeled Mrs. Ed Vos' house at 831 Franklin in Pella. They lived here until Dec. of 1981, at which time Nellie began to have serious health problems. She spent time in the Pella and Iowa City hospitals. Nellie then lived in the Pleasant Park Nursing Home in Oskaloosa, Ia., for a few months. On Mar. 1, 1982, she was moved to the Pella Nursing Home. Here, her health gradually deteriorated due to several small strokes. Ralph faithfully went nearly every day to see her until she passed away on Oct. 15, 1985. Nellie was laid to rest in the Bondurant Cemetery on the east edge of Bondurant, Ia.

While Nellie was ill, Ralph, Nellie's daughter Bonnie Forney along with Robert and

Tena Frederick, had Ralph and Nellie's household sale in August of 1983. He then moved to his present address at Fair Haven East. He gets his exercise by walking to his brother Gerrit's house at 212 E. Franklin, and up and down the stairs to where he lives on the third floor. He also walks uptown whenever the weather allows. His sister Dora also moved into the same building Ralph lives in, but on the second floor. Ralph and Dora enjoyed each other's company until she passed away on Dec. 5, 1986.

Highlights of Ralph and Nellie's married life included a trip to Arizona in 1974. They took a very memorable journey from Dec. 27, 1974, to Jan. 6, 1975, to the Holy Land, in Israel, where they saw areas where, it is said, Jesus Christ had walked. On that same trip they toured part of The Netherlands.

Ralph has four grandsons, two granddaughters, and five great-granddaughters. His grandsons are Verlin, Kevin, and Leon Frederick, sons of his daughter, Tena. Kevin married Cheryl Cline on Nov. 27, 1982. Ralph's other grandson is John Kuiper, son of Leonard Kuiper. The first of his two granddaughters is Sheryl Kuiper, who married Derek Cozad on Apr. 19, 1980. The other granddaughter is Sheila Kuiper, and she married John Mohler on June 5, 1982. Both granddaughters are the daughters of Leonard, Ralph's son. Two of Ralph's five great-granddaughters belong to Sherry Kuiper Cozad. Their names are Chrystal Grace, and Danielle. Sheila Kuiper Mohler has one of the great-granddaughters named Heidi Marie. Ralph's other two great-granddaughters are the twin daughters of Kevin and Sherry Frederick, and their names are Holly Ann and Stacey Rachelle. Ralph's only great-grandson was born to Kevin and Sherry on July 7, 1983. His name was Joshua Robert, but he lived only approximately 11 hours.

by Verlin Frederick

KUIPER, JOHN R.

F310

Taken early 1920's. Left to Right: John R. Kuiper and children Gerrit, Dora, and Ralph.

John R. Kuiper was born the son of Roelfe (Ralph) and Gertje (Gertie) Ruiach Kuiper. John R. was born Sept. 20, 1875, in Methawier, Friesland, The Netherlands. As a young child, he came with his parents to America by boat in 1879. John R. Grew up on the family farm south of Pella, Ia., after moving there from Michigan in 1881 or 1882.

John R. was united in marriage to Tena Roorda of Pella on Mar. 8, 1900. Tena was

John R. Kuiper and Tena Roorda. Married Mar. 8, 1900. Wedding picture.

born on Feb. 12, 1878. To this union were born five children: Ralph J., born June 17, 1903; Andrew, born June 27, 1905, died July 20, 1905; Dora (Mrs. Robert E. Roorda), born Feb. 9, 1907, died Dec. 5, 1986; John, born Aug. 5, 1908, died Sept. 16, 1908; Gerrit J., born Oct. 31, 1910.

They lived northwest of Pella, on a farm south of the Bethel Church. Later they moved to a farm nearer to Pella. The farm was located northwest of Pella, north of Tena's parents (Anne Roorda's) home. They lived on the farm until Tena, John R.'s wife, passed away.

After his wife Tena passed away on Aug. 1, 1912, and was buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Pella, John R. lived various places in and around Pella. After their mother died the three children were cared for by their Aunt and Uncle Jim Kuiper, John R.'s brother. Jim Kuiper's house, at one time, stood where the Open Bible Church is now standing, but when the children lived with him, his house was the one where Arvin Bandstra now lives. Later, Gerrit went to live in Sully with another aunt and uncle by the name of Mr. and Mrs. Pete Vander Waal, John R.'s sister. He later lived with a Mrs. Frank (Gertrude) Andreas, a cousin to Gerrit. Then John R. moved east to the next farm where Ralph would stay with him at times. He later moved to town where he tried to sell real estate for awhile. John R. did masonry work and other odd jobs about town.

John R. moved to Oskaloosa, Ia., where in his later years he lived on South First St., south of the railroad tracks. He was involved with and active in church work there. John R. also loved gardening and had a large raspberry patch near his home.

When for a time John R. was ill, his nurse was Mrs. Mary Trusler of Oskaloosa, whom he later married. They lived in and around Oskaloosa until John R. Kuiper passed away on Oct. 2, 1946. He was laid to rest in the Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. Mary lived until Feb. 6, 1952. She is buried in a cemetery north of What Cheer, Ia.

John R.'s oldest son, Ralph J., married Hattie Langstraat on Feb. 15, 1928. Hattie, Ralph's wife, passed away on Dec. 28, 1966. His daughter, Dora married Robert E. Roorda on Feb. 23, 1927. Dora passed away on Dec. 5, 1986. Her husband Robert passed away on Jan. 6, 1976. Gerrit, John R.'s youngest son, married Henrieta Rouw n May 5, 1931, and is living in Pella, Ia.

by Tena W. Frederick

KUIPER, RALPH G. FAMILY

F311

Gerrit R. Kuiper and Nellie (Klyn) Kuiper.

Roelfe E. (Ralph) Kuiper was born in Holland, Jan. 22, 1834. His wife was Gertie E. Rousch, also born in Holland, Dec. 3, 1837. He was 53 years old when he and his wife came to America with their seven children (in

Roelfs E. (Ralph) Kuiper.

Front, l-r: Beth (Boot) Loux, Violet Boot, Kristin Hiemstra, Ralph Kuiper, Nellie Kuiper, Gayle Hiemstra, Gerald Kuiper, Tom Kuiper; Back, l-r: Mark Loux, Arvin Boot, Diane (Hiemstra) Needham, Norma Hiemstra, Bart Needham, Rev. Harold Hiemstra, Jeff Hiemstra, Nancy Kuiper, Lana Kuiper, Lisa Kuiper.

Gertie E. Rousch.

1879) from Wildervank, Groeningen, Holland. He was a minister in the Christian Reformed Church in Holland. He worked in the rock quarry south of Pella. His wife died June 8, 1900, and he died on Aug. 31, 1902, from a broken neck, when he fell off the roof of a building he was helping dismantle in south Pella. Their seven children were all born in Holland. Dirkie married Pete Vander Waal, Jim married Rieno Menninga, Dora married Gerrit Vander Waal, Elizabeth married Levi Dykstra, John married Tena Roorda, Martha married Jake Vande Kamp. Gerrit R. was seven years old when he came with the family to America.

Gerrit R. Kuiper was born Feb. 27, 1873, near Mets-V-Wela, Friesland, Holland, and was married Feb. 22, 1899, to Nellie Klyn born Feb. 5, 1878, daughter of Adrianus and Dirkie (Boland) Klyn. Gerrit was a farmer anf fed cattle in the Otley area. They took their cattle by train to Chicago to sell on the market.

Six children were born to the couple: one daughter Gertrude was born Mar. 25, 1900 died Mar. 9, 1906; and five sons – Ralph G. born Aug. 30, 1902, was married Jan. 8, 1929, to Nellie Van Den Berg born Jan. 31, 1908, at Fifield, Ia.; Andrew born Feb. 14, 1907, was married May 21, 1936, to Bessie Van Englehoven born June 1, 1913, farmed in the Fifield area; Dick born Aug. 31, 1909, married Feb. 19, 1937, to Edith DeVries born Jan. 23, 1914, farming on old home place near Otley; Gradus born Feb. 18, 1912, died Nov. 15, 1985, married Sept. 7, 1932, to Cora Rouw born Jan. 15, 1911, farmed in Otley, Oskaloosa, and Pella areas; Harry born Feb. 23, 1916, married Jan. 1, 1942, to Marjorie Van Zante born May 22, 1920, farmed in Pella area.

Ralph G. Kuiper and Nellie (Van Den Berg) Kuiper lived on a farm west of Pella from 1929 to 1936, when they bought a farm north of Pella where he farmed and fed cattle and was a buyer for John Morrell Packing Plant for ten years. In 1972 he retired and they moved to the Pella Manor where they reside.

They had three children who attended the European III grade school, Pella High, and Central College. Violet Ruth born June 17, 1932, married July 29, 1952, to Arvin Boot born Jan. 26, 1933, who had two daughters Kaylene born Mar. 24, 1957, died May 8, 1965, and Beth Ann born Apr. 7, 1962, married Apr. 28, 1984, to Mark Wm. Loux born Nov. 27, 1961.

Norma Jean born July 3, 1935, married Aug. 1, 1957, to Rev. Harold Hiemstra born Dec. 3, 1934. Five children were born to the couple: Jeffery Dean born July 24, 1960; Diane Marie born Mar. 1, 1962, married Aug. 10, 1985, to Bart Needham born Feb. 6, 1962; Gayle Ruth born Feb. 12, 1966; Kristen Joy born Aug. 27, 1968, and Valerie Kay born Sept. 16, died Dec. 31, 1970.

Gerald Lee born April 2, 1941, married June 7, 1962, to Nancy Lee Terpstra born Mar. 25, 1941. He was a coach in Pella and Knoxville schools. Their children are Lana Michale born Sept. 18, 1964, Lisa Ann born Nov. 9, 1966, and Thomas G. born Apr. 9, 1970. They reside on the family farm north of Pella.

by Nellie Kuiper

KUITERT FAMILY
F312

Edith C. Kuitert, February 18, 1987

Photograph of the Rock House taken by Dan Vander Beek, January 31, 1987.

Both my father and my mother (nee Jennie Ter Borg) were born in Rottum, in the province of Groningen, The Netherlands. My father's father was born in the city of Groningen. Rottum is a very small village in the northern part of Groningen, close to the Dutch-German border. It is not to be confused with Rottum Island, which is in the North Sea.

My father, Rudolph Kuitert, was a sergeant in The Netherlands army. After his conscription, he worked in Germany. In 1905, when he was approximately 28 years of age, he decided to come to America. My mother, however, was a small child in her mother's arms when she came to America. Her mother's maiden name was Swaantje Vander Till, and she married a Lutje Ter Borg. My mother

was the eldest of six children.

My father and mother were married around the year 1907, in the Muskegon, Mich. area. Later they moved to Spring Lake, Mich., where six children were born.

In the order of their appearance, the children were: John Herman, Susan Fredericka, Louis Cornelius, Frederick William, Kathryn Jeanette, and Edith Christine. I was the youngest one in the family. When I was five years of age, the family moved to Kalamazoo, Mich. I received my education from the first grade through college in Kalamazoo.

John graduated from Kalamazoo College and became a medical doctor. Susan took nurses' training at Borgess Hospital. She was a nurse for the Boeing Company for over 30 years. Louis earned his Ph.D. degree in Entomology and taught at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Fred worked in the printing field, and Kalamazoo is still his home. Kathryn was a teacher and later a social worker in Jackson Co., Ky. When World War II came, she enlisted in the American Red Cross. She was one of the first women to enter war-time occupied Japan. She set up recreational services for the American servicemen in Yokohama. With the war, there was a shortage of physical therapists to assist with war injuries. by sheer serendipity, I, Edith, became a registered physical therapist.

As a physical therapist, I served in three epidemics of infantile paralysis (polio). One was in Jackson, Miss., one was in Grand Rapids, Mich., and the third one was in the Marshall Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The polio vaccine was made by Dr. Jonas Salk in the 1950's and I was very grateful for it.

After these epidemics, I returned to Seattle, Wash., in May, 1968. But in 1966 and 1967, I saw military planes land on Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands. Soldiers, marines, and navy personnel were being sent to Vietnam. Little did I realize this Vietnam War would turn out to be so very devastating.

More and more casualties were coming back to the U.S. Hospitals were overcrowded. The navy hired civilian personnel to help with the overload of patients. So in 1969, I was working as a physical therapist at the U.S. Naval Hospital in San Diego, Cal. The Vietnam War was causing more and more criticism from the U.S. public, so our President, Mr. Nixon, tried to gradually phase out the war. In 1972 navy personnel could again manage without civilian assistance, so there was a reduction-in-force in personnel. The navy put my name on a national roster, and I began to work at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Knoxville, Ia. I really didn't know much about Iowa.

In driving to Knoxville from Pella, I saw the rock house on University St. To me, it looked European, and I was rather intrigued with it. But it is also by "serendipity" that I am living in it.

After I purchased the rock house, I began asking questions like, "Who built this house and when?" Because of questions such as this one, I obtained considerable information. The house was built by an Amsterdam stone mason, Dirk van Loon, in 1856-1857. He hand cut Iowa limestone from a nearby limestone quarry into smaller pieces, and hauled them by horse and wagon to the spot where he built the house. The original stone house had a kitchen-living room, a small bedroom , and an upstairs area where the children slept. When the wooden addition was added I do not know. It is now (1987) a kitchen.

The van Loon family has been outstanding in Amsterdam. One van Loon man was the mayor of Amsterdam for around 25-30 years. Another son was a lawyer for the city of Amsterdam. A van Loon daughter was married to the Dutch ambassador to England during Cromwell's time. There was a Hendrik Willem van Loon who was an author and historian of note. He wrote several books including a "History of the United States", "Tolerance", and "The Story of the Bible". I do not know the relationship of Dirk van Loon to this family, but I believe he was a nephew. Dirk later moved westward to Kansas, and he is buried there. There is a van Loon house in Amsterdam, which is a historic site for the Netherlanders.

Through my efforts, the Rock House in Pella was admitted to the National Register of Historic Places.

by Edith C. Kuitert

KUYPER, ARNOLDUS (A.N.)

F313

The ancestry of Arnoldus (A.N.) Kuyper (born Aug. 7, 1863, died Dec. 6, 1910) can be traced back six generations to Jacob Schalckens(on) of Ridderkerk, who married Marijtje Aerts Leeuwenburgh in 1694. Jacob was probably a cooper ("kuiper": barrelmaker) by trade. Thus, Cornelis Jacobs(on) Kui(j)per, Jacob's son of Charlois, The Netherlands, began the Kuyper surname. Arie Cornelis (born 1810) was the first to spell his surname Kuyper. He was a "Dominie," poet, and well-versed in the Bible, which indicated "the versatility of a great, compassionate person who had learned the secret of observing the lives of those among whom he livedied"

Arie, age 39, his wife, and 11 of their 16 children including Pieter, age 14, traveled to America in May, 1849, for the purpose of religious freedom. Two of their sons were full grown, the youngest child but two and one-half.

The 43-day voyage on the sailing vessel Franziska was unusually and exceedingly stormy. The situation at one time became so extreme with sickness, depression, no cooking or hot drinks, that Kuyper, a lay preacher, gathered the others for a midnight prayer meeting. Within a day, the weather clear-edied

From Albany, N.Y., the family traveled by canal boat, steamboat, horse coach, day and night, and wagons – a 43-day journey to Pella. This large family first settled on a farm near Pella.

Arnoldus (A.N.) Kuyper was the son of Pieter Kuyper (born Oct. 17, 1835) and Jeannetje Doedyns (born Nov. 3, 1837) both emigrees from Charlois, The Netherlands, to Pella. To this couple were also born: Maria (died Apr. 1, 1866, died Oct. 1, 1964) and Arie P., a musician (died Apr. 28, 1872, died Sept. 3, 1935).

A.N. Kuyper attended school only to the age of 12 years and was then compelled to put aside his studies and assist in the support of his family by teaming, hauling coal, ice, and other commodities.

A.N. Kuyper married Maria Louisa Neyenesch (born Mar. 24, 1866, died Oct. 10, 1959), daughter of Herman Neyenesch (born Oct. 25, 1823, died June 26, 1914), editor of the *Pella Weekblad*, and Anna M. Neuwenhuysen. They had three sons: Peter Herman (born Sept. 24, 1891, died Jan. 11, 1981), Louis Arnold (born Aug. 8, 1898, died Oct. 8, 1985), and Julian Arthur (Bob) (born May 7, 1904, died Sept. 4, 1976).

With a gift of $3,000 and a team of horses from his father-in-law, A.N. Kuyper's rise to the position of business success and prosperity was remarkable and rapidied He established a wide acquaintance among farmers while driving an egg wagon. In 1893 he embarked in the lumber business, known as The Kuyper Lumber Co.

He was Vice-president of the Citizen's National Bank and of Pella Stacker Co., President of the Pella Plumbing Co., and one of the directors of the Pella Overall Co., the Pella Creamery Co., and the Merchant's Assn., as well as several out-of-town business concerns. He served as City Alderman, was a member of the Board of Directors of Central College, a faithful member of the Second Reformed Church and its consistory, and on the building committee of the new Second Reformed Church dedicated in 1909.

A.N. Kuyper died at age 47 years and 4 months of typhoidied

by Esther Kuyper

KUYPER, HOSPERS

F314

H. Hospers Kuyper, grandson of Henry Hospers and second son of Arie P. and Arta Hospers Kuyper, was born Mar. 28, 1914 and was raised in a musically oriented family. His father was a music teacher and piano tuner and served as organist for Second Reformed Church from 1900 until 1935. In 1917 he

Joyce and Hospers Kuyper

established Kuyper's Music House in the building on the north side of the square where it is still located. Arta, Hop's mother, studied piano at Oberlin Conservatory and, after her marriage to Arie, taught piano to many Pella residents.

It was not surprising that Hop developed an interest in things musical. He studied violin with Carl Woodford and Henry Cox. He played in the Central College orchestra, the Pella Municipal Band, and many instrumental and vocal groups in this area.

Hop's mother died when he was ten years old. A few years later his father married Agnes Bousquet, a daughter of J.J. and Anna Vander Linden Bousquet. In 1935, when Hop was a senior in college, his father died, leaving management of Kuyper's Music House to the two brothers.

In 1941 Hop married Joyce Huibregtse, the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Edward Huibregtse. The years 1944 and 1945 found Hop serving in a navy band, and, after discharge from the navy, he played in a trio that was booked at various hotels in the midwest. In 1947 Hop returned to Pella to work again at Kuyper's Music, spending the next 36 years there until his retirement in 1983.

Joyce's paternal grandparents were from the Wisconsin Dutch area around Oostburg, and her maternal grandparents from the Dutch near Holland, Mich. Joyce was born in New Sharon, Ia., where her father was minister of the Reformed Church. They left New Sharon during World War I after the church was burned by people who suspected the sometimes Dutch-speaking members of having German sympathies. After serving churches in Grand Rapids and Byron Center, Mich., Rev. Huibregtse and family moved to Prairie City, Ia. in 1931, where he became pastor of the First Reformed Church.

Joyce began piano lessons when she was quite young and developed a keen interest in the keyboard. She began to teach piano lessons in 1933 and she continues to teach at this time of writing, 54 years later. She graduated from Central College in 1939 and taught music in the Monroe Public Schools before marriage.

The H. Kuyper family consists of one boy and three girls. Son Quentin, the eldest, is presently assistant to the dean of the University of Missouri music department at Columbia, Mo. Ruth Ellen works and resides in Tucson, Ariz. Susan lives in HongKong, where her husband, Tom Stanley, is on the faculty at HongKong University. Susan is presently the manager of the university book store. They have two sons, Johnson and Bennett. Lois lives in Manhattan, Kan., where her husband, Steve Rushing, is on the music faculty at K.S.U. Lois serves as the record librarian at the K.S.U. library. Steve and Lois are the parents of a son Anthony and a daughter Johanna.

by H. Hospers Kuyper

KUYPER, JEAN FAMILY

F315

Jean M.M. Kuyper was born Sept. 20, 1907 in Pella, Ia., to Arie P. and Arta Hospers Kuyper. He has one brother, H. Hospers Kuyper.

Arie P. Kuyper sold pianos and gave lessons from the home that he built on the southeast corner of East Third and Independence Streets in Pella. Jean's father was an accomplished organist and composer and was the only organist in the second Reformed Church from 1900 to 1935 and, upon the death of his father, Jean played for the next 25 years. His mother, a graduate of Oberlin, was an excellent pianist.

A.P. Kuyper purchased the building at 702-704 Washington Street and, in 1917 established Kuyper's Music House. Jean became a partner after graduating from Central College in 1929, and his brother, Hop, became a partner later. Jean's son, Paul, purchased the business in 1977.

Jean attended the Pella Public Schools and Central College. While in college he was Glee Club pianist for four years, earned two letters in basketball, four letters in baseball, and four in tennis. He was Central College tennis champion and also won the Southeast Ia. Tennis Tournament. He was organist at Pella's Tulip Festival for 28 years.

On Sept. 28, 1934, he married Elva L. Klein. They have two children, David Bruce of Montrose, Colo., and Jean Paul of Pella. J. Paul married Mary Van Mantgem, who was born in the Netherlands, and came to the United States when two years oldied They have two sons, Daniel Jean and Lucas Earl.

Jean's grandfather, Pieter Kuyper, immigrated from the Netherlands in 1848, while his grandfather on his mother's side, Henry Hospers, immigrated from the Netherlands in 1847, with Dominie Scholte. Mr. Hospers was a surveyor, banker, and state legislator. He was the mayor of Pella from 1867 until he resigned to move to Orange City, Ia., of which he was considered the founding father. His story appears in another part of this book.

by Jean M.M.Kuyper

KUYPER, JULIAN ARTHUR (BOB)

F316

The ancestry of Julian Arthur (Bob) Kuyper (born May 7, 1904, died Sept. 4, 1976) can be traced back seven generations from his father's family to Jacob Schalackens(on) from Ridderkerk in the mid-1600's, and seven generations from his mother's family to Hendrick Overbeckinck from Haarlo near Eibergen in the early 1600's.

Bob was the son of Arnoldus N. Kuyper (born Aug. 7, 1863, died Dec. 6, 1910) and Maria Louisa Neyenesch (born Mar. 24, 1886, died Oct. 10, 1959), who was the daughter of Herman Neyenesch (born Oct. 25, 1823, died June 26, 1914) and Anna M. Neuwenhuysen. Also born to this marriage were: Peter Herman (born Sept. 24, 1891, died Jan. 11, 1981), and Louis Arnold (born Aug. 8, 1898, died Oct. 8, 1985).

After the death of his father, his eldest brother Peter left college to manage the Kuyper Lumber Company until he started the Rolscreen Company. Bob and his brother Louis then took over as partners, with the motto "Spreek met Kuyper." The lumber business was closed in 1959, to be replaced with the Super Valu store owned by Bob and a partner.

Bob was a jack-of-all trades and active in the community. He was "on call" to the community and Second Reformed Church. His most famous invention was the bulb changer for the church chandeliers, which the church is still using. When the new minister in the mid-70's needed something fixed in his office, he was told to call Bob Kuyper. When asked, "Does Bob work for the church?", the response was, "He doesn't *work* for the church, he *lives* for the church!" Bob served on the consistory and building committee of Second Reformed Church for many years.

Bob was one of the first to join the Civil Air Patrol during WW II in Jan., 1943. He was promoted to First Lieutenant. Bob flew his own plane to deliver mail to N.D. and S.D., and Ia. He also was one of 40 volunteer weather watchers reporting to the Ottumwa Navy Air Base in 1944. Bob was on Marion County's Conservation Board and a member of Rotary.

Bob had many hobbies. As a young man, he made and sent wood puzzles to WW I veterans in hospitals. In a thank-you note received, it was stated that at first the patients thought the puzzles were unworkable, but finally they were solvedied

He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He hunted anything from elk in Wyo. to a buffalo in Ia. He fished from Florida to Minnesota. Pheasant, quail, and duck often graced the family dinner table in season.

Bob was the official photographer when Princess Juliana who later became Queen of the Netherlands, visited Pella in 1939. He received honorable mention in the *Popular Photography* Magazine Charming Children Contest in 1939 with a picture of his two daughters saying goodnight at the top of the stairway. Bob enjoyed flying his own plane, taking anyone who wanted to share a pleasant ride on a Sunday afternoon.

Bob married Esther Perrine (born Nov. 22, 1906) on June 12, 1926. Bob and his wife Esther both attended Central College. Esther was also active, and she held offices in numerous organizations including: Chapter BU, P.E.O., of which she is a 50-year member; charter member of Chapter AE, T.T.T. in Pella; Literary Social Club; D.A.R.; 60-year member of Pella Bridge Club; and the Women's Groups in Second Reformed Church.

Esther is known throughout the community for her love of cooking, her caring Christian concern for others, and for strengthening the family ties, especially by her Family Sunday Dinner, and encouraging interest in their family history.

They had three daughters: Peggy M. Pierson, Bonnie C. Simmons, and Kay D. DeCook. All three daughters graduated from Central College and served as Tulip Queen attendants.

The daughters and families are as follows: Peggy Marilyn Kuyper (born May 22, 1934) married Arvid Lee Pierson (born Aug. 31, 1933, Oskaloosa, Ia.) on Aug. 6, 1954. They

had four children: Jeffrey Nathan (born July 31, 1959) who married Virginia Zajec (born July 31, 1961) on Sept. 8, 1979, (Children: Daniel Lee (born Dec. 21, 1979), Jeremy Lane (born July 7, 1984); Graeme Matthew (born Aug. 15, 1962) who married Brenda Sneller (born Apr. 15, 1962) on May 23, 1981, (Children: Amanda Rae (born Sept. 26, 1981), Allison Renee and Alicia Beth (born Apr. 22, 1985); Brent Andrew (born Feborn 10, 1966) who married Susan Van Ee (born Nov. 18, 1965) on Nov. 8, 1986; Amy Beth (born Aug. 3, 1967).

Bonnie Carolyn Kuyper (born Sept. 5, 1936) married Doran S. Simmons, (born July 30, 1932, Attica, Ia.) on Sept. 27, 1958. They had four children: Aaron G. Simmons (born Jan. 11, 1962) who married Denise Giddens (born Dec. 31, 1963) on June 8, 1985; Melanie B. Simmons (born Nov. 23, 1964) who married Dirk Dahms on Apr. 9, 1983, divorced 1986, (Children: Dane Dahms (born Oct. 22, 1983); Tristan J. Simmons (born June 21, 1968); Brendan D. Simmons (born Jan. 17, 1971).

Kay Diane Kuyper (born June 30, 1941) married John Mark DeCook (born Feborn 19, 1941) on Aug. 30, 1961. They had three children: Lisa Kay DeCook (born Sept. 23, 1966), Michael John DeCook (born Aug. 7, 1968), and Daniel Mark DeCook (born Mar. 26, 1973).

by Esther Kuyper

KUYPER, PETER HERMAN AND EMMA LUCILE (GAASS)

F317

As the only living child of Peter H. and Lucile Gaass Kuyper, I would like to tell their story. My name is Mary Joan Kuyper Farver.

Peter Herman Kuyper was born Sept. 24, 1891, the first of three sons born to Arnoldus N. and Maria Louisa Neyenesch Kuyper. His two younger brothers were Louis A. and Julian A. (Bob) Kuyper.

Peter H. Kuyper

E. Lucile (Gaass) Kuyper

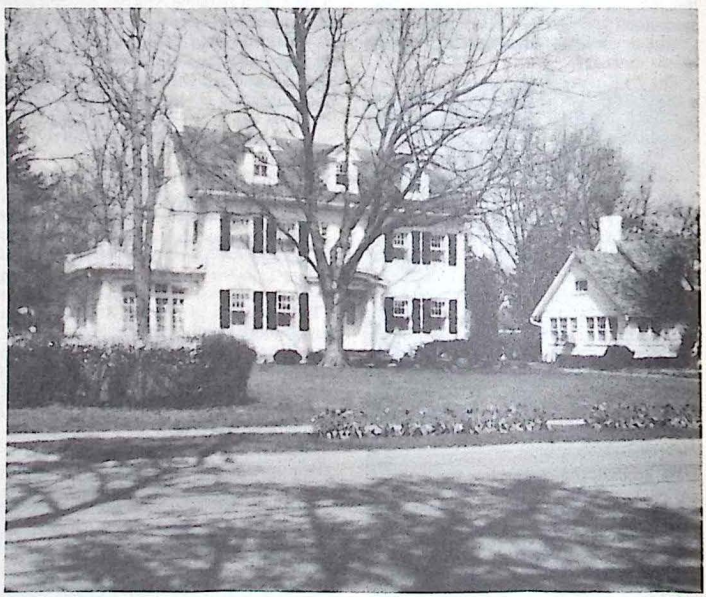
Emma Lucile Gaass was born, along with her twin sister Artie Louise, to John D. and Artie Overkamp Gaass on Dec. 23, 1880. Lucile and Louise had three older sisters: Amelia, Hattie, and Marie Wilhelmina (Love), and one brother, Isaac. Lucile graduated from Pella High School and worked as a bookkeeper for Pella Overall Company until her marriage.

Pete and Lucile were married at the home of her father, John D. Gaass, on North Main St. Lucile's mother had died in 1908, and her sister Love helped her plan her wedding on Oct. 17, 1916. Pete and Lucile had built their home at 1003 N. Main St., on the lot next to his mother's home (Mrs. A.N. Kuyper), and they moved in when they returned from their honeymoon in Colorado. A daughter, Mary Joan, was born Nov. 17, 1919, and a son, Herman Stuart, Oct. 14, 1921.

I'm most proud of my Dutch heritage and the accomplishments of my mother and father. My mother was active as a homemaker and very supportive of my father and attentive to his needs. She enjoyed working with the Second Reformed Church Ladies Aid and Central College Auxiliary and was an active 50-year member of P.E.O., Chapter BU. She never knew a stranger. She was a very friendly, outgoing, great lady. My father was a good student. He had perfect attendance during all four years at Pella High. He attended Central College for one year and then took over at Kuyper Lumber Yard when his father died in 1910.

I remember well the story my father told about his dog "Sailor", a Dalmatian. As a young man Pete sang in the Second Reformed Church choir, and "Sailor" always sat – or lay – next to his chair in the choir. One Sunday someone accidentally stepped on "Sailor", and he, naturally, yelped. The minister immediately commented that "Sailor" was one of the most faithful church attendees!

In 1925 my father joined Rolscreen Company in Des Moines, answering an ad which appeared in the Des Moines Register. He always gave my mother the credit for his becoming involved in this "Rolscreen" product, because she convinced him he *should* take a look at this small company after driving *all* the way to Des Moines on gravel roads – back in 1925! In 1926 he moved the company to Pella, encouraged by a check from the Pella Chamber of Commerce for $1000, and started, with thirty employees and



Peter H. Kuyper family residence

one small building, manufacturing Rolscreens.

The early years of Rolscreen Company were not easy, although the employees were – and always have been – hard working and loyal. I remember my father worked 16 to 17 hours a day, six days a week, and never took vacations. Mother, Stu, and I were encouraged to travel to California, Colorado, and once to the Caribbean on a cruise. Not until my brother Stu and husband Paul came into the business did he feel comfortable about leaving the plant. From the late 1940's through the 1960's, Mother and Dad traveled extensively to Europe, the Far East, and around the world. They took pictures of the war destruction in Europe late in the 1940's and the pygmies in Africa. They most enjoyed Holland, where they could speak and understand the language, and North Africa. On a trip to Ethiopia they had an audience with Halie Selassie, and in Holland met Prince Bernard.

Through the years Rolscreen Company continued to grow, introducing new products: Venetian blinds, casement windows, double-hung windows, the folding door, and sliding and French door lines. The only product no longer manufactured is the Venetian blind. The company is noted for its benefits, i.e., profit sharing, bonus, paid vacations. It has never had a layoff.

Early in his business career, in 1918, Pete Kuyper founded the Pella Chamber of Commerce, and was its president for many years. He was active in Iowa Manufacturers' Association and National Association of Manufacturers. He was a former director of Central National Bank, Des Moines, and member of the original Tulip Time Committee. Pete Kuyper believed in the importance of making a quality product and the need to provide jobs for people in Pella.

As the company grew, he reinvested the profits for company growth. He contributed to the community, the college, and the church. Mother and Dad's gifts to the community included Big Rock Parkin 1958, and the Tulip Tower in 1968. In 1972 my father received the Community Service Award, and was the first person so honored. He contributed generously to Central College through Rolscreen scholarships, and served on the Board of Trustees of the college. At Central is the A.N. Kuyper Field and the Kuyper Fieldhouse. The chapel at Central College was given by the Kuyper-Farver families in memory of Lucile Gaass Kuyper. Other gifts included contributions to the municipal swimming pool, hospital, Fairhaven, Christian Opportunity Center, and other schools and churches.

His philosophy, however, was to give a "portion" in order to encourage community participation. Pete Kuyper was active in Rolscreen Company until he was 85 years of age. He was interested in, and kept aware of, business until his death at 89 years.

In 1972 my brother, Stu, gathered together some of my father's business letters, letters to fellow Rolscreen employees (his "family"), letters home from his travels, forty years of Christmas and year-end messages, and letters to government officials. He had them published in book form as a gift to my father. The book is entitled "'Pete", and 500 numbered copies were published. It is a tribute to "Pete" and also to Stu. Pete's faith and dependence on the Almighty is most evident.

As a daughter, and sister, I feel a deep sense of gratitude to my parents and my brother Stu for their contributions to, and interest in, the community of Pella, and it is my purpose in the years left to me, to see this heritage continue.

by M. Joan Kuyper

LANGERAK FAMILY
F318

(Langreack, Langerock or Langrock)

Hendrick (1819-1856) and Maria (1820-1853) (Toom) Langerak came to Pella from Ottoland, South Holland with their children Willem (Mar. 1, 1842-Apr. 19, 1917), Meyer (1843-1934), and Elizabeth (1846-1874), sailing in Apr., 1847, from Rotterdam on the *Good Ship Maastroom* which arrived in Baltimore in June, 1847. Hendrick had been a storekeeper in Ottoland. Pietertje, another child born to Hendrick and Maria in 1844, died in infancy. Hendrick and Maria settled in the Amsterdam area which would now be identified as the area in Lake Prairie Twp. on the north side of the Des Moines River and a little east of the present Red Rock Dam. Hendrick became a brickmaker. Maria died in 1853 and on July 18, 1854, Hendrick married Marieje (Maria) DeRaad. To this union Cornelis was born (1855-1903). In 1856 Hendrick died leaving his wife, Marieje (DeRaad) Langerak, baby Cornelis and Willem, Meyer, and Elizabeth. Hendrick and his first wife Maria (Toom) Langerak were buried in T'lam Cemetery located up river from the Red Rock Dam on the northern shore.

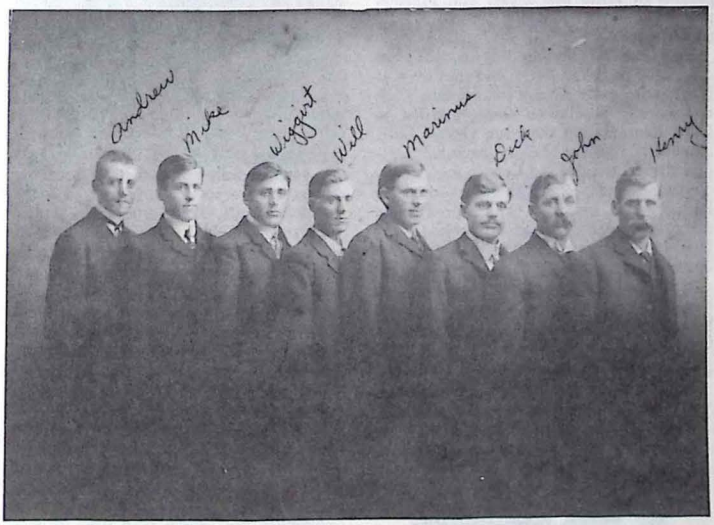
Uncle Jan A. Toom (twin of Maria, first wife of Hendrick) and his wife Jannigje (Rietveld) Toom made room in their family of five boys and three girls for Meyer and Willem Langerak. Willem also lived with Gerrit and Cornelia (Rietveld) Middlekoop where he worked as a farmhand. Willem and Meyer's sister, Elizabeth, went to live with Aunt Maaike (Toom) denBurger and Uncle Cornelis denBurger after the death of their father in 1856.

The second wife of Hendrick, Marieje (DeRaad) Langerak married Jan Muilenberg in 1857, and at some time after the 1860 census of Marion Co. this family moved to Maurice, Ia., taking Cornelis Langerak/Langerock.

Willem Langerak served in the Civil War carrying mail by horseback and during this time contracted a disease which eventually took his life. Willem, eldest son of Hendrick, married Jane (Janna/Johanna) (Feb. 13, 1841-June 26, 1931) Rietveld on Nov. 2, 1865. Jane was a younger sister of Willem's Aunt Jannigje (Rietveld) Toom (Mrs. Jan A. Toom). Willem and Jane were parents to eight sons: Henry (Feb. 2, 1867-June 11, 1952); John (1869-1947); Dirk (1872-1941); Marinus (1874-1911); William (1876-1955); Wiggert (1878-1968); Meyer (1881-1961); and Andrew (1886-unknown). Willem, in his later years, became the caretaker of North Cemetery and could often be seen walking to or from the cemetery to do the mowing.

Henry, the eldest son, married Dena Barbara VanderWilt (Sept. 9, 1866-Mar. 10, 1949) on Mar. 13, 1890. Henry and Dena farmed west of Pella where the present municipal airport is. Henry was named for his grandfather Hendrick who came to America in 1847. Henry and Dena were parents of three children: William H. (Feb. 17, 1891-June 7, 1980); Cornelia (1893-1983); and Dick (1896-1957). William H., the eldest son, was named for his grandfather Willem and as a child received from Grandfather Willem the saddle used during the Civil War when he delivered the mail.

William H. married Dena (Grace Berendena) Vander Linden (Feb. 9, 1889-Sept. 13,



The eight sons of Willem and Jane (Rietveld) Langerak. Left to Right: Andrew, Meyer, Wiggert, William, Marinus, Dick, John, and Henry.

1976) on Feb. 24, 1915. William H. and Dena farmed the land west of Pella and lived in a lane to the south of the present airport. William H. and Dena were parents of three children: Bernice, Esley, and Dorothy — fifth generation descendants of Hendrick Langerak.

Bernice married Henry W. Vandevoort and their three children, grandchildren and great-grandchild are: Linda, who married Evan Vander Wert, Pella, Ia., parents of Michael, married to Charma Bonnema, parents of Lindsey (Kansas City, Mo.), and Lisa and Jeffrey living at home. Paul, who married Jayne Van Vliet, parents of Alix and Airen live in Whitefish, Mont; Mark, who married Jill Blom, parents of Sarah and Matthew, who live in the Red Rock Dam area.

Esley married Elizabeth Jane Rhodes and resides at Centreville, Del., and their three children and grandchildren are: Kristin (married to Joe DeMesse) parents of Phillip; Lisbeth (married to James Selsor, Jr.) parents of Stephen, all living in the Wilmington, Del., area; and Peter Langerak (married to Kimberly Still) living in Greensboro, N.Car.

Dorothy (married Clarence J. Eaton, deceased) lives in Newton, Ia., and her two sons and grandchildren are: Wayne (married to Jeri Daugherty) and Ryan live in Puyallup, Wash., and their daughter, Bryne, lives in Newton, Ia.; Dennis married Laura Anderson and their children, Gabriel and Justine, live near Indianola, Ia.

Cornelia Langerak (Mrs. John Ver Ploeg), deceased sister of William H., had a daughter Eleanor (Mrs. Harry Gaass) deceased, and a son, Logan Ver Ploeg (married to Wilma Steenhoek), living in the rural Pella area. Cornelia's grandchildren and great-grandchildren are: Howard, living in the East; and Diane Ver Ploeg Steenhoek living in Des Moines, Ia., whose children are Christy, Mark and Brian.

Logan and Wilma Steenhoek Ver Ploeg's children and grandchildren are: Duane, married to Kathy Van Wyk, parents of Jason and Jill; Karen, married to Michael Sharp, parents of Ryan and Julie; and Marilyn married to Bruce De Bruin, parents of Lisa and Kimberly.

Dick Langerak, brother of William H., was married to Sara Van Baren and they lived at Newton, Ia., at the time of their deaths. Dick is survived by children: Gene, married to Doris Rourick, and their son Curtis; Dale, married to Barbara Mallory, and their children Debra, Steven and Connie and grandchild, Shawnda; and Donna, married to Richard Cron, who have two children Kellie and Rodney. All of Dick's family reside in the Des Moines, Ia., area except Curtis who lives on the west coast.

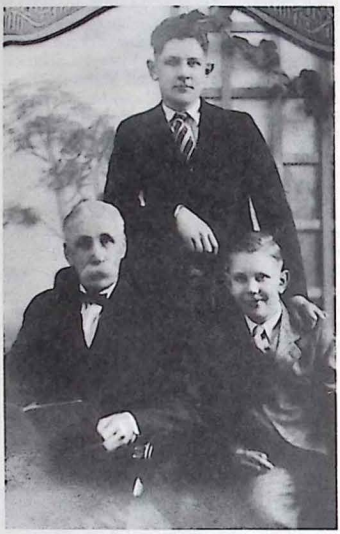
While Langerak descendants still live in the Pella area, the name of Langerak ceased being listed when William H. Langerak died in 1980.

by Bernice Vandevoort

LANGERAK, HENDRIK

F319

Benjamin Langerak Family Left to Right: Dudok, Ben, Norman, Emma Jo about 1917.



Meyer Langerak with two of his grandsons, Dudok Langerak (standing) and Norman Langerak about 1925.

In early Apr., 1847, Hendrik Langerak and his young family sailed on the Good Ship Maasstroom from Rotterdam to Baltiore, settling in Pella. Hendrik, born Aug. 8, 1818, in Ottoland, Zuid Holland, was the son of Willem Langerak and Pietertje Stellaart. He was a brickmaker and merchant by trade. The Langerak family had been living in this area of Zuid Holland for several generations. His wife, Maria Toom, born Mar. 29, 1819, at Leerbroek, Zuid Holland, one of 15 children, was the daughter of Meyer Toom and Elizabeth Vander Linden. Hendrik and Maria brought their three young children with them: Willem, born 1842; Meyer, born 1843; and Elizabeth, born 1846. Another daughter, Pietertje, had died shortly after birth in 1844. A son, Cornelis, was born at Pella in 1856.

Hendrik and Maria both died between 1856 (Iowa Census) and the 1860 Federal Census. It is possible they both succumbed to the smallpox epidemic of 1856. The children were taken by friends, neighbors, or relatives. Several of Maria's brothers and sisters had also emigrated to America and settled in the Pella area.

Geertje "Kate" Van Baaren (Baren) born Dec. 14, 1849, in Pella, was the daughter of Baltus Van Baaren and Barbera Rietveld. Baltus (and his brothers and widowed mother) and Barbera had also come to America in Apr. 1847, on the Good Ship Catharina Jackson, along with Barbera's family, the Rietvelds.

On Jan. 13, 1869, Meyer Langerak, son of Hendrik and Maria, married Geertje Van Baaren. They had six children: Marthe (Mary), born 1869, married to Mathew Kaldenburg; Dirkje (1872-1950), married Ed Plette; Barbara (1874-1952), married C. Boat; Henry (1876-1942), married to Laura Hurt; and Benjamin (1880-1925), married to Emma Jo Bousquet. The sixth child was a twin of Benjamin, stillborn.

Geertje "Kate" Van Baaren Langerak died Nov. 7, 1925, at the age of 75 years. Meyer Langerak died June 27, 1934, a few days before his 89th birthday. Both are buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

On Jan. 10, 1906, Benjamin Henry Langerak married Emma Josephine "Emma Jo" Bousquet. Emma Jo, born Oct. 26, 1881, in Pella, was the daughter of Pierrie Henri Bosuquet and Emma Thompson. Ben was a true entrepreneur – ambitious, hardworking, and dedicated. At the same time he was a loving and caring father and husband. As a young man he worked briefly as a photographer for the Keables Studio. He graduated from the Des Moines College of Pharmacology and opened Langerak's Drug Store on Main Street (later sold in 1911 to John Heerema). Ben (and his young family) went to Ancho, N. Mex., to develop a brick plant and gypsum mine. Brick from this plant was used to build the Garden City Feeder Co. in Pella. In 1916, he and Emma Jo and sons moved to Cloverton, Minn., to develop large timber holdings owned by him and P.H. Bousquet. In 1925 Ben was victimized by an inoperable brain tumor and died Aug. 10th, leaving behind his wife, Emma Jo, and two young sons, Dudok Bousquet Langerak, born Mar. 25, 1911, and Norman Thompson Langerak, born Dec. 19, 1915.

After Ben's death, Emma Jo never remarried. The eldest son, Dudok, finished school and joined the U.S. Army, eventually serving all over the world and retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. Norman married Gretchen Fennema, youngest daughter of Herman Fennema and Artie Van de Lune, on Aug. 24, 1937, at the Little Brown Church in the Vale, Nashua, Ia. World War II took Norman and Gretchen to the West Coast, where they eventually settled in California. Norman inherited his father's entrepreneurial abilities, and he and Gretchen retired in 1978 after many highly successful years in business. Norman and Gretchen have two children: a son Norman T., II, and a daughter, Juli Ann. Emma Jo lived in Pella until 1959 when she joined her bachelor son Dudok in California. Emma Jo died Mar. 10, 1968, in California and is buried next to Ben in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Juli Wilson

LANGSTRAAT, HENDRIK

F320

In the Netherlands our ancestor Hendrik Langstraat joined Rev. Henry Peter Scholte – called Dominie Scholte – and a large group of persecuted dissenters in their search for a place where they could practice their religious beliefs unharassed. Hendrik a young man of 29, left Rotterdam aboard the good ship Nagasaki, sailing for America on Apr. 11, 1847.

Hendrik (Nov. 14, 1818 – Dec. 3, 1870) was born in Zeeland. On Oct. 31, 1856, he married Johanna de Recht in Pella. They had six children: Cornelius (Apr. 15, 1860 – Nov. 15, 1917) married Angelina Rozeboom Feb. 21, 1883; Pieter (Nov. 27, 1861 – Mar. 7, 1944) married Johanna Vander Sluis Feb. 25, 1886; my grandfather Leendert (July 8, 1863 – Dec. 21, 1952) married Aagje (Aggie or Agnes) Lukas (Lucas) (Jan. 12, 1885, who died Feb. 4, 1902, whereupon he married Wilhelmina De Heus Oct. 4, 1902; Henry (? 1864 – July 1, 1944) married Lena Goemaat Oct. 31, 1895; Aatje (Allie) (Jan. 23, 1866 – Nov. 18, 1897) married Jan (John) Blom Dec. 18, 1884; Jan (John) (Jan. 17, 1870 – July 15, 1953) married Jennie VandeKamp Feb. 25, 1890.

The children followed in their fathers adventurous footsteps. Leendert and Jan (John) stayed in the Pella area. Cornelius and Pieter both moved to the less densely populated area in Northwest Iowa, Sioux County. They are both buried in the Newkirk Cemetery. Henry lived for many years in the Peoria, Ill., area and is buried in the Lutheran Cemetery there. Allie followed her brothers to Sioux County and she is also buried in the Newkirk Cemetery. Leendert is buried in the Graceland Cemetery and Jan (John) is buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

After Hendrik's death his wife married Bastian K. Molendyke, Apr. 13, 1871. Again being widowed she married Jan Akkerman, June 25, 1890. After this third husband died she too went to Sioux County and lived with her sons until her death Jan. 7, 1916. She is also buried in the Newkirk Cemetery.

Dated Sept. 15, 1847, a hand-written document recording the appearance of Hendrik Langstraat (and others) before Lysander W. Babbitt, Clerk of the District Court of Marion Co., Ia, renouncing their allegiance and fidelity to any foreign Prince, Potentate, State, or Sovereignty . . . particularly to William the Second, King of the Netherlands.

by Emily Dieleman, great granddaughter

Nellie Langstraat Ryken and her children. Back, l-r: Cynthia Langstraat (wife of Henry, Jr. seated in front of her), William (Bill) Dieleman and wife, Emily, Leona and husband Harold De Vries, Agnes Van Weelden, Marcella Langstraat (wife of Terrell (Terry) seated in front), and Ray Van Weelden (husband of Agnes). Front, l-r: Henry, Jr., Mother Nellie, and Terry Langstraat.

LANGSTRAAT, HENRY JOHN AND NELLIE

F321

As a young man, Henry started the first home delivery dairy in Pella, the Garden City Dairy. It was located at the Langstraat family farm east of Pella, known as the Twin Silo Farm. Henry was basically a farmer all his life. However, after his marriage Aug. 1, 1925 to Petronella (Nellie) Kelderman, for a period of about four years he was employed by the Brouwers Bakery in Sheldon, Ia. When they moved back to the Oskaloosa area they farmed in Harrison Twp. and eventually settled on the Longview Farm three miles south of Oskaloosa in Garfield Twp.

Wedding picture of Henry John Langstraat and Petronella (Nellie) Kelderman, Aug. 1, 1925.

Henry was born to Leendert and Aagje (Agnes) Langstraat on Feb. 2, 1899 in Marion Co. His wife Nellie was born in Mahaska Co. on Oct. 2, 1906. They were the parents of five children.

Agnes Wilma, was born Dec. 23, 1925. She married Ray Burton Van Weelden on Feb. 14, 1945. They have three children: Angela Rae; Ronald Arlin who married Cherilee Keizer and has five children; and Joslyn Nian who married Daniel Kramer and has four children.

Emily June was born Dec. 29, 1930. She married William Wilbur Dieleman on Aug. 30, 1951. Their children are Wendell Earl; Cynthia Elaine who married Dennis Ray De Young; and Kristen Eileen, who married Francis (Frank) William Rocco Gandrow. Cynthia and Dennis have two daughters.

Leona Mae was born Mar. 7, 1932 and married Harold Henry De Vries Nov. 24, 1950. They have eight children: Harlan Wayne married Donna Jean Inveld and has three children; Larry Eugene married Rosemary Van Gilst and has two children; Dennis Lee married Beverly Jo Brummel and has three children; Patricia Joy married Stanley Ray Dykstra and has three children; Bryce Allen is unmarried; Wavern Glen married Beverly Jean Groenendyk and has one child; Kevin Ray and Kimberly June are not married.

Henry Jr. Langstraat was born Aug. 15, 1938 and married Cynthia Ann Vander Schaaf Nov. 11, 1960. They have four children. Lois Ann married Edward De Ruiter; Luane Joy married Matthew Mills and has one child; Lisa Marie married John Martin Brandhof; and the youngest child, Jason Todd.

Terrell (Terry) was born Sept. 28, 1944 and married Marcella Patricia Pilcher July 31, 1964, and they have three living children: Laura Renee, Paula Ruth, and Nanette Diane. Valerie Ann died at birth and is buried in the Mitchellville Cemetery.

Henry John Langstraat died May 2, 1972 and is buried in Evergreen Cemetery near Leighton, Ia. His widow, Nellie, married Gysbert Ryken on Oct. 10, 1973. Gysbert has passed away and Nellie resides in Pella.

by Emily Dieleman

LANGSTRAAT, LEENDERT

F322

Aagje (Agnes) Lukas before her marriage to Leendert Langstraat.

My family branch is from Leendert who was born in Pella, July 8, 1863, and his wife Aagje (Aggie or Agnes Lucas) Lukas. It is recorded in the *"Souvenir History of Pella, Iowa 1847-1922"*, page 137, that Aagje (from now on she will be called Agnes) came to America in 1866. The shipping list shows that Mr. and Mrs. Pieter Lukas came with their five children. Mr. Lukas (Agnes' father), however, died on ship of an epidemic and was buried at sea. This tragedy was more than the death of the head of the family. For security reasons before leaving the Netherlands, his wife made a vest with secret pockets where he carried all their identification papers and all their money. When he died, his wife was below deck caring for a sick child. In their great haste to rid the ship of this diseased body, they buried him at sea without consulting his wife. Thus, all their papers and money were gone – overboard with the body. Because of the epidemic the ship was refused entrance when they arrived in America, so they returned to England where the captain lived. On arrival in England, they were also refused entry because of the epidemic. Word spread, and Hollanders living in the area brought provisions for the people on the ship for the three months they were quarantined there. They also collected enough money for them to return to America. By this time the very pregnant Mrs. Lukas was near delivery. Soon after debarking, the baby was born. The other passengers cared for the family as they all traveled to Pella. Mrs. Lukas, as a widow with a family, had no means of support and keenly felt the burden that was upon her. One of her sisters had emigrated to Michigan with the Van Raalte group. She issued an invitation to Mrs. Lukas to come to Michigan to live with her family, which she accepted.

For reasons unknown to me, Agnes did not leave Pella, but moved into the Scholte home on the North side of the park in Pella. She lived there until her marriage to Leendert in 1888. She was dearly loved by the Scholte family. They did not approve of her marriage to a farmer. She was a very talented seamstress and it is said that what her eye saw, her hand could do. She was known as a very kind and gentle person. She was also a frail person. Her life after marriage was not an easy one. It was cause of much heartache for her. She and Leendert had eight children. However, the first four died in infancy: Henry (Mar. 1, 1889 – May 12, 1889); Cornelia (Feb. 15, 1890 – Sept. 16, 1891); Henry (June, 1891 – Aug. 30, 1891); Sarah C. (Sept. 1, 1892 – Jan. 6, 1893); Annie (Apr. 9, 1893 –) married John F. Nunnikhoven on Jan. 29, 1913, and had one daughter; Peter L. (Apr. 10, 1896 – Mar. 13, 1979) married Wilhelmina (Minnie) Kool on Dec. 16, 1920. They had four sons and two daughters. My father Henry John (Feb. 3, 1899 – May 2, 1972) married Petronella (Nellie) Kelderman on Aug. 1, 1925. They had three daughters and two sons. Herman (Herp) (Jan. 30, 1902 – Oct. 5, 1979) married Anna Brom. They had two sons and one daughter. Agnes died on Feb. 4, 1902.

On Oct. 4, 1902, Leendert married Wilhelmina De Heus. Their children are: Irene (Dec. 4, 1900 –) married Peter Pol Feb. 17, 1927, and had two sons and two daughters; Sarah (Aug. 17, 1903 – Aug. 1, 1981) married Raymond Stureman and then Grover Cotton, had no children; Dick (Oct. 23, 1909 – May 7, 1981) married Alice Ver Meer Feb. 18, 1926, and had four sons and four daughters; Ellie (Alice) (Aug. 2, 1906 – Feb. 15, 1984) married Peter K. De Jong Dec. 16, 1926, and had four sons and two daughters; Hattie (Sept. 5, 1907 – Dec. 28, 1966) married Ralph Kuiper Feb. 15, 1928, and had one daughter and one son; Cornelius (Corney) (Dec. 27, 1908 –) married Mary V. Whitsel Jan. 19, 1930, and had one son and one daughter; Minnie (Feb. 17, 1911 –) who married Peter Van Ham Jan. 7, 1935, and had three sons and four daughters; her twin brother Leonard (Feb. 17, 1911 –), married Wylda Mae Morris Jan. 21, 1934, and had one son and one daughter; John L. (Mar. 8, 1913 –) married Anna Vander Hart Dec. 13, 1933, and had three daughters and one son; Paul (July 18, 1914 –) married Evalena De Zwarte Jan. 22, 1936, and had one son; Jacob (Jake) (Sept. 9, 1916 – May 12, 1985) married Orpha Van Ryswyk Nov. 24, 1940 – divorced – later married Lucille Visser – divorced, No children; Pauline (Mar. 31, 1919 –) married John Andrew De Jong, June 20, 1940, had three daughters and two sons.

Leendert – known as Lane – and his wife Wilhelmina – known as Wim – had a closing-out sale at their farm, known as the Twin Silo Farm east of Pella on May 3, 1941. They moved to the Home for the Aged in Pella. They continued to live there until their deaths. Leendert died Dec. 21, 1952, and his wife died June 1, 1958. They are both buried in Graceland Cemetery as is Leendert's first wife, Agnes, and his four infant children. Their farm scene was a favorite subject for the well-known Des Moines Register cartoonist – artist, Frank Miller. The twin silos appeared as pencil sketched pictures on many a calendar and later in beautiful watercolors.

by Emily Dieleman, granddaughter

The Leendert Langstraat family: Front, l-r: Pauline De Jong, Annie Nunnikhoven, Ellie De Jong, Mrs. Langstraat, Leendert Langstraat, Peter, Henry, and Herman; Back, l-r: Sarah Cotton, Hattie Kuyper, Irene Pol, Minnie Van Ham, Leonard, John, Dick, Corney, Paul, and Jake.

LANGSTRAAT, PETE AND MINNIE (KOOL)

F323

Pete Langstraat, son of Leendert and Aagje Lukas (Agnes Lucas) Langstraat, was born Apr. 10, 1896, near Taintor, Ia. His mother died when he was five years old and his father married Wilhelmina De Heus. He attended Peoria Public School and when the family lived in Pella he attended Lincoln School.

As a young man he worked on the family farm as well as for farmers in the area.

He served in France in World War I. On the ship on the way to France he was very ill with the flu. The effects of mustard gas while serving there greatly diminished his health.

He married Minnie Kool, daughter of Antonie F. and Annie Ten Hagen Kool. Minnie was born Nov. 17, 1899. They farmed in surrounding communities, mostly in the Pella, Taintor, New Sharon area.

Six children were born to the couple: Leonard Peter, 1921; Anthony Frederick, 1922; Henry John, 1927; Agnes Wilma (Mrs. Marion L. Roorda), 1929; Wilbur James, 1932; and Anna Mae (Mrs. Lloyd Williams), 1936.

Pete and Minnie faithfully attended New Sharon Methodist Church as long as health permitted. Pete was active in the American Legion in Pella and later New Sharon. Minnie enjoyed W.S.C.S. (women's group of the Methodist Church) and neighborhood clubs. Above all they enjoyed their children, grandchildren, great and great-great-grandchildren.

Pete died at the New Sharon Care Center, Mar. 13, 1979, and Minnie died at the Pella Community Nursing Home, Mar. 20, 1986.

by Agnes Roorda

LAUTENBACH FAMILY

F324

The ancestry of the Lautenbachs who came to Pella in 1869 has been traced back approximately 400 years to Jacobus Lautenbach. He lived in Germany but came to The Netherlands during the Eighty Years' War to fight on the side of the liberation army which helped free The Netherlands from the yoke of Philip II of Spain. He settled in Leeuwarden, the Province of Friesland, where he remained until his death on March 24, 1612.

In tracing the generations descended from Jacobus Lautenbach, we find that most of the Lautenbachs were builders or preachers. The line of descent is usually traced through a son, but in 1701 a daughter Wapke was born, and it was she and her husband who elected to carry on the family name of Lautenbach.

In 1869 Rintje Lautenbach, his wife Sijke Tjeerds Bosma, and their children, Lambertus, Dooitske, and Catharina, left Leeuwarden for Pella, Ia. Soon after his arrival someone spoke to him about C.M. McClatchey who had built a lovely three-story house and a woolen mill on what is now East Second Street. The house was complete with the exception of the fact that it had only temporary stairs, as he had been unable to find anyone who could lay out and build the open winding stairway he wanted from the first to the second and third floors.

When Rintje was told of this, he said, "I have laid out and built many a stairway like that". Mr. McClatchey, hearing of this, immediately hired Mr. Lautenbach to do the job, and he built a beautiful walnut stairway in what is now the home of Bob and Doretha Klein. After that Rintje Lautenbach had no trouble in getting established.

After Rintje and Sijke Lautenbach came to America other children were born to them. All of the sons followed in the steps of their father in designing and building except the oldest son Lambert who married Elizabeth Toom. Her family had long been established in farming, so when Lambert and Elizabeth were married they moved to a farm near the family homestead. But Lambert probably never lost his love for fine cabinet work, because his old hand-powered lathe is still in existence to this day.

The next oldest son, Charles, became a builder and contractor. Many of the buildings he built are still in excellent condition – evidence of the fine materials and good workmanship of that day. He married Katherine Ulrich, daughter of John Ulrich, Pella's famed bologna maker.

The next son, Richard, also became one of Pella's respected contractors, and many fine examples of his work remain. He married Elizabeth Van Nimwegen.

The youngest son, John Richard, studied architecture in St. Louis and later was a designer for some of the most prestigious architectural firms in New York City. In 1940 he designed Pella's first Tulip Toren. As it had been built of temporary materials, a few years later it was replaced by the permanent Tulip Toren which graces Central Park today.

The third generation of Lautenbachs in America continued in the building tradition. Casper John, the oldest son of Charles, carried on in the construction field. The second son, Robert Charles, studied architecture at Iowa State University and had expected to go into an architect's office upon graduation, but instead took the position which was offered to him by the newly formed Rolscreen Company, and, after a time went to New York City to open up the eastern territory. In later years he derived much pleasure from helping people restore some of the lovely early homes of Pella.

Richard Lautenbach's son, Laurence, did not follow the family tradition of building with bricks and mortar, but he did build in another way. He helped build fine character and high ideals in thousands of young people during his years of teaching and administration. He married Nancy Ruth Renaud.

Of the fourth generation only one, so far, is following the building and construction tradition, Casper's son, Larry. Larry Lautenbch is a builder and contractor in Pella today. He married JoAnn McGinity. Their son, Larry Joe, is working with his father on construction, and he might well be the fifth generation of Lautenbachs in America to carry on the tradition.

Only three grandchildren of Rintje and Sijke Lautenbach are living in Pella today: Laurence, the son of Richard, mentioned above; Raymond Brand, a son of Rintje's daughter Sarah, married to Harriet Stek; and Sophia, youngest daughter of Charles, married to Arthur Henry Bruinekool. Sophia has done much, in her interest in the family, to keep the history alive and available for the descendants of Rintje Lautenbach.

by Martha Lautenbach

Pete and Minnie Langstraat family, taken in 1942. Front, l-r: Pete, Anna Mae, and Minnie; Middle, l-r: Agnes, Wilbur, and Henry; Back, l-r: Leonard and Anthony.

LeCOCQ AND POS FAMILIES

F325

Ed Le Cocq at five years of age.

The writer's great-great grandfather John F. Le Cocq Sr. and his wife Neelte Heeren Le Cocq, together with their five children set sail from Amsterdam, Holland for America in early April, 1847 on the good ship Pieter Floris. Likewise, about the same time, two additional ships in the planned immigration to America left Rotterdam. They were the Nagasaki and the Maastrom. On the Nagasaki were my mother's grandparents, Jan Pos, Klaasje Stark Pos and their four children. Both families arrived safely on the shores of America at Baltimore some six to eight weeks later.

John F. LeCocq Sr. came out of the business world in Amsterdam. He was a banker and financial adviser to Rev. Peter Scholte, the leader of the expedition. Le Cocq, along with A.H. Viersen were in charge of the Peiter Floris. Mr. Le Cocq was also appointed the treasurer of the expedition and entrusted with the care of the strong box which contained the gold and valuables of the members. As far as I know, these two families, Le Cocq and Pos, were the only ones of my relation to come to America from Holland. Other Dutch families who came over at this time were later re-enforced by subsequent emigrations to Pella. This might be worth noting that over the longer period the two families spoken of in the above, pretty well died out in the community and consequently these family names are becoming rare in these parts of Iowa.

Arriving at the Pella destination after the long trip overland and by boat, the LeCocq family set up on a farm just west of what is now Oakwood Cemetery but in that first year of two, was Straw Town. The Pos family also took up farming east of Pella. The LeCocq family was housed in one of the few log cabins available, in that first winter which happened to be an especially tough Iowa winter. The reason may be that because LeCocq was the caretaker of the strong box and also treasurer, the log cabin would provide more safety than in a straw town hut that first winter. Also, the presence of a bank in the community was several years away.

One of the interesting stories to come out of that first winter was the birth of the first baby girl in this Dutch community. She was the daughter of Peter and Welmond Pos Kramer who had been invited by the Le Cocqs for this important event for better shelter and protection since their home was one of those temporary constructed straw huts. The baby, Nellie Kramer, in later life married G.A. Vander Meulen, a hardware merchant whose store was on the east side of Pella's Central Park known as the Square in those early days. John F. LeCocq Sr. and wife Neeltje are buried in Graceland Cemetery, one mile north of Pella. The plot is located in the far north-east corner and it has been revealed that the plot was the very first recorded in the cemetery log book.

There were three boys in the senior LeCocq family. Theodorus was my grandfather. He and his wife Theodora Van Gorkom Le Cocq had a family of ten children. Seven girls and three boys lived to adulthood. Frank, the oldest son was my father. My father married Mary Pos, the daughter of Dirk and Areke Van Horrsen Pos. Isaac married Julia Neyenesch, Chris married a Renaud, Dora remained an unmarried Lady, Sophia married Dick Rhynsburger, Maria married Rene Vander Linden, Emma married John Sybenga, Louise married a Van Loon, Cornelia (Kate) married Arie DeBruin, Antonia married a Mr. Sheetz.

My mother's family: Father was Dirk Pos and mother Areke Van Horssen Pos. The writer's mother Mary Pos married Frank LeCocq. Among the sisters Nellie married P.H. Van Gorp, Ella married Peter Van Sittert, Minnie married Fred Ulrich, Henrietta married John De Prenger, another sister married a De Young. Don't recall her name. This family moved away to Kansas early. Sister Anna married John Van Spankeran. Brother John Pos married a Van Gorp, sister to P.H. Van Gorp. John's second marriage produced son Wayne Pos of Des Moines, an educator. My mother, Mary Pos was a granddaughter of Jan Pos and Klaasie Stark Pos the family of the first migration in 1847.

My father Frank Le Cocq and his brother Isaac formed a partnership under the firm name of F&I Le Cocq in which they conducted a business in Pella many years. From before the turn of the century until 1916, the brothers were harness makers by trade but their business grew into a large farm supply store of harness and saddlery equipment to buggies, wagons, farm machinery and lastly automobiles. In those early days the need was great to service the farmers who used horse power to cultivate their crops as well as for all forms of transportation. Their last place of business was the large store which you see today and lastly occupied and recently vacated by the Pamida Company. Brother Isaac and family had moved to Kansas to go in business and with the lessening of business for the farm trade, as the motorizing by automobile and tractor for farm needs grew, father and older brother Theo went entirely into car business, buying into the Ford Agency business known as the Star Auto Co. at that time, which was located at the southwest corner of the square where the Pella National Bank was recently built. My father retired in 1936 following the untimely death of my brother Theo.

Children in my immediate family were Theodore, the oldest and sister Arna and myself, Edward, the youngest and the only representative of the family still living. Theo married Ida Donai, she also suffered an untimely passing in 1939 leaving three children, all girls, Mary Louise De Wit, Melva McBeath and Lorraine Rousseau. Arna married Elias Hollebrands. They had three children, Elvon, Lucile De Winter and Carol, the latter still living in Des Moines. The writer, Edward married Edith Sedrel whose grandparents also came from the Netherlands a few years after the first migration. We have one daughter, LouAnn Le Cocq Heene and husband Donald living in Maryland, and they have three children, Lisa Ann, Michael and Thomas.

I am reminded in relating all this of the toll of time and what it can do for family lines. My parents came from large families that unfortunately did not leave many survivors to carry on in Pella. There is some relation scattered over the country but outside of the Pella scene, which I regret very much. At one time as a boy I had many Aunties and Uncles in Pella, but as of now, there are just a few far removed cousins. Since I am 90 years plus, time will undoubtedly mark the disappearance of my family lines, Le Cocq and Pos, in Pella.

by Ed Le Cocq

LeCOCQ FAMILY

F326

Jean Francois LeCocq and Neeltje (Heere)

Born in Amsterdam, Holland, in 1805, Jean Francois LeCocq grew up to become a businessman, a popular occupation among the commercially-minded Dutch. When he was in his early forties (c. 1845), he became involved with those Hollanders who had become disenchanted with the economic and religious conditions in the country. Not only were times difficult in the Netherlands, with much unemployment and even food shortages, but also those religious groups which dissented from the State-controlled Church suffered discrimination. The LeCocq family numbered themselves among these "seceders" who found the religious climate in Holland quite hostile. By 1846, the group was thinking seriously of emigrating to America to escape these problems, and they chose Jean F. LeCocq to serve on the Committee to plan the move. In 1847, when the decision to leave Holland was final, he listed his occupation as commission agent and broker on the Emigration Records kept by the government of Holland. His financial background stood him in good stead, for he acted as financial advisor to the colonists before and during the move.

In Apr. 1847, the colonists sailed from Rotterdam in four chartered ships, with Jean Francois LeCocq serving as leader of the group on the *Pieter Floris*. He was accompan-

ied by his wife, Neeltje Heere (b. 1797), and his six children: Jean Francois (1826), Francois (1829), Jacobus Hendrik (1831), Theodorus Christian (1834), Mietje Johanna (1835), and Christina C. (1842).

Making the cross-country trek from Baltimore to Iowa by way of horse-drawn railroad, canal boat, steamboat, and wagon train with the 800 other colonists, the LeCocq family set up housekeeping on the vacant prairie in a sod hut in what came to be called "Stroo Stadt" or "Strawtown." An early artist's rendition of the Le Cocq pioneer cabin has been preserved by the Pella Historical Society. It provides a glimpse of frontier living conditions in which colonists and animals sometimes shared quarters. Later, the Le Cocq family built more substantial and comfortable housing.

In the infant community of Pella, Jean Francois had to give up his former occupation as a businessman to take up farming, the new and natural occupation of most of the immigrants to the rich prairieland of Iowa. Between 1850 and 1870, he listed himself as a farmer in the Federal Censuses. Late in life, he listed himself as a cigarmaker in the 1885 Iowa Census, evidently briefly joining his eldest son's cigar-making business in Pella before his death in 1888.

Throughout his years in the pioneer community, Jean F. was deeply involved in the town's affairs. Between 1864 and 1870 he was the town Assessor. He was often recruited to serve on committees for the community and was on the first Consistory of the First Reformed Church. For the 25th Anniversary Celebration of Pella held in 1872, J.F. LeCocq served on the planning committee and as Officer of the Day.

He died March 12, 1888, in Pella, having lived nearly 83 full and fruitful years. His wife Neelje had preceded him in death in 1872.

by Elma Vander Meulen

LeCOCQ, CHARLES LOUIS AND SARAH (VANDE LUNE)

F327

Born in Pella Nov. 28, 1875, Charles Louis LeCocq was the second son of Jean F. LeCocq (Jr.). He and his brothers were the third generation in the line from Jean Francois LeCocq (Sr.), the first native-born Americans in the family.

When the Spanish-American War broke out, Charles enlisted in the Iowa Infantry, 50th Regiment, and served in the band from July 20, 1898, until Nov. 30, 1898. While in Florida, he had the misfortune to get malaria without ever having seen action in Cuba. Flare-ups of his old malaria troubled him in later years.

His interest in music, which had led him to serve in the band in the Spanish-America War, remained with him throughout his life. The bass horn, the baritone, and flute were among the instruments he mastered. He played in the City Band for years and on occasion formed orchestras which performed at church events.

Charles married Sarah (Tjitske) Vande Lune Nov. 21, 1901, in Pella where they made their home. Sarah was born in Ferwerdadeel, Friesland, on Oct. 23, 1878, to Gerrit Vande Lune (1844) and Renske Hoogstra (1846) and came to America with her parents and siblings when she was just two. The large Vande Lune family lived on a farm east of Pella.

In the early years of their marriage, Charles ran a furniture store and even worked as a mortician, but permanent jobs were scarce in Pella then, and so Charles took his family [Frances M. (1902), Margaret E. (1903), Viola C. (1906] and went to Missouri in search of work. He worked as a cigarmaker in Bethany and Albany, and during this time, the family grew by two: Charles Louis (1908) and Elma L. (1910). The damp climate in Missouri, however, impelled Charles for health reasons to take his family to homestead near Pedro, S.D. in 1910.

The drier climate of South Dakota was better for Charles' health, but living conditions on the frontier were not easy. The family of seven lived in a tiny cabin and depended on the nearby Cheyenne River for food, making the "buffalo fish", Charles and the older children caught, a staple in their diet. To get fresh spring water someone had to trek daily to a spring in the hills. They obtained other supplies from a settlement within a day's walking distance, and they could get meat from nearby ranchers. In the main, life was not easy on the high dry plains for a family with five small children, some already of school age. It was a harsh, lonely, and isolated kind of life. After about 18 months, Charles and Sarah decided to give up homesteading. The family returned by train to Pella in late 1911.

Back in Pella, Charles took up cigar-making once again, working in Udell Hendrick's Washtella Cigar Factory until he purchased the business around the time of W.W. I. He ran the factory until his retirement in 1947. In his later years, he was an avid and tireless gardener and even dabbled in wine-making.

Charles died Jan. 30, 1968, and Sarah died Aug. 30, 1971, both in Pella. Each lived to the venerable age of 92 despite difficult years of hardship and deprivation.

by Elma Vander Meulen

LeCOCQ, JEAN FRANCOIS (JR.) AND RENSKE (VAN DER KOLK)

F328

Jean Francois LeCocq was the eldest son of Jean Francois Sr., and was given his father's name at his birth in 1826 in Amsterdam. He came with his family to America in 1847, pioneering in Iowa with the colonists who founded Pella.

It is surmised that he farmed with his father until he joined with his brother Frank around 1859 in establishing a cigar factory on west Washington St. in Pella. He listed his occupation as cigarmaker on the Federal and Iowa Censuses from 1870 to 1895. In 1905, he listed himself as retired.

Jean F. Jr. married relatively late. He was 43 when he married Friesland-born (1837) Renske Van der Kolk in Pella on May 25, 1869. Renske had come to America that same year with her father and mother, the Tjalling van der Kolks, and sister Ettje. Jean and Renske had four children: Jean Francois III (1873), Charles Louis (1875), James H. (1880), and Maggie C. (1882).

Jean F. had something of the artist in him, for he was interested in writing poetry and wrote quite prolifically. He was fond of celebrating special occasions and community events in poetry, writing all his verse in Dutch. Many of his poems were published in the Pella *Weekblad* as well as in the Orange City *De Volksvriend*. His writing also extended to local concerns. In 1906, when he was past 80, he wrote and published a plea that Central College be kept in Pella rather than be moved by the Baptists to Des Moines.

Renske died in Pella of cholera Aug. 24, 1894, and Jean died Dec. 28, 1911, also in Pella.

by Elma Vander Meulen

LEYDENS FAMILY

F329

A 1944 picture of Ruben Leydens (1913 – present) in his army uniform.

Writing a family history is like trying to see the distant landscape through a fog. The passing of many years and the death of older relatives place a screen of silence and obscurity before our attempts to understand bygone days. Just as when we look at a foggy landscape and can more clearly see the wonderful old tree standing against the haze, so we also notice our oldest living relatives when we seek to understand our family history.

The Leydens family has recently lost several of its great old "oaks" who remember what life was like at the beginning of the 20th century. Not long ago, when those oldsters gathered about the coffee table, they quickly dissipated the fog of the past with vivid,

1930 Family Reunion at Maytag Park in Newton. Front, l-r: Ruth (Rut) Leydens (1859-1953), Klaasje (Clara Van Drongelen) Leydens (1861-1934). Middle, l-r: Matt Leydens (1880-1944), Conrad (Shorty) Leydens (1895-1977), Lena Leydens Vander Veer (1887-1976), Kay Leydens Goemaat (1890-1976), Johanna (Han) Leydens Vander Wal (1898-1967), Dena (Deen) Leydens Heerema (1901-1985), Maggie Leydens De Hammer (1893-1981), Neal Leydens (1906 – present). Back, l-r: Dick Leydens (1904-1986), John Leydens (1891-1956), Aaron Leydens (1897-1933).

fondly told tales of family incidents. If their happy recollections were interrupted by questions about genealogical facts, their smiles would be replaced with a serious thoughtfulness. This happened when we asked Mag where her parents lived in Holland.

Mag replied, "Mom and dad always lived in Ooltgensplaat, South Holland, where their parents, Lena Van Lee Van Drongelen and Conrad Van Dongelen and Cornelia Hobbel Leydens and Matthew Leydens also lived. Dad first worked in nearby Rotterdam loading bags of salt on ships, and then he got a job working on a farm near Ooltgensplaat where the whole town worked. Dad also had another job of knocking on shutters to wake people up, and a third job of being the farmers' barber on Saturday night." When asked why her parents came to America, Mag responded, "There was no future in Holland for a large family." Having heard that Mag, Han, Shorty, and Aaron could not walk until they were three because of rickets, it was easy to understand that there was a real shortage of nutritious food. Although the debilitating situation of too little food was seldom mentioned, it was the reason the family left Holland in the Spring of 1900.

It was easier to recall the exciting two-week boat ride across the Atlantic for Clara, Rut, and eight children. Kay liked to tell about when she rescued little John from being washed overboard by grasping his coat. Kay also remembered how hard it was for her grandmother to say goodbye forever to her youngest child, Clara; and how disappointed her mother was in her small, unfinished house in Harvey, Ia. "My house in Holland never let the snow in to fall upon the bedclothes," she complained.

Another seldom-mentioned fact was the grueling labor that the children did on the farm the family rented. Neal recalls that when he was five and Dick was seven, every morning and evening they would pump water by hand for two hours for 50 angus cows and their calves spring, summer, and fall. When the children reached age 11, they were taken out of school to work from dawn to dusk in the fields and kitchens.

"When you're in the boat, you row," was their mother's familiar expression; and for them it often meant a lot of hard work with little financial reward. The Leydens children sometimes spoke wistfully of the easy life they could have had if they'd inherited the 90 million dollars with which an ancestor established the city of Leyden and the University of Leyden in Holland.

Scarcity of money was a problem for the Leydens, but not a lack of nerve. Neal recalls, "Dad wasn't afraid of anything. On the hottest day of the year he went out and cut poison ivy. The next day he was red as a beet with blisters all over, even on his eyelids."

Dick liked to relate how the sturdy Mag stood up all day driving a bobsled through a blizzard when they moved from a farm near Lacey, Ia., to one near Taintor, Ia. Mar. 1, 1911. "In the bobsled that Mag drove, Mom, Han, Deen, Neal, and I sat with our dog Shep under a blanket all the way. We were sad because we couldn't find our other dog Queenie before we left. Han especially felt bad because she was such an animal lover. When we got to our new farm, Shep ran away. About two weeks later we heard something on the porch and there stood Shep with Queenie. He'd gone back 20 miles to get her."

The Leydens' stories of clever animals seemed to be endless and so did the tales of witty youngsters like Ruben. Neal remembers, "Rube was about three and had asked for candy when dad went to town. Dad teased him by saying that "snoopies" weren't good for him. Noting that dad always bought tobacco, Rube remonstrated, "Puffie smoka ook snoopa."

After many years of hard work on Pella area farms, Clara and Rut moved to Pella on Mar. 1, 1927. Despite daily scrimping, the old couple's small savings did not last long; and the benefits of Social Security were not yet known. Although they'd had little economic success, Clara and Rut had triumphed in imparting to their children their values of generosity toward and caring about others.

When asked how things have changed, Neal replies, "People are less neighborly now. It used to be that neighbors would visit and trade work a lot." Like Neal, most people seem to long for that old neighborliness and the days when doors were left unlocked and strangers were not feared. Despite contradictory promises by politicians, such a time has vanished. No more are the common people's ideal of compassion and sharing passed uninterrupted to their children. Never again will a generation be brought up in such spaciousness where people were valued not only because they were needed for cooperative work, but also because of their scarcity. In 1900 the Iowa population of 2,231,853 was scattered about on many small farms, but by 1980, the Iowa population of 2,913,808 was concentrated mostly in towns. In listening to an older person's memories of a friendlier and less fearful era, it is evident that the modern researcher's discoveries that crowding causes withdrawal and that separation from nature causes tenseness, are true.

The days when so many lived closely with nature ended when big tractors drove most farmers off the land and when toxic chemicals decimated the beautiful wild flowers, birds, animals, and trees. It makes one wish for the old environment in which such wonderful natural life forms thrived and which nourished people like the family of Clara and Rut Leydens.

by Norma Leydens

LUBBERDEN FAMILY
F330

Willem Lubberden (Lubberde ca. 1732) and his wife, Matje Topsvoort left their home in Aalsmeer for Den Helder where they boarded the good ship *De Zeemeeuw* on Apr. 4, 1847. They arrived in New York on May 19. By boat on rivers and canals, by rail and post wagon, they arrived in St. Louis on June 17. They lived in St. Louis for three months and would have liked to stay but were afraid they could not make a living there. Here their twin sons, Pieter and Christiaan, died of the same disease. From St. Louis by steamship on the Mississippi to Keokuk, and by wagon to Pella, they arrived on Sept. 1, 1847. At their first home in Strooi Stadt (Straw Town) a son Pieter was born Oct. 19, 1847. After the land was divided and measured the family settled on a farm southeast of Pella.

In addition to baby Pieter the children were: Matje (1835-1929), Willem (1837-1922), and Dientje (1842-1920). By 1868 all the children were married, and the parents moved to a small house on the corner of Franklin and East Second St. The little area

Willem Lubberden Family in 1904. Front, l-r: Adrian Lubberden, William Lubberden, Janella Van Gorp, Walter Van Doorninck, Fred Van Doorninck; Middle, l-r: Harold Klein, Carrie Klein, Willem Lubberden, Trintje Barendregt, Martin Van Doorninck, Cornelia Van Doorninck; Back, l-r: Earl Klein, Tunis Klein, Hattie Lubberden, Peter Lubberden, Jennie Lubberden, Jacob Van Gorp, Mattie Van Gorp, Will Lubberden, Minnie Lubberden.

in front of the house was filled with flowers and in a large garden behind, all kinds of fruits and vegetables grew. Willem was the gardener and the cook while Matje spent much time tailoring men's clothing. Matje (1806-1888) and Willem (1811-1889) lived here the rest of their lives.

Their son Willem had married Jannigje Stomphorst (1847-1897) and now took over the farm. Matje married James Buis (1838-1909) who came to Pella from Burlington, Ia., where he had worked in a nursery. Dientje married Abraham Wisse (1834-1904). He also came from Burlington where he had learned the smith's trade and wagon making. He established a wagon factory here with Barney Buerkens. Pieter married Mentze Vander Zijl (1845-1892). He was a school teacher and died in 1876. Their only child George died in the military service and was buried in the Presidio of San Francisco.

James Buis started Oak Grove Nursery in 1865. His and Matje's only surviving child Matje (1867-1947) married Abram Ver Ploegh (1863-1948) who took over the nursery. Their children were: Pauline, James, William, John, and Andrew. Andrew (1895-1966) managed the nursery until his death, when the business was closed. Andrew and wife, Cora Van Beynum (1898-1977) had three sons: Stanley (1924); Warren (1928); and Donald (1936). None made his home in Pella, but Stanley is the architect of many beautiful buildings here.

Willem and Jannigje had six children: Willem (1869-1953); Cornelia (1870-1965); Matje (1872-1969); Catharina (1874-1913); Pieter (1876-1970); and Heintje (1883-1926). Willem married Minnie Schippers (1876-1960). Their children were: William (1898-1969), Adrian (1900), Peter (1906-1941), and Jeannette (1909-1974). Cornelia married Martinus W. Van Doorninck (1857-1932). They had two sons: Frederick (1903), and A.J. William (1910-1983); and a daughter Wilma (1906). Matje married Jacob Van Gorp (1875-1966). Their children are Janella (1903) and Franklin (1906), who was the founder of Van Gorp Manufacturing Inc. Catharina married Teunis Klein, and they had two sons: Harold (1901-1985) and Earl (1903-1980). Pieter married Jennie Klein (1878-1951). Heintje married Morris Van Helden (1881-1957). Their surviving children are: William (1922) and Florence (1924).

Dientje and Abraham's surviving child John (1873-1945) married Bessie Runyan (1879-1950). They had three sons: James (1909); Arthur (1916); and Ralph (1921). John founded and operated Pella Steam Laundry for many years.

Only Willem's family can provide a Lubberden "Stamhouder" to continue the family name. Son William married Emma Van Baale (1896-1966). Their children are Nancine and twin sons Verle and Virgil, not married. Adrian married Margaret Veenstra (1902). They have one son Wayne who has one son Michael. Peter married Bernice Glenn (?-1976). Their sons Robert and Norman do not have sons.

by Wilma J. Rempe

MAASDAM FAMILY

F331

Second Important Emigration to Pella

The largest number of arrivals from Holland came to Pella in the summer and fall of 1849. The fact that these newcomers brought considerable gold with them meant much to the struggling colony where practically all the money brought in the "iron chest" had been expended. There were 244 people listed on this trip besides those who died on the trip over. Many storms were met. This trip was a very rough one as 16 people died, mostly children and a few adults. Jacob Maasdam led in most of the services rendered.

As has already been mentioned, the money brought by the first colonists in 1847 had been exhausted, and business and development in the colony had become stagnant, so that the arrival of so many able and well-financed men had a decidedly stimulating effect. Following is a sketch of the life of Jacob Maasdam who was one of the leaders on the trip to America.

Jacob Maasdam was born Mar. 26, 1813, at Den Hitzert, Zuid Beyerland, The Netherlands, His father's name was Gerrit Maasdam and his mother was Adriana Den Fuinder. They had nine children, and occupation as cooper, or barrel-maker, called for frugal living on the part of his family. In spite of this and several reverses, he was, and continued to be, a God-fearing person and a man who prayed much, especially for the members of his family. when at the age of 65 years, he realized that he was approaching the end of life, he called all his children to his bedside, and again plead with them to remember the warnings and lessons he always tried to teach them during his life-time.

His son Jacob Maasdam (in notes he left behind) states, "These words of my father affected me so that I left his room in tears." In writing of his conversion he says, "when I was a child I already had the impression that I was carrying a burden of sin, but this now seemed to me to be but morning clouds, which are soon dispelled by the sun, but the death of my father caused a great conflict within me, until I realized it was God calling me. Then I submitted myself to him, and by grace I became his child."

"He transplanted me from my state of darkness in sin, to the wonderful light of his Gospel which was shed abroad in my heart. How beyond our comprehension is the love of God, which sent his Son, Jesus, to die the death on the Cross for me. And so he has changed me, who was an enemy, into a friend of the Christ, and I was born again and became a transformed person. This experience came to me during Apr. 1832."

"At a short time after this, I was drawn for the military service. Not being in robust health this news depressed me greatly. When in the army they soon discovered that I needed hospital care, and after six months in the hospital I was discharged and given a passport. In 1835 I moved back to my birthplace and worked at my trade until 1839." During all this time he felt the urge to serve God by giving more of his time to the Lord's work, and decided to prepare himself for the ministry if the opportunity presented itself. It was shortly after this that he came in contact with Rev. H.P. Scholte, a pastor and leader of the group of Christians who had seceded from the State Church of Holland. Rev. Scholte told him to come to Utrecht, and offered to instruct him. Believing that this was the way the Lord was opening for him, he accepted the offer and spent more than a year with Rev. Scholte. M."

He must have had a remarkable memory, as his friends called him a living concordance of the Bible. In Oct., 1840, he was united in marriage with Maria Adriana Breure. For four years they lived happily at Noordeloos, when, on Feb. 5, he received an urgent

message from Rev. Scholte to come to him at once. On meeting together he was told to go to Amsterdam where he was met by a Mr. Tiddy, a representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society. After a conference he accepted the offer to become a colporteur and to sell Bibles and tracts in Holland, with his residence at Utrecht.

This he did until 1849, when he emigrated to the U.S.A. He states that during his work as colporteur he was continually harassed by officers of the state church and the government, who arrested and fined him for teaching and preaching the Gospel and the principles of the Reformation. When Rev. Scholte and the immigrants left Holland in 1847, Maasdam served the Congregation of the Seceders at Utrecht until 1849, when he, with John Hospers and A.C. Kuyper, led the second emigration to Iowa and arrived at Pella two years after the first contingent had settled here. Maasdam immediately took up his occupation as cooper, in addition to serving the First Christian Church as pastor and teacher without salary. He continued to do this for seven years, until the congregation insisted that he be paid and devote full time to the religious work. His reply to this was, "It has always been my desire to spend my time in the Lord's service."

Van Stigt, who knew him well, says of him, Jacob Maasdam was a searcher of the Scriptures, and this knowledge enabled him to write his explanation of the Book of Revelation, which was published in the Dutch language in 1862 and paid for by his friends. He also says of him that when he offered prayer, it was as if the people listening to him were carried along with him to the throne of grace.

I have been told by others that there have been times when the sick believed they had been restored through the prayers of Maasdam. Also that when he met a poor man on a cold winter day without an overcoat, he took off his own coat and gave it to the man. It seems to us to be too bad that this devoted man should be suddenly taken away, as he died after a short sick spell. He died at the age of 44 years and 9 months on Dec. 29 (or Oct. 14?), 1858.

This Jacob Maasdam is the greatgrandfather of Leonard Maasdam who lives north of Pella in the round house.

Leenderet Maasdam, son of Jacob Maasdam, was born Sept. 13, 1842, at Noordeloos, Holland. He came to America in 1849 at the age of eight years. He married Marie Hagens in Pella Feb. 3, 1870, and died Nov. 28, 1913, and is buried in Graceland Cemetery, Pella, Ia.

For a time he had a grocery store and meat market in Pella. We were told they lived on the farm about two years and then in town two years at 908 E. 2nd St. They would move back and forth. The home where he lived in Pella still looks the same as it did in 1915. They had 11 children. The 11 acres where the hospital now stands was the pasture where he raised hogs in his old age. After his death his son William inherited the 11 acres.

His son was Lane, from a family of six boys and five girls. He left Pella and moved to sully when he was a young man and worked at Boat's Grocery Store in Sully.

He married Henrietta Mathes Sept. 10, 1903. After their marriage they started farming, and in 1906 he and his brother-in-law started making sorghum. Lane and Henrietta had four children. They were members of Sully First Reformed Church, and he had a great interest in the smaller churches.

Henrietta was a great flower lover and always had lots of them. Their four children were Leonard, Henry, Marie, and Fred. Leonord remembers going along with Grandpa to slop the pigs on the 11 acres where the Hospital now stands.

by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Maasdam

MAASDAM, LEONARD AND GERTRUDE WIELARD

F332

Leonard Maasdam married Gertrude Wielard Jan. 24, 1934, and they celebrated their 50th Anniversary Jan. 22, 1984. Gertrude's great-grandfather, Hendret Wielard, came with his spouse and three children in 1847 but stayed in New Jersey for ten years before coming to Pella in 1857. They are not listed in the Pella History Book. They had five children: Sophia, Arie (our grandfather), George, Kryn, and Lane Leonard Wielard. Grandpa Arie was eight years old when arriving in America. He married Gertrude Van Minwagen and they had three children: Henry, Alton, and Marie. Henry, my father, was married to Susanna Rap. They had two daughters, Gertrude and Johanna. Johanna is married to Arie Lanser and lives in Sully, Ia. They have four children, 15 grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Leonard Maasdam was born in Jasper Co., Nov. 18, 1904. He did not think much of his girlfriend until he found out how old she was and then, oh then.

Leonard has two brothers, Henry and Fred, and a sister, Marie, all living in Sully with their spouses

Leonard and Gertrude have three children, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

In the four generations of the family all are Maasdams, and all are the oldest in their respective families.

Leonard has farmed and has worked in the manufacturing of sweet sorghum. 1986 was his 61st year. Having to do a lot tiling by hand he got to thinking of an easier way so he put together some iron machinery and got royalties from his digging machine for a number of years. When dry weather came and crops were suffering he invented a sprinkler, and it watered crops.

Scott Kramer is working as a development engineer at Hewlett Packard, Colorado Springs. Charles Kramer, our son-in-law, is farming north of Sully and is in the sweet sorghum business. John is our sorghum cook and farms with his father. Paul Schoon is Director of Planned Giving at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Darlene, our daughter, is working in payroll at Washington University, St. Louis. Mark Schoon, who will graduate in the spring of 1987, is with Arthur Anderson, a public accounting firm in St. Louis. Timothy Schoon will graduate from high school in the spring of 1987. Lawrence Maasdam, our son, is in big construction work north of Clarion, Ia. His wife, Anita, is bookkeeper for the construction company. Craig Maasdam, our grandson, is also in construction with his father. Larry Maasdam is attending Lynville-Sully High School.

Gail Kramer is working at Newton Medical Center as an X-ray technician. Marjorie Kramer, our daughter, works at the sorghum mill and is a homemaker. Gertrude is a homemaker. Leonard is grandfather of all. Barbara Maasdam works for General Telephone in Grinnell and is Craig's wife. Their

Front, l-r: Gail Kramer, her mother Marjorie Kramer, Gertrude and Leonard Maasdam, Barbra Maasdam with Curtis Ross Maasdam, Julie Van Wyk, and Ryan Maasdam; Back, l-r: Scott Kramer, Charles Kramer, John Kramer, Paul Schoon, Darlene Schoon, Mark Schoon, Timothy Schoon, Lawrence Maasdam, Anita Maasdam, Craig Maasdam, and Larry Maasdam.

son, and our great-grandson, is Curtis Ross. Julie Maasdam Van Wyk works at Sully Transport Inc. Ryan is the son of Lawrence and Anita Maasdam.

Leonard and I have lived north of Sully where we farmed, and, during the sorghum manufacturing time, we feed the night shift.

In 1944 my husband moved the sorghum mill to our own farm. He changed over to steam pressure when he got a steam boiler from a coal mine south of Pella and a stationary steam engine which was purchased by the Pella Stacker Co. in 1900, which was located three blocks east of the square in Pella. It has been used every year since to power the cane mill. In 1957 we moved to Pella and lived at 509 Main St. In 1973 we moved to the round house north of Pella. We bought 50 acres and divided it into three acre plots known as The Maasdam Addition.

We attend Pella First Reformed Church.

by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Maasdam

MARKWELL, MARTIN
F333

Martin Markwell, son of John and Jane (Faris) Markwell, was born in 1812 in Flemming County, Ken.

John's father William Markwell, was in the Revolutionary War and after his death in 1816, John sold his share of the inherited land and moved his family to Washington County, Ind. This was sometime before the 1820 Census and John found work with the railroad and purchased some land. By 1830 Martin had moved with his father and family to Rush County, Ind. Martin was to settle here for some time, starting up his own family.

The family name of Markwell had made several name changes through the years. The Markwells were of French Hugenot ancestry and while still in France they spelled the name Marquelle. They left France to escape religious persecution traveling across the English Channel to England where they changed the spelling to de Markwell. Next the family branched off to "The colonies" where some Americanized the name to Markwell and others took back the original French spelling.

While living in Ind., Martin married Nancy Hanna(h) b. 1808, whose family came from Vir. Four children are known to be born of this union and all were born in Rush County before the family moved to Iowa about 1850.

Oldest child was Malinda who was born on Mar. 23, 1838. She married John B. Miller on Feb. 4, 1856 in Jefferson Co., Iowa. She gave birth to 10 children, raising 8 to adulthood and died on Oct. 11, 1905 in Cass County, Iowa.

Only son, John, was born in 1840. He married Isabelle Collins on Dec. 11, 1864 in Jefferson Co., Iowa. One son, John Jr. was born to this marriage, but John Sr. was to die after only 12 years of marriage in 1876 in Jefferson Co.

Amanda Ellen, born in 1848, married Henry A. Robinson in Marion County, Iowa on June 26, 1878.

Youngest was Matilda, born in 1850 and married James T. Gray on Feb. 13, 1865 in Jefferson County, Iowa.

In approximately 1866, Martin moved from Locust Grove township in Jefferson County, Iowa to Red Rock Township in Marion County, purchasing 15 acres.

Martin's oldest daughter, Malinda, lived with her own family in Marion County for two years until her husband, John and father-in-law Henry Austin Miller, found land in Cass County, Iowa to buy. They found the land around Marion county to be too full of rocks and trees and Cass County land seemed much faster to clear.

Martin's invalid daughter, Amanda, moved with her parents to Marion County, and daughter Matilda moved to Lucas County.

After Martin Markwell's death in March of 1877, Nancy Markwell sold the property to a William Cadwallader in Sept. of 1878. Daughter Amanda had just married in June and Nancy moved to Lucas County where Amanda was now residing. Nancy Markwell died in Lucas County in 1881.

by Dixie A. Laire

MATHES FAMILY
F334

Johann Wendel Mathes (Feb. 14, 1770 – Feb. 22, 1843) born at Cappelen (Spater Kappelen), died in Kappelen. On Mar. 11, 1796, he married Elsie Hoblerin (Mar. 17, 1762 – Feb. 14, 1810).

Their son, Johannes Nickolas Mathes, Apr. 7, 1799, died in Kappelen, Germany, on Dec. 7, 1855. He married Katherine Springer (Apr. 29, 1797 – Feb. 29, 1852). She was born and died in Kapellen. They had six children. Around 1854 the four sons came to America from Germany. Jacob stayed at Trenton, N.J.; Philip, Frederick C., and Valentine's destination was Pella, Ia. They worked their way to the West helping build railroads.

Philip married Mary Beurkens and moved to Des Moines, Ia. where he had a stone quarry. Their family of nine children were Anna, married M.M. Welton; Nellie married Fred Reinhardt; John born 1864 married May Saylor; Chris married Mary Nourse; Fred; Kittie married Frank R. Davis; Lizzy married Albert E. Marshall; Karrie married Edward Kenworth; Edward married Erma. Trescott E. Jensen and family, great-great-grandson of Philip Mathes is the only representative of that family who comes to reunions.

Frederick C. Mathes cut the stone for Jordan Hall at Central College.

Frederick C. Mathes family, Front, l-r: Mrs. Frederick C. (Mary) Mathes, David Mathes, and Henry Mathes; Back, l-r: Valentine Mathes, William Mathes, Otto Mathes, and Mr. F.C. Mathes in the picture.

Frederick C. Mathes (Oct. 20, 1835 – July 28, 1897) married Mary Hoening (Oct. 26, 1841 – Sept. 17, 1923). The occasion of his coming to Pella was principally to cut the stone for Central College, especially for Jordan Hall.

When the plans for the building of the Court House of Marion County at Knoxville were made, Mathes was consulted and asked to make an estimate of the stone material required for the building. His estimate varied considerably with that which the architects had been given by others but after more figuring and consultations by the architects the Mathes estimate proved correct. Frederick C. Mathes said, "Men, you need so many perch of stone." A perch of stone is 24 ¾ cubic feet, about a pile of stone four feet long, three feet wide, and a little over three feet high. The Mathes family consisted of five boys and one girl who died at the age of one year. This family lived north of Pella on the top of the Skunk River Hill.

by Valentine J. Mathes

F.W. Mathes Family, Front, L-R: Ivan, F.W., Minnie, and Marie; Middle, L-R: Rowland, Clarence, Clifford, and Layton; Back, L-R: Arnold, Lloyd, Raymond, and Herbert.

MATHES, F. C.

F335

Around 1854, four Mathes brothers came to America from Germany. They were sons of Johannes Nickolas Mathes and Katharine Springer. They were Jacob, who stayed in Trenton, N.J.; Philip, who came to Pella with his two brothers and later moved to Des Moines and had a stone quarry; Frederick C. and Valentine settled on farms north of Pella. Valentine was single at that time and served his country in the Civil War. The hardships as a service man were severe. He was discharged in 1865. He married Agnes Kuyper and had ten children.

Gerald Hoekstra Family. Front, L-R: Gerald and Ruby; Back, L-R: John, Ron, Dan, and Cindy.

Layton Mathes Family. Front, L-R: Henrietta and Layton; Back, L-R: Ruby, David, John, and Henry.

Frederick C. was a stone cutter and cut stone for Central College of Pella, the Marion County Court House at Knoxville and the Second Reformed Church in Pella. This building is no longer standing. The Mathes Bros.' stone cutting shop in 1858-66 was across the street from the Beintema Bros. pottery works which later was occupied by the Buerkens Wagon Factory. In 1860 Frederick C. (Oct. 20, 1835 – July 28, 1897) married Mary Hoening, also a native of Germany. Her father was a furniture maker for a time in Pella before moving on to Amana. Mary was born Oct. 26, 1841 and died Sept. 17, 1923. They had six children: namely, Henry; Frederick Valentine; Matilda; Otto; Frederick William; and David. Henry married Martha Ter Louw in 1884 and had two children; Fred Valentine married Johanna Visser in 1891, they had one child, Johanna died in 1892 and Fred Valentine married Mary Van Gorkum in 1893 and they had four children; Matilda died in infancy; Frederick William married Wilhelmina Hoening in 1897 and they had ten children; David married Wilhelmina Ryke in 1918 and they had two children.

While living on their farm north of Pella, Otto, a tot of two, accidentally fell into a dry well while playing. His father climbed down into the well laid up with stones and brought the boy up but Otto suffered a broken back and a brain injury. In spite of months of tender care after the fall, he grew up humpbacked. He never married.

Frederick C. Mathes was a man of many trades and hobbies and by his square dealings, uprightness, and frugality he was respected by all. He kept beehives, raised pigeons, raised and sold apples, grapes and honey. He sold firewood in Pella, and made and sold molasses. He died after a long illness thought to be caused by the stone dust in his lungs.

His son Frederick William (Bill), (born 1872 and died 1948) married Wilhelmina Augusta Hoening (born 1876 and died 1948) in 1897. He was a farmer about five miles north of Pella. They had ten children:

namely, Herbert who married Vera Bruce in 1927 and had one son, Donovon (deceased); Clarence who married Alice Van Lint in 1924 had one son Dwight; Raymond married Alice Goemaat in 1923 and their children are Wilbur, Arend (deceased), Gerald, and Junella; Arnold married Marie Van Dorland in 1926 and their children are Wilma and Larry; Layton married Henrietta Kamerick in 1934 and their children are Ruby, John, Henry and David; Clifford who married Bertha Kamerick in 1935 had Richard, Dolores, and Rose Marie; Lloyd married Bessie Bogaards in 1935 and their children are Gertie (deceased), Vern, Chester, Sharon, and Gary; Rowland married Gertrude Bogaards in 1940 and had one son, Harris J.; Marie married Gerrit Klyn in 1935 and their children are Edward and Mary Ann (deceased); and Ivan married Wilma Kamerick in 1944 and had Patricia, Beverly and Bonnie (twins) and Tena Marie.

Of this family we shall follow the line of Layton Mathes. Layton was a farmer, a coal miner, and later he and his brother Ivan operated an Excavation Company. This was approximately 1948. He died in 1966. Mr. and Mrs. Layton Mathes lived in the same house on East 1st. St. that his grandmother, Mrs. F.C. Mathes, lived in, until her death. Layton married Henrietta Kamerick and they had four children.

Ruby married Gerald Hoekstra in 1957 and they have four children; Daniel is living near Lovilia and is a dragline operator at Jude Coal Co.; Ronald is living near Pella and is employed at Rolscreen Co.; John is employed at Midwest Sanitation and is living in Pella; Cindy is a Junior in high school. Gerald served in the Korean War and he and Ruby are farmers and school bus drivers.

John married Virginia Van Vark in 1964. They had one son, Kelly. They divorced and John married Ellen Van Dyke in 1976. They have two daughters, Jessica and Kara. John is Superintendent at Riverview Release Center at Newton.

Henry married Lynn Crawford in 1966 and they have one son, William Eric. Henry served in the Vietnam War. He later was a Construction Engineer for McAnnich at Norwalk and died in an auto accident in 1980.

David married Glenda Roozenboom in 1972. Their children are Seth, Kirk, Ariel, and Bethany. David is part owner and operator of the Hungry Dutchman Tire Co. in Pella.

by Ruby Hoekstra

MATHES, VALENTINE AND AAGJE (KUYPER)

F336

Valentine Mathes (Nov. 27, 1837, – Apr. 14, 1884) married Aagje (Agnes) Kuyper (Feb. 9, 1830 – Sept. 14, 1927) on Dec. 5, 1866. He enlisted to serve his country in the Civil War. He had seen one of Arie Cornelius Kuyper's daughters as he was looking for a wife. To get better acquainted he went to Mr. Kuyper's home to buy a horse. In those days if you went somewhere for business on horse back or with a team of horses it took quite a long time to get there, so you usually were invited in for coffeetime or a meal. While there buying the horse he met Aagje or Agnes Kuyper who was not the first Kuyper girl he had in mind. God moves in mysterious ways. If Valentine had married the other Kuyper girl his descendants as of now would not have been born. He bought the horse which we believe was a black horse which he took to the river bottom one hot day to scrape dirt to build a dyke, and the horse got overheated and died. Valentine enlisted because he was single, then was inducted into service at Oskaloosa, Ia. in the 33rd Regiment of Iowa Infantry. In the Army, rations sometimes were very scarce. One time they had only four ears of corn per man, my father told us and his father before him, they even picked undigested beans out of their body waste. No report ever that he was wounded. Private Valentine Mathes was discharged from service July 17, 1865. He and another soldier traded their guns because they didn't want the guns they had used in the Army. Wm. Mathes has grandfather's gun. For a home Valentine moved two buildings together with a room between them and a lean-to for a kitchen. Valentine Mathes had much timber so he sold many cords of wood. A cord of wood is 128 cubic feet or a pile of eight feet long four feet high and four feet wide. Valentine and Agnes Mathes sold one-fourth acre of land for a school site for $10.00 on Feb. 12, 1878. Fredrick and Mary Mathes sold the other one-fourth acre to make a half – acre school yard.

by Valentine J. Mathes

The Valentine Mathes home. Valentine Mathes brought two buildings together and built a room between them and a lean-to for a kitchen. Nineteen children were born in this home. Left to right: Agnes Mathes, Mrs. Agnes Mathes, and Maggie Mathes.

The Valentine Mathes Family, l-r: Mrs. Agnes Mathes, Agnes Mathes, Mary Rykhoek, Katharina Krumm, John N. Mathes, Valentine Mathes

MATHES, VALENTINE AND JEANETTE (VOS)
F337

Valentine Mathes, son of John N. Mathes (June 27, 1875 – Jan. 23, 1955) married Jeannette Vos (May 4, 1881 – Jan. 8, 1972), on Oct. 19, 1905. They lived four miles north of Pella and had ten children who with their spouses are all living on Oct. 13, 1986. In 1925 he bought the old school house for a granary for $77.50 and had it moved for $5.00 by the Aultman Taylor road tractor. He raised English Shire horses, Shorthorn cattle, Plymouth Rock chickens, Poland China hogs.

The new house was built in 1927.

John N. Mathes, son of Valentine Mathes (Sept. 11, 1906) married Jennie Roose (Jan. 2, 1904) on Mar. 16, 1944. They farmed east of Pella and near Otley for 20 years, then moved to Pella and worked at odd jobs till he was employed at Central College for 18 years.

Valentine and Jennie Mathes' son John Wilmer Mathes Dec. 15, 1948 had three children: Rachel, Apr. 6, 1975; Justin, Dec. 27, 1976; Sarah, Mar. 19, 1979. He worked at Jaarsma Bakery through high school and Central College from which he graduated. Then he worked at Gladstone Optical Company grinding lens for eye glasses. Then at Midwest Uncut, then at Cedar Rapids, Marshalltown, and back to Midwest Uncut, where he is assistant manager of Jack Wyjums Midwest Uncut Company. John N. Mathes had four sons, but Justin is the only great-grandson to carry on the Mathes name.

The Mathes family reunion has been held annually since Aug. 26, 1926.

by Valentine J. Mathes

Valentine J. Mathes Family. Back: John Wilmar Mathes; Front: Valentine Mathes, Gweneth Jean Krueger and Mrs. Jennie Mathes.

John N. Mathes family of ten children. Front, l-r: Sarah Mathes, Mrs. Jeannetta Mathes, John Mathes, Agnes Mathes; Middle, l-r: Mable (Mrs. Ed De Vries), Edith (Mrs. Irvin Huyser), Esther (Mrs. Herman Slykhuis), Evelyn (Mrs. Arie Beyer), Valentine Mathes; Back, l-r: Ervin Mathes, Harold Mathes, William Mathes.

MEINDERS, EVERETT
F338

I, Everett Meinders, was born Feb. 9, 1911, in Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co., the son of Nickolas Meinders and Marie Van Donselaar. I had my eighth grade education in Black Oak Center School. After finishing school I worked for my father on the farm. At the age of 21 I started to work as a hired hand for farmers. The first year I worked for Gerrit Brummel, the next year for William De Jong, the next year for Brant Ver Meer, and the last year for Joseph Van Haaften. On my 26th birthday I married Gertrude Van Gorp, born Mar. 21, 1915, the daughter of John M. Van Gorp and Minnie Blom, at the home of her parents.

In the fall of 1936 my father bought a 160 acre farm from Isaac Newendorp Estate. My father also, during the winter, bought his first new tractor, a disc, and plow. It was an Oliver on steel wheels. After our honeymoon trip to visit uncles, aunts, and cousins, in Sioux County, Ia., we moved to the farm on Mar. 1. We bought some more second hand machinery that was needed from farm sales during the winter; also five or six milk cows. My father gave me 12 sows and two horses from his own herd. I could use his tractor to do the heavy field work.

The Lord blessed Gertrude and me with four healthy children, two boys and two girls. When they became of school age, we took them to the Christian School in Leighton. John Boerefyn, Walter Steenhoek, and myself took turns to bring and return them home each day. Before our children were all through eighth grade, the Christian School in Leighton closed, because of the difficulty in hiring teachers and paying their wages. The students were then bused to Pella Christian Grade School. All of our children had their four-year Christian High School education in Pella. Three of our children were born in Mahaska County Hospital. Nick was born at home on the farm. Wilma was born Sept. 21, 1939; Nick was born Mar. 14, 1941; Joyce was born Dec. 17, 1943; Edwin was born Oct. 22, 1949. I served 12 years as elder in the Leighton Christian Reformed Church. I also served one term on the board of the Leighton Christian Grade School and one term on the board of Pella Christian High School.

Our daughter, Wilma, had two years college training at Dordt College in Sioux

Front, l-r: Jim Meinders, Joel Meinders, Jonathan Meinders, Joni Meinders, Mark Slagter; Back, l-r: Terry Meinders, Jerry Slagter, Brian Vander Berg, Elden Vander Berg, Michael Vander Berg, Alan Meinders, Wilma (Meinders) Vander Berg, Dale Vander Berg, Sandra Meinders, Nancy Slagter, Kenneth Slagter, Joyce (Meinders) Slagter, Everett Meinders, Mary (Hol) Meinders, Nick Meinders, Edwin Meinders, Martha (Klyn) Meinders.

Center, Ia. She then taught at Pella Christian Grade School for one year. After that, she married Eldon Vander Berg. After their marriage, Eldon was called to the service of our country and was sent to Edgewood, Md., for two years. Wilma went with him and taught school there. After Eldon was released from service, they moved to Sioux Center, Ia. They had a new home built there and live there yet today. Eldon worked for his father, who owned a tire shop. Wilma was a substitute school teacher for a few years. They have four sons: Kevin, Brian, Dale, and Michael.

Nick married Mary Hol. They have four children: Terry, Alan, Sandra and Joel. When Nick finished high school, he helped me with the farm work. It was then that I started to work for Vermeer Manufacturing Company. In August of 1964 Nick got married, and Gertrude and I moved to a farm home close to where I was born. Gertrude then started to work at the Dutch Buffet, where she worked for 11 years.

Joyce married Kenneth Slagter. They have three children: Nancy, Jerry, and Mark. They farm near Oskaloosa.

Edwin married Martha Klyn. They have three children: Jonie, James, and Jonathon. Edwin started working at Rolscreen when he finished school and still works there. They first lived on Highway 163, northeast of Leighton, but later built a new house on the northeast corner of Nick's farm and moved into it. Nick started to rent out some of his farm land and began working at Rolscreen. Later he rented all of it except pasture and hay land. He takes care of 20 stock cows and their calves.

I worked at Vermeer Manufacturing for 14 and one-half years. During those years Gertrude and I took vacations to the Black Hills in South Dakota, the Denver mountains, Yellowstone National Park, the Wisconsin Dells, Niagara Falls, and, when Nick and Edwin were in the service, to Missouri, and Texas. In 1972 we moved to Leighton. In 1974 I retired from factory work. In May of 1976 Gertrude died. In 1977 I traveled to Florida, and in 1981 to the Netherlands and four other countries in Europe. One year I went to Puerto Rico. Other places I have visited are Michigan, Nebraska, Colorado, Mississippi, California, Washington, and Canada.

by Everett Meinders

MEINDERS, GILBERT
F339

I, Gilbert Meinders am the fourth son of N.T. Meinders and Marie Van Donselaar. I had all my schooling at Black Oak Center School in Mahaska Co., graduating in 1927, the year that Highway 163 was paved. There were very few that went on to high school in those days, so I stayed home and helped work on the farm. We milked the cows by hand, fed and slopped the hogs, and raised chickens from broody hens into laying hens. In those days there was no electricity to turn the cream separator, run the washing machine, or grind a little grain for chicken feed.

The farming was all done with horses. Some of the machinery did not have a seat on it, so you had to walk behind a plow, harrow, etc. all day long. We cultivated corn with two horses on a one-row cultivator, cut the grain, shocked it by hand, and then threshed it with a company stationary threshing machine. We picked the corn by hand, throwing one ear at a time on the wagon drawn by horses.

On Feb. 20, 1940, I married Bernice Bruxvoort of Sully, Ia. On Mar. 1, we moved my parents to 806 West 3rd St., Pella, Ia. to the house they built. They lived a retired life there for 23 years lacking one month. My father passed away Feb. 4, 1963. We went on farming as usual, but progress and automation were coming. More and more as time went on, the horsepower went out and tractors came with all the hydraulic power.

As the years went by and the family came along, the Lord took the first-born, a son, to Himself. Later we were blessed with three sons and two daughters.

In 1947 our oldest son Marvin started kindergarten at Black Oak Center School. In 1949 our second son Harold also attended Black Oak Center School. In 1950 the road was graded and rocked, so the bus could pick

Gilbert Meinders Family. Front, l-r: Bernice, Dorothy, Gilbert; Back, l-r: Katherine, Gene, Marvin, Harold.

the children up and take them to the Christian School in Pella. We gave them all a Christian Grade and Christian High School education.

Marvin was born 1942, married 1968 to Mary Vos, born 1946. Their children are: Ronald, born 1969; Stephen, born 1971; and Ruth, born 1974. They live south of Pella on a farm.

Harold was born in 1944, married 1968 to Florence Van Zee, born 1945. Their children are: Glenn, born 1969; David, born 1971; James, born 1973; Calvin, born 1975; Marsha and Michelle, born 1981. They live just north of Vermeer Manufacturing. Pella.

Katherine was born 1946, married 1965 to Derrel Van Mersbergen, born 1944. Their children are: Patricia, born 1966; Stuart, born 1968; Valerie, born 1975; and Kimberly, born 1978. They live just south and east of Fremont on a farm.

Gene was born 1948, married 1971 to Ellouise Dykens, born 1951. Their children are: Jennifer, born 1973; and Mark born 1977. They have lived on the home place since 1972.

Dorothy was born 1952, married 1973 to James De Vries, born 1952. Their children are: Deborah, born 1977; Linda, born 1979; Daniel, born 1981; and Andrew, born 1983. They live south of Prairie City on a farm.

We retired from the farm on Mar. 1, 1972. We moved into the same house my parents built at 806 W. 3rd St. I worked for Vermeer Manufacturing about three years and another three years at Jaarsma Bakery, delivering to Oskaloosa.

As we are in our later years, what greater joy can we have than to see our children and grandchildren faithfully attend church under the preaching of the Word of God.

by Gilbert Meinders

MEINDERS, MARVIN R.

F340

Front, l-r: Ron Meinders, Ruth Meinders, and Stephen Meinders; Back: Mary Meinders and Marv Meinders.

Marvin R. Meinders was born Aug. 8, 1942, in Leighton, Ia., the son of Gilbert Meinders and Bernice Bruxvoort Meinders. Marv attended the Black Oak Center School and Pella Christian Schools. Marv served in the Army National Guard from Sept., 1963 to Sept., 1969, in the 2D & 3D Armd. Cav. Plat. Trp C, 1/SQDN 194th Cav. Iowa Arng of Oskaloosa, Ia.

On Aug. 16, 1968, at First Christian Reformed Church in Pella, Marv married Mary J. Vos daughter of William Vos III and Jennie H. Klein Vos. She was born July 22, 1946, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Mary's great-grandparents came to America in 1847 on the ships *Nagasaki* and *Maastroom*. Mary grew up in the Leighton, Reasnor, and Pella area. She attended the Pella Christian Schools. After graduation from high school, she lived and worked in Des Moines at the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company for four years. In Aug. 1968, she came back to Pella. Marv and Mary are living on a farm southeast of Pella where Marv farms and is a pork producer, and Mary has worked part-time for Hawkeye Hybrids and Rolscreen Co. They are the parents of three children: Ron, born May 12, 1969; Stephen, born Aug. 18, 1971; and Ruth, born June 26, 1974.

by Mary J. Meinders

MEINDERS, TYMEN AND EVERTJE (VAN HOLLAND)

F341

N.T. and Marie Meinders Family – Front, l-r: Marie, Clara, Albert J., N.T.; Back, l-r: Gilbert, Tim N., Everett N.

Tymen Meinders (son of Klaas Meinders and Teuntje Kroesbergen) and his wife Evertje Van Holland came to America in 1894 with their children Tuintje who married John Van Maanen; Haintje who married John Plate; Klaas who married Maria Van Donselaar; Evertje who married Jake Van Wyhe; Johanna who married Herman Bruxvoort; Hendriek who married Cornelia Hols; and Janna or Jennie who married Derk Dykstra and later K. Vande Pol.

They came from the Province of Gelderland and the town of Ede, The Netherlands. They came by boat which was so crowded that they had to come third class in November.

They came by train from Keokuk, Ia., to Pella and from there by horse and wagon to the Lubbert Van Roekel farm just east of Black Oak Center School on Highway 163 east of Pella. They arrived in the dark that evening and the next morning before sun up, Klaas was out in the field helping pick corn.

For one year they lived in a farm house north of what was then known as Nine Mile House, later known as the Halfway Oil Station north of Leighton.

In 1895 they bought what is now known as the Meinders' Farm in Mahaska Co., Sec. 15, Twp. 76, Range 17.

In 1894 the Meinders family joined and became charter members of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church. Tymen and Evertje retired in 1906 and moved to Pella. They took their membership papers to Pella First Christian Reformed Church, where we still are today.

Klaas, later known as N.T. Meinders married Maria Van Donselaar in 1906 and stayed on the family farm. Their children were: Tim N. (1907), Albert (1909), Everett N. (1911), Gilbert (1912), Clara (1914), and Albert John (1918). There are 19 grandchildren and two deceased and 63 great-grandchildren, and one deceased.

The Meinders family experienced a haying accident in the summer of 1915, when their second son Albert got hurt and died the following day at the age of six years. On Easter Sunday, Apr. 12, 1925, at high noon both barns were destroyed by fire. The smoke could be seen far and wide. Because of the dry spring, the farmers were well ahead of schedule with their farm work and that gave them a lot of time to donate labor to clean up and help build a new barn, so it could be ready in July to store the new crop of hay. Albert John gave his life in the service of his country in 1946. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery at Pella, Ia.

In 1940 N.T. built a house on West Third St. in Pella, where he retired. His son Gilbert married Bernice Bruxvoort and stayed on the family farm until 1972. They retired from the farm and moved into the same house that N.T. had built. Gilbert's son Gene Dale married Ellouise Dykens and moved on the family farm. They are still farming it today.

by Gilbert Meinders

MEMMELAAR, ANDREW AND HATTIE (ROZENDAL)

F342

Andrew Memmelaar was born Jan. 13, 1878, in Steins, The Netherlands, the son of Berend Memmelaar born Jan. 28, 1835, in Finkum, Friesland, The Netherlands. Berent was married May 14, 1864, in Leewarderadeel to Pietje Pieters Yskamp born Sept. 18, 1839, in Steins. Berend died Oct. 30, 1925 in Lynden, Wash., and Pietje died Sept. 23, 1915, in Zillah, Wash.

Teje (Hattie) Rozendal was born Oct. 28, 1879, in St. Annaparochie, The Netherlands, the daughter of Willem Dirks Rozendal born Aug. 10, 1834, in St. Annaprochie, married May 26, in Het Bildt, to Trijntje Arjens Vander Zee born May 25, in 1837, in St. Jacobiparochie. wilem died Sept. 14, 1929 in Glenrock, Bergen Co., N.J. and Trijntje died Sept. 22, 1914 in Hawthorne, Passaic Co., N.J. They are in Fairlawn Cemetery, N.J.

My grandfather, Andrew Memmelaar came to America in 1891 at the age of 13. His wife Tetje – later called Hattie – came in 1888 at the age of nine. She was a twin. They had no schooling in America because they were self-taught people. Andrew and Hattie Rozendal Memmelaar were married Apr. 13, 1903, in Paterson, N.J.

Andrew worked in a silk mill in New Jersey.

Tetje (Hattie Rozendal) Memmelaar and Anne (Andrew) Memmelaar. Wedding photo, Apr. 13, 1903 in Paterson, N.J.

He and Hattie had three children there before the urge of farming brought them to a farm outside of Oskaloosa, near Leighton, Ia. He knew very little about plowing, disking, harrowing, and planting the seed nor how to get rid of the weeds. Brandt Van Maanen helped them learn some of the ways of farming in the first years. The farm machinery was horse-drawn and had to be walked behind except the corn planter and wagons. The plow was called a walking plow with two horses pulling it with a single furrow, having wooden handles to guide it. Farming back then took a while longer than it does now and when it came time to harvest they did everything by hand.

The meals were simple but adequate. Breakfast consisted of hot lard and sorghum (vet en stroop) on homemade bread. The other meals usually consisted of bread, potatoes, canned meat, or wild game (if the hunting was good), vegetables either fresh or canned and melted fat used for gravy.

Hattie was left-handed. She enjoyed crocheting. She did not need a pattern to follow. She looked at the item and she could make it.

A person with a * by their name denotes those living in Marion Co., 1987.

Andrew and Hattie Memmelaar were blessed with ten children. Tryntje (Tyrna) married Arent Roskamp. Their children were: Paul, Bertrend, Helen, Arend, Gresham, Robert, Janet, and Marcia. Pietje (Pearle, my mother) married Frank Terpstra, and had children: Frances, *Chester, *Florence (Mrs. Gerrit Vander Meiden, Jean, Harriett, Frank Jr., Carolyn, Edward, Gloria, and David. Bernard (Barney) married Carrie Vos, the children of Barney and Carrie were: Leona, Bernice, *Jo Ann (Mrs. Marvin Blom), Nancy, and John. Yanigie Wilhelmina (Jeane) married Peter De Groot. They had the following children: twins Harriet and Carolyn, and James. William (Bill) married Wilma Vander Wilt whose children were: Dale, Ruth, Linda, Betty, Wayne, and James. Martha married Frank Ypma. The Ypma children were: Helen, Virginia, Fred, Marsha, Billy, Paula, Barbara, Jerry and Randall. Anna (Ann) married George Zimmer and had the following children: Dona, twins Carol and Charles, George, Mary, Joyce, and twins Lois and baby boy Zimmer, the latter deceased and unnamed. Edward Peter married Elizabeth Huyser. Their children were: Arlan, Phyllis, *Marlene (Mrs. Lee Talma), Sheryl, and Ronald. Child number nine was stillborn.

Andrew and Hattie retired in 1940 after working very hard and losing almost everything. Andrew died Oct. 3, 1941, Leighton, Ia. of a stroke and Hattie died the ninth of Dec. 1945, in Oskaloosa, of cancer. The are buried in the Butler Cemetery south of Leighton, Mahaska Co.

by Edward William Terpstra

MEMMELAAR, BARNEY

F343

Barney and Carrie Memmelaar, 1966.

The name Memmelaar is of German origin. Barney (Bernard) is the third child of Andrew (Anne) born Jan. 13, 1878, in Stiens, Friesland, Netherlands, and Hattie (Tetje Rozendal) born Oct. 28, 1879, in St. Annaparochie, Friesland, Netherlands. Andrew passed away Oct. 3, 1941, and Hattie, Dec. 9, 1945; both are buried in Butler Cemetery south of Leighton, Ia. Barney was born Jan. 24, 1907, in Patterson, N.J. At the age of three the family moved to a farm south of Leighton, Ia.

On Feb. 25, 1931, Barney married Carrie Vos, born Sept. 3, 1907, at Galesburg, Ia. She passed away Oct. 16, 1978, and was buried at Evergreen Cemetery north of Leighton, Ia.

Barney's first car was a Model T Ford Touring. On Oct. 30, 1933, Barney was the winner of the Mahaska Co. Corn Husking Bee held at the Pearl Smith farm, four miles north of Oskaloosa, Ia. He picked 1,779 pounds in 80 minutes by hand. They started farming with horses and have seen the change to our big four-wheel, air-conditioned tractors. They bought a farm east of Leighton, Scott Twp., in 1941 and again in 1958. He built his present home on Carss Street in Leighton in 1959 and retired in 1960. Barney holds the bowling record score of 289 in a game at the Pella Tulip Lanes. He has traveled in Europe, China, Puerto Rico, and the United States (including Alaska).

Barney and Carrie have five children all born in Mahaska Co., Ia. Leona Mae, born Aug. 25, 1932, married Jan. 17, 1951, to Gerritt (Gary) Eugene Vande Voort; Bernice Ruth born Nov. 14, 1934, married Dec. 27, 1958, to Willard Alfred Bronger; Jo-Ann born Sept. 25, 1937, married Feb. 16, 1956, to Marvin Duane Blom; Nancy Lucille born July 31, 1941, married Feb. 13, 1960, to Ronald Lee Swank; John Andrew born May 10, 1944, married Mar. 25, 1975, to Nanci Ann Long. They now have 18 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

by Leona Vande Voort

MENNINGA FAMILY

F344

Margaret E. De Zwarte was born Feb. 14, 1927, in Marion Co. and attended Pleasant Grove School. She married Vernon D. Menninga – second child and oldest son of John S. and Margaret Den Burger Menninga who was born Jan. 9, 1927, in Marion Co., and attended Battle Ridge School.

After their marriage they lived west of Pella near Vernon's family. To them seven daughters were born: Twylah (Dec. 15, 1948), Marla (Nov. 3, 1950), Laura (July 4, 1953), Lila (Aug. 26, 1955), Cynthia (Apr. 17, 1957), Verla (Aug. 17, 1960), and a daughter who was stillborn.

Twylah, Marla, and Laura attended Battle Ridge School for a few years until it closed. Then they attended Pella Christian Grade and High School, as did the rest of the children.

Henry W. Van Roekel married Twylah. They live near Leighton, Ia. and have five children – one who died in infancy. Twylah babysits and is an excellent seamstress.

Charles Vander Waal married Marla. They live in Pella and have three children. Marla is an excellent seamstress and also works part-time for her husband at Ulrich Motor Co.

Arvin Vos married Laura. They live north of Pella and have three children. She helps her husband with farming.

Stanley Boender married Lila. They live east of Oskaloosa, Ia., and have four children. She helps her husband with farming and dairy cows.

Michael Arndt married Cynthia. They live in Polk City, Ia. and have two children. She is a homemaker and is talented with crafts.

Kirby Goos married Verla. They live in Pella and have three children. She babysits and does counted cross stitch.

by Vernon Menninga

MENNINGA - CUPERAS FAMILY

F345

Sjolle Menninga was born June 2, 1860. He served in the army in Holland. There were seven children in his family: Seitz, Claus, Sjolle, William, Rhino, Jacoba, and Martha.

Sjolle married Jane Cuperas on Mar. 1, 1888.

Jane Cuperas was born Oct. 3, 1860 northwest of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood. She attended Battle Ridge School. There were six children in her family: Jane, Ben, Mrs. Meyer, two girls who married Klein and moved to Nebraska, and a small brother who died on the ship on the way to America.

After their marriage Sjolle and Jane lived northwest of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood. To this union six children were born: Yella, Letitia, John, Allie, Henrietta, and Bernie.

Sjolle died June 20, 1906, and Jane died May 12, 1947.

John S. Menninga was born Dec. 22, 1891. He attended Battle Ridge School and helped his mother farm, as his father had died at an early age. John married Margaret Den Burger on Dec. 12, 1917.

Margaret Den Burger was born on Oct. 19, 1894, to John and Lena (Westerkamp) Den Burger, who were married in 1892. John and Lena had five daughters: Margaret, Alice, Marie, Johana, and Bertha. Margaret was born on a farm north of Pella and attended Bell School. Later the family moved to Pella where she attended Central University in Jordan Hall, the first building on campus. She then taught at Bunker Hill School.

John and Margaret had three children born to them: Janet (Mrs. Arie Jr. Van Waardhuizen), Vernon D. Menninga, and Arvan Menninga.

John died Oct. 4, 1980, and Margaret died Jan. 19, 1961.

Vernon D. Menninga was born Jan. 9, 1927. He married Margaret De Zwarte on Feb. 14, 1947.

by Vernon Menninga

MENNINGA, JOHN AND HELEN

F346

Klaus Menninga was born in Friesland, The Netherlands May 22, 1864, to Yella and Hendrikje Menninga. He came to America in approximately 1880. He married Dirkie Van Houweling (born July 25, 1867), on Feb. 28, 1889. They had three children: Hendrikje, John N., and Yella N. They lived on a farm one and one-half miles south of Galesburg, Ia. The family attended the Galesburg Christian Reformed Church and the children attended the Galesburg School. Klaus died at age 78 on Feb. 22, 1943, and Dirkie at age 63 on Sept. 10, 1930. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Bastian Van Gilst was born in 1858 in The Netherlands. He married Tanneka De Haan was born May 27, 1861, also in The Netherlands. They had four children: Peter, Marie, Frances, and Bertha. They came to America in early 1894 where six more children were born: Helen, Lizzie, Matthew, Hubert, Adrianne, and Anne who died in infancy. Bastian Van Gilst died at age 64 on Jan. 17, 1923. His wife Tanneka died on Jan. 23, 1955, at age 93. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery in Mahaska Co.

Wedding Photo, January 20, 1916: John and Helen (Van Gilst) Menninga

Front: Teunis and Francis Blom; Back: Anna.

John Menninga, born Apr. 10, 1892, and Helen Van Gilst, born July 15, 1894, at Leighton, were married Jan. 20, 1916, at the home of the bride's parents on a farm north of Pella, by the Rev. Gilbert G. Haan, pastor of the Second Christian Reformed Church of Pella. They lived on a farm a short distance southwest of Galesburg, Ia. Two sons were born: Nickolas on Jan. 2, 1918, and Bernie Sept. 15, 1919.

In 1925 John and Helen transferred their church membership from the Galesburg Christian Reformed Church to the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

It wasn't long before John was afflicted with tuberculosis which necessitated his having to go to Bethesda Sanitarium in Denver, Colo. for treatment. In order to be near him, Helen obtained a job in the sanitarium. Year-old Bernie was cared for by his grandparents, the Klaus Menningas while Nickolas stayed with his uncle and aunt, Henry and Marie De Zwarte and their son Marion. It was hard leaving the children behind knowing it would be a long time before they would see them again. After approximately a year of treatment, they were able to return home but John never fully recovered. He died Oct. 8, 1929, at the age of 37. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

John's death left Helen alone to provide for herself and her two young sons. There was no social security in those days to depend on and life was difficult for a widow. With the help of family, friends and good neighbors, she managed to stay on the farm with her boys. At the age of 12, Nick became a diabetic. Fortunately insulin had been discovered a few years previously or he could not have survived for very long. He was put on a very strict diet with every ounce of food having to be weighed. To make circumstances worse, the depression years followed. With low farm prices, the high cost of insulin, Helen often despaired of what the future would bring. With a strong faith and trust in her Lord, she came through these trying times. The boys attended and graduated from the Galesburg School.

On Feb. 12, 1941, Nick married Ella Vermeer, daughter of Gerrit and Anna Vermeer. They lived one year on an adjoining farm before moving to a farm two miles east of Pella. Bernie remained on the farm with his mother until Feb. 11, 1943, when he married Leona De Jong, daughter of Bert and Nellie De John from Sully, Ia. At this time Helen moved to Pella, renting an apartment in the large house at 807 Liberty, next to the First Reformed Church parking lot, purchasing the home in Oct. 1945. She worked for a short time at De Jong Seed Store which was located on the west side of the 700 block on Main Street. Then she started working at Jaarsma's Bakery, working there until she retired. In the early 1970's she sold her house to the First Reformed Church and moved into the Beerends Apartments a block west of the Pella Post Office. When her health started failing she moved into Hilltop North for about a year until it became necessary for her to go to the Pella Nursing Home where she was when she died Feb. 3, 1986, at the age of 91 years. She is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. She lived to enjoy her six grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren. The grandchildren are Larry, Bryce, Douglas, and Sheryl, children of Nick and Ella Menninga; Deyonna and Daryl, children of Bernie and Leona Menninga. The great grandchildren are Terri and Alan, children of Larry and Carolyn (Vanden Berg) Menninga; Randall, Michelle, and Tanya, children of Deyonne and Michael Icenbice; Angela, Marc, and Matthew, children of Daryl and Linda (Nikkel) Menninga; and Sara, Julie, Lee, and

Lisa, children of Sheryl and Jerry Van Groningen.

by Ella Menninga

MENNINGA, NICK AND ELLA

F347

Front, l-r: Cheryl (Menninga) Van Groningen, Ella Menninga, Larry Menninga; Back, l-r: Bryce Menninga, Douglas Menninga.

Nickolas, son of John and Helen Van Gilst Menninga, was born Jan. 2, 1918, at their farm home near Galesburg, Ia. He had a younger brother Bernie. When Nick was 11, his father died. The boys and their mother stayed on the farm struggling through the depression years. On Feb. 12, 1941 he married Ella, daughter of Gerrit A. and Anna Blom Ver Meer in a double wedding ceremony with Ella's brother Tunis who married Dorothy De Zwarte. The wedding took place at the Ver Meer farm home two and one-half miles east of Pella.

The first year of married life was on a farm joining his mother's farm near Galesburg. Then they moved to a farm two miles east of Pella, a short distance from where Ella grew up, and her brother and wife now lived. Arie and Alyda Thomassen formerly owned this farm.

Nick and Ella had four children: Larry Duane, born Oct. 17, 1942, Bryce Gene born Jan. 17, 1945, Douglas Loren born Apr. 29, 1948, and Sheryl Lynn born Jan. 6, 1952. There were ten beginners at Wheat Grow School the year Larry started school, an unusually large number for a school district. Pupils in all eight grades, with ten beginners, along with the janitor work, were too much for one teacher, so a part time teacher was hired to teach the beginners. All the Menninga children attended Wheat Grow, same school their mother had attended, until Larry was ready for eighth grade, when they all transferred to Pella Christian Grade School.

It was also apparent by this time that Wheat Grow would soon close to be incorporated into the Pella Community School District. All four children graduated from Pella Christian High School.

Having been a diabetic since age 12, Nick remained in quite good health until the late fifties, when he started losing his eyesight due to diabetic retinopathy. Many specialists were consulted, little could be done, and in a few years most of his sight was gone. A few years later, due to an injury and poor circulation, his right leg had to be amputated just below the knee. He was fitted with an artificial limb, received training at the Iowa Commission for the Blind, and worked mornings at Vermeer Manufacturing for several years until the day of his death. Nick enjoyed fishing. On the afternoon of July 15, 1965, he and his son Doug went to the Skunk River near Peoria and fished for a few hours from their small boat. Ready to return home, they climbed the steep river bank to their pickup, got in, and Nick slumped over, dead of a heart attack - a very traumatic experience for Doug. Fortunately, they were already in the pickup when it happened. The day was also Nick's mother's birthday and a party had been planned for her that evening. He was 47 years old and he was buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

After his father's death, Larry took charge of the family farm. On Jan. 4, 1968, he married Carolyn Vanden Berg. She was born Jan. 2, 1947. They have two children. Terri Alayne was born Oct. 20, 1968, seven weeks prematurely, weighing four and one-half pounds. She is a senior at Pella Christian High. Their son Alan Duane, born Nov. 17, 1971 is now a freshman at Pella Christian High School.

Larry, like his father, became a diabetic at the age of 12. At approximately age 30, complications afflicted him, including loss of most of his eyesight and kidney deterioration. Unable to continue farming, in 1981 they sold most of the land, keeping 40 acres and all the buildings so they could continue to live there. They are now janitors at the Pella National Bank and Tri-County Veterinarian Clinic. When his kidneys deteriorated to the point where he would soon have to go on dialysis, he was placed on the donor waiting list at University Hospitals in Iowa City. This meant making arrangements with Iowa City so that they could reach a member of the family at all times day or night, should a donor become available. The call came on June 1, 1985 and in a seven-hour surgery he received both a kidney and a pancreas. Kidney transplants had been done for several years; however, he was one of the first to receive a pancreas in Iowa City. Up to now the organs have been working well. For the rest of his life, he will have to take a number of drugs including cyclosporine, a very expensive drug, to keep his body from rejecting the organs. Total cost of the surgery was $37,456.

Bryce Menninga graduated from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., then enlisted in the air force to become a pilot, receiving his training in Texas. He has been stationed in Tucson, Ariz., had one year of combat in Thailand, two years in Germany, several years in Honolulu, Hawaii, and is now finishing his 20-year career in Layton, Utah. He met, and in Mar. of 1983, married Kathy Amos. They met in Hawaii, her father a career man in the coast guard.

Douglas also graduated from Calvin College. He is employed by the Corrections System of the state of Michigan as a computer programmer in Lansing. He and his wife Debbie Stanley, whom he met at work, live in De Wit, a suburb of Lansing. They were married Aug. 2, 1984.

Sheryl graduated from Dordt College in Sioux Center, Ia. While there she met Jerry Van Groningen. After graduation they were married on Aug. 9, 1974, the same day President Nixon resigned from the presidency after Watergate. Jerry went on to seminary and is now a minister in the Christian Reformed Church. They are presently serving the Calvin Christian Reformed Church in Rock Valley, Ia. They have four children: Sara Ellen, Julia, Kathryn, Gerard Lee, and Lisa Nicole.

Ella Menninga has lived at 1115 Broadway for 19 years. Her life has been filled with her children, grandchildren, traveling, a love for growing flowers, doing ceramics, and her part time job as secretary of the First Christian Reformed Church, where she has been a lifelong member with a gratitude to the Lord for day by day mercy and care.

by Ella Menninga

MENNINGA, SIETSE AND LIZZIE (STEENHOEK)

F348

Lizzie, the sixth child of Gysbert and Henrietta Steenhoek, married Sietse Menninga on Mar. 2, 1899. They moved to a farm eight miles west of Pella. On Nov. 30, 1926, they moved to the little town of Otley where Sietse died on Apr. 17, 1935. Lizzie had their house moved to Pella close to the West Market Park in Nov., 1937, since his wish was that she move to Pella after he was gone. She died Oct. 20, 1938. Sietse came to the U.S. with his family when he was 14 years old. He worked most of his married years for farmers in the Bethel neighborhood. To this union six children were born: Hattie (1900), Gysbert (1902), Yella and Aarie (1903) (baby Arie only lived two weeks), Henry (1905), and Henrietta (1907). There was a lot of timber on the farm they bought. Most of it was cleared off and plowed to raise crops. They built a new house in 1906, using some native lumber, and help from friends and neighbors. They cured their own meat, raised and canned all their own vegetables and fruit. She washed with a hand-powered washing machine; later using a gasoline engine. He always raised a lot of hogs and fed some cattle. They helped build a Christian Reformed Church in Otley around 1905 or 1907, of which they were charter members. He served on the school board several years.

by Henrietta Bogaards

MENNINGA, WILLIAM AND MINNIE (KEEGEL)

F349

William (Willem) Menninga was born in Friesland, Netherlands, on March 3, 1866, to Yella and Hendrika Gasterland Menninga, one of eight children. He came to America around age 16. He met Minnie Keegel, who was born near Pella, Iowa, on Oct. 22, 1870, to Jacob and Susan Dieleman Keegel, (Susan's parents were Susan Bojea Dieleman, Huguenots of French descent, and William Dieleman.) Jacob's parents were Henrietta Sybrance Keegel and Peter keegel who came to Pella with Henry P. Scholte. (Henrietta Keegel loaned money to H. Scholte to help established Pella.) William and Minnie's parents emigrated to Pella from Holland. Minnie's father, Jacob Keegel, served in the Civil War and was captured and held prisoner at Tilton, Georgia. He was 185 pounds when captured, and was down to 89 pounds at his release. Minnie's mother, Susan, passed away when Minnie was four years old. Minnie was raised by her Aunt Henrietta (Mrs. John Van Steenwyk).

William and Minnie chose Jan. 6, 1898, for their wedding date. Their occupation was farming. William Menninga died on Aug. 21, 1932, at age 66 near Galesburg, Iowa. Minnie Menninga passed away on Dec. 13, 1946, at age 76 at Oskaloosa, Iowa.

Four children were born to William and Minnie:

1. Yella W. Menninga, born Jan. 18, 1899. Yella married Maude DeBruyn, born Aug. 30, 1901. Maude died in Pella, Iowa on Sept. 6, 1962; Yella died in Reasnor, Iowa, on Oct. 28, 1967. They are both buried near Galesburg, Iowa.

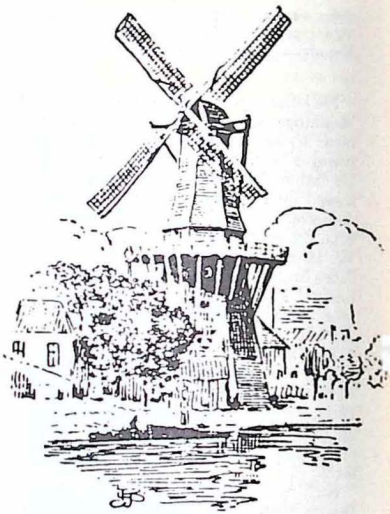
2. Henry W. Menninga, born Dec. 14, 1900. Henry married Lettie Zickel, born July 11, 1902. Henry died in Pella, Iowa, on Nov. 28, 1947, and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Pella, Iowa. Lettie resides in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

3. Susan Menninga, born Feb. 21, 1903. Susan married John Kelderman born Aug. 15, 1900. Susan died in Oskaloosa, Iowa, on Feb. 27, 1960; John died in Oskaloosa on July 8, 1984. They are buried in Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa.

4. Rena Menninga, born Apr. 20, 1904. Rena married Gerrit Rempe, born Sept. 14, 1891. Gerrit died in Oskaloosa, Iowa, on March 15, 1983; Rena died in Oskaloosa on May 19, 1986. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Iowa.

After the death of William, Minnie made her home in Pella. We always enjoyed going there. She was an excellent cook, and she would come and visit us often. She told me a lot about when she was young. She would help chop wood and do many other things that were the custom of that day. She had a strong faith and told it like it was. I was seven years old when Grandpa William died. I remember him speaking Dutch when we would visit there. William and Minnie were members of the First Christian Reformed Church in Pella, Iowa. They are buried in the Oakwood Cemetery of Pella.

by Wilma (Kelderman) Stam



Left: Susan (Keegel) Rapp; Right front: Hettie (Keegel) Jones; Right back: Grandmother Minnie (Keegel) Menninga.

Menninga Family (Minenga in Dutch), taken in 1931 in Pella, Ia. Front, l-r: Darlene Menninga (daughter of Henry and Lettie), Maude (DeBruyn) Menninga, Carroll Menninga held by Yella W. Menninga, William Menninga, holding granddaughter Sara Rempe, Minnie (Keegel) Menninga holding grandson Wilfred Rempe, and Wilma Kelderman (daughter of John and Susie); Back, l-r: Lettie (Zickel) Menninga, Henry Menninga holding Wilbur Menninga, Rena (Menninga) Rempe, Gerrit Rempe, Susan (Menninga) Kelderman, Tunis Kelderman held by John Kelderman.

William and Minnie (Keegel) Menninga

MEPPELINK, BERT AND JENNIE (VOS)

F350

Lambertus Hermanus (Bert) Meppelink, the oldest child of John and Jane Van Engen Meppelink, was born May 11, 1878, near Pella. His childhood was spent in the Pella area with the exception of a few years in Adams, Neb. The family moved to a farm west of Sully in the early 1900's. Adriana (Jennie) Vos, the daughter of William and Claziena Van Mersbergen Vos, was born Sept. 27, 1885, in Genderen, Noord Brabant, The Netherlands. She married Bert Meppelink on Sept. 1, 1915, in Sully, Ia.

Five children were born on their farm at the west edge of Sully. Jane arrived first on July 26, 1917. She taught school in Michigan and Montana where she met and married Peter Bos on Mar. 27, 1942. They have one son, four daughters, and eight grandchildren. Peter died June 28, 1979. Claziena was born Jan. 14, 1919, and now resides in Fair Haven. She was employed in the Rolscreen office. Gertrude was born Apr. 12, 1921, and died Oct. 26, 1950. Wilma was born Nov. 1, 1925, and married John H. Vandevoort on Nov. 23, 1944. They have four sons and five grandchildren. The only son of Bert and Jennie is John Lambertus, who was born Feb. 27, 1929. He married Evelyn Atema of Patterson, N.J., on Aug. 8, 1951. They have three daughters, one son, and four grandchildren. John served pastorates in Colorado, Illinois, and Michigan, and is now Director of Pastoral Services for the Holland Home in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Bert and Jennie (Vos) Meppelink. Front, l-r: Bert, John L., and Jennie. Back, l-r: Wilma, Jane, Claziena, and Gertrude.

Bert and jennie moved to a farm at the west edge of Pella in 1941. Bert died six months later on Sept. 8, 1941. Jennie continued to live there until 1950 when she and Claziena moved to 606 West Second St. Jennie reached her 87th birthday and died three days later on Sept. 30, 1972. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery.

by John Lambertus Meppelink

MEPPELINK, HERMAN PAUL

F351

Herman Paul Meppelink was born Dec. 15, 1910, in Leighton, Iowa, to Nickolus Meppelink (1881-1956) and Jennie Ver Meer (1884-1955). He had one brother, Gerald, who was born June 26, 1912, also at Leighton. Gerald married Leona Newendorp in april of 1936

Herman Paul Meppelink family, 1963. Front: Emma and Herman Paul Meppelink; Back: Alven, Gene, and Marvin Meppelink.

and their family history is recorded elsewhere in this book.

On Mar. 26, 1936, Herman Paul married Emma De Bruin. Emma was born Mar. 15, 1915, east of Pella, to Thomas De Bruin (1879-1967) and Bertha Bogaards (1884-1959). Following their marriage, the acreage at 200 Sharon Road became their home; and Nick and Jennie built a new home at 513 Franklin Street where Gerald now resides. The house at 200 Sharon Road was rebuilt in about 1955 with part of the basement from the old house being used in the new one.

Herman Paul and Emma had three sons, all of whom were born in Oskaloosa. Gene, born Aug. 25, 1937, is a farmer living on his own farm at Rural Route #3, Knoxville. Marvin, born Oct. 29, 1939, is also a farmer; he owns a farm west of Pella and also the home where he lives at 1439 Country Club Drive, Pella. Alven, born Nov. 6, 1944, is employed in the Sales Department at the Mahaska Bottling Company (Pepsi Cola), and owns the home where he lives at 1007 Mabel Street in Oskaloosa.

Although the youngest, Alven, was the first to be bitten by the "marriage bug." He had been stationed at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona, for almost three years and was home on leave in June of 1968 when he met his future wife at the home of his Pella Community High School classmate, Stan Klein, in Oskaloosa. Before his two-week leave was over, he was notified to return to Tucson for special training. He was being reassigned to Da Nang, Vietnam. During his 11-month tour of duty in war-torn South Vietnam, Alven and Shirley sent cassette tapes and letters back and forth, clung to God's promise of safety in Psalm 91, and prayed for the day when they would be reunited. In Aug. of 1969, those prayers were answered when Herman Paul, Emma, and Shirley drove to Kansas City, Missouri, to pick Alven up at a cousin's house, Erma Boender Dalton, who had met his plane at the airport.

Alven was married Dec. 20, 1969, to Shirley De Vore, born Feb. 2, 1948, at Leon, Iowa, to Raymond De Vore (1927) and Leora Jensen (1927-). Alven and Shirley, a free-lance writer, have lived in Oskaloosa since their marriage. Their son, David Paul, was born there Nov. 13, 1970. Shirley has had five miscarriages which they attribute to Alven's exposure to the toxic defoiliant, Agent Orange, while he was stationed in Vietnam. They were part of a class-action lawsuit against the chemical companies who manufactured Agent Orange which was settled out of court for $180 million dollars in the Fall of 1984. The lawyers have been paid; but, to date, none of the veterans or their families have received any compensation.

Marvin married Ilene Lanser Vande Voort July 28, 1982. A more complete family history on Marvin and Ilene appears elsewhere in this book. Gene, the oldest of the three sons, remains single.

Herman Paul farmed with his two older sons, owned his own gas business in Pella known as Meppelink Oil Company, and drove a Pella Community School bus for 20 years. He retired in 1975. After a long struggle with emphysema, he died on Jan. 10, 1985, and is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. Emma continues to live in the home that she and H.P. shared for almost 49 years.

by Shirley A. Meppelink

MEPPELINK, HERMANUS AND ENGELINA (TEN BOSCH)

F352

The history of Hermanus Meppelink can be traced to the middle of the 18th century. Hermanus was of the 4th generation. He was born February 20, 1849 in Schoenebeek, in the province of Drenthe. The family lived on Meppel Straat (Street). The name Meppelink means "son of Meppel." Hermanus and his brother Jan came to the United States in 1868 when Hermanus was 19 years old.

In 1864 the Nicolaus Ten Bosch family came to the United States from Ede, Gelderland in the Netherlands. The first news they heard when they arrived in New York was that President Lincoln had been assassinated. Tragedy struck the Ten Bosch family on their way to their new home. Their three young sons died of cholera. Two were buried in the Atlantic Ocean. When the youngest died on the train on the way to Iowa, the mother carried her baby, wrapped in a shawl, and told no one of his death. She wanted him buried in Pella, their destination. They traveled by train to Eddyville and then to Pella by wagon where they lived with relatives for a time.

Hermanus Meppelink and Engelina Ten Bosch, born April 8, 1856 were married March 5, 1875. Their first home was a log cabin located on a knoll in the western part of Mahaska Co. Their first child Swaantje, was probably born there.

Later they purchased a farm in Mahaska County about 5 miles north of Leighton where they raised their family of two sons and seven daughters. All the children attended the one room school, Black Oak No. 7, located on their farm. Even though the family was large, they often provided room and board for the teacher, who almost became one of the family. All the children took piano lessons.

The Meppelinks became charter members of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church when it was organized in 1893. Hermanus was elected elder and continued in that office, later as an honorary elder, until his death. When the Farmers Savings Bank of Leighton was organized in March, 1911, Hermanus was one of the first directors. He was a strong supporter of a plan for a cemetery near Leighton and Evergreen Cemetery, north of Leighton became a reality. His daughter, Mrs. Bertha Van Duren was the second person to be buried there.

In 1915 the Meppelinks bought an 80 acre farm just east of Leighton. They lived here until they built a new home in the town of Leighton and moved there. They lived there until their deaths – Hermanus on Christmas Day 1924 and Engelina on December 7, 1939. Interment was in Evergreen Cemetery.

Of the eleven children of Hermanus and Engelina Meppelink only one servives – Jannetta Engelina Meppelink Groenendyk. Two children died in infancy. The others were; Zwaantje (1876-1946) married February 2, 1908 to Bert Vande Lune (1877-1966), Nicholas (1881-1956) married January 13, 1910 to Jennie Ver Meer (1884-1955), Bertha (1883-1918) married June 26, 1907 to Albert Van Duren (1885-1963), Hermina (1886-

Family of Hermanus Meppelink. Back, l-r: Bertha Van Duren, Herman Meppelink, Nickolas Meppelink, Minnie Van Heukelom, Anna De Bruin; Front, l-r: Hermianus Meppelink, Jannetta Groendyke, Susan Vander Lune, Rena Meppelink, Nellie Van Zee (child), Angeline (Ten Bosch) Meppelink.

1977) married February 27, 1908 to William Van Heukelom (1886-1960), Anna (1887-1972) married February 22, 1912 to Jacob M. De Bruin (1888-1970), Herman (1893-1955) married January 26, 1916 to Grace Schutt (1895-1976), Rina Jacoba (1895-1975), Jannetta (1898-) married March 2, 1926 to Cornelius Groenendyk (1904-1986), Pieternella (1901-1972) married February 14, 1923 to Martin Van Zee (1900-).

Rina Jacoba (Rena) never married. She began nurse's training in 1917 and became a much respected nurse known as "Mep" at Mercy Hospital and Clinic in Oskaloosa. Most of the Meppelink children married and established homes on farms in Mahaska County and many of their descendants still live here. All of the deceased children of the Meppelinks, except two, are buried near their parents at Evergreen Cemetery.

There are 28 grandchildren plus 113 great grandchildren, 131 great-great grandchildren, and 5 great-great-great grandchildren scattered throughout the United States.

by Mrs. A. Vander Wilt

MEPPELINK, JOHN (JAN) AND JANE VAN ENGEN

F353

Jan Meppelink was born Feb. 27, 1852, in Schoonebeek, Drenthe, The Netherlands. Until 1880, Schoonebeek was a part of the village of Dalen. He came to the U.S. with his brother Hermanus in 1867, when Jan was 15 years of age.

Geert and Geertje Schoemakers Van Engen arrived in Pella in 1866 from Drenthe. Their oldest child, Jane, was born Dec. 6, 1855, in Schoonebeek. She married Jan Meppelink in 1877.

Jan and Jane farmed near Pella and then moved to Adams, Nebr. They returned to Iowa in a few years and farmed east of Pella. Jan died June 30, 1896, at the age of 44, and was buried in Black Oak Cemetery in Mahaska Co. Jane was left with their five sons and two daughters, ranging in age from 18 to as young as six months.

Jane moved to a farm at the west edge of Sully in the early 1900's and with the help of her children provided for her family and a foster child, Isabella (May) Willamon. May came to live with them at the age of four after her mother's death. Jane and May moved to Pella after Jane's children were married. Jane later returned to Sully, but again moved to Pella in 1935 to live at the Home for the Aged (Fair Haven). She died in Aug. 1937, at the age of 81, with burial in Black Oak Cemetery.

Jan and Jane's children were: Lambertus Hermanus (Bert) (1878-1941) married Sept. 1, 1915, to Jennie Vos (1885-1972); Gertie (1880-1980) married Jan. 15, 1903, to Antonie T. Van Zee (1874-1952); Gerrit (1883-1938) married Mar. 5, 1908, to Dena Rempe (1885-1972); Herman J. (1884-1971) married Dec. 23, 1909, to Ella Veldhuizen (1889-1972); John (1887-1972) married Feb. 27, 1913, to Christina Terlouw (1887-1936); Susie (1889-1955) married Jan. 3, 1917, to John VanDer Hart (1885-1982); and Henry E. (1895-1956) married Feb. 21, 1922, to Minnie Veldhuizen (1899-1942). May (1904-1963) married Aug. 30, 1926, to Melvin Van Houweling (1901-1983).

by John Lambertus Meppelink

MEPPELINK, NICKOLAS

F354

Nickolas Meppelink, born Feb. 12, (1881-1956) and Jennie Ver Meer, born Oct. 30, (1884-1955) were married Jan. 13, 1910. They lived on a farm owned by his parents, Hermanus Meppelink, born Feb. 20, (1849-1924) and Engelina Ten Bosch Meppelink, born Apr. 8, (1856-1938). This farm was located five miles northwest of Leighton. They lived on this farm one year before moving into Leighton, Ia., where Nickolas operated a general store. In 1913 they moved to a farm five miles east and one-half mile south of Pella. They farmed here for four years, then moved to 812 East Second Street in Pella. In 1918, Nickolas became a rural mail carrier. That same year they moved to an acreage at 200 Sharon Road. Here he could keep a team of horses to use on his mail route when road conditions made traveling by car impossible. He delivered mail until his retirement in 1951. They built a house at 513 Franklin in 1936, where they lived the remainder of their lives.

Leona (Newendorp) Meppelink and Gerald Meppelink

They became the parents of two sons while they resided in Leighton, Ia. Herman Paul was born Dec. 15, (1910-1985). He married Emma De Bruin who was born Mar. 15, 1915. They lived on the acreage at 200 Sharon Road. Gerald Meppelink was born June 26, 1912. He married Leona Mae Newendorp who was born Nov. 7, 1917, (1917-1980). She was the daughter of Charles and Carrie Vroom Newendorp. Gerald and Leona lived on his father's farm five miles east and one-half mile south of Pella. In 1946 they moved to a farm two miles east and one-fourth mile south of Pella. They lived there until they bought a farm in 1952 which was located four miles west of Pella on Highway 163, then one mile north. In 1967 they moved to the home his parents had built at 513 Franklin, but continued farming until retirement in 1978. After retiring, they traveled extensively, both with their camper and bus tours until Leona's health no longer permitted it. A few years after Leona's death, Gerald again took up traveling, mostly with tour groups, but also spending some of the winter months in Southern Texas, living in his camper in a trailer court. Included in his travels have been visits to several European countries and Hawaii. He has shared his trips with family

John and Jane Van Engen Meppelink. Front, l-r: Henry, Jane, Gertie; Back, l-r: Herman, Gerrit, Bert, John, Susie.

Front: Jennie (Ver Meer) Meppelink and Nickolas Meppelink; Back: Gerald Meppelink and Herman Paul Meppelink.

and friends by means of his photography, which he enjoys.

by Gerald Meppelink

MEULPOLDER, LANE
F355

For many years Lane and Nettie Meupolder marched in Tulip Time representing the Dutch family.

Leendert N. Meulpolder, better known as Lane, born July 12, 1899, in Heerasendskirki, Zeeland, The Netherlands to Peter and Adrianna Wisse. He was the 10th of a family of 12 children. He came to America in Apr. 1923, arriving in the Pella area. His first job was working in the field with six horses. Needless to say it showed he had no experience in farming. When a friend asked him if he wanted to go along to California he was happy for an out from the farming, then left going to Pasadena. He had been here three weeks. There he was employed as a gardener for a wealthy family where he was to use his employer's car never having driven before. Language still a barrier. He started to back from the garage but a wall got in his way; so much for driving a car. In 1923 his two brothers, Marinus and Dan, asked him to join them in the restaurant business which they had purchased in 1919. So he returned to Pella and after 25 years the brothers decided to call it enough. Central Park Cafe was well known for its best ice cream and good meals. They were very caring men and were known to give Central College student employees money to go to a game. On Feb. 28, 1929, Lane married Nettie Bratt. She died Nov. 8, 1963.

Central Park was sold to Eldon Tharp on Jan. 20, 1944. Lane and Nettie moved to the "Fox Farm" west of Pella to raise fox. They were no monetary help there. Later Lane aspired for his Real Estate Brokers license, so that was his vocation till he became custodian of Third Reformed Church. He also had the treasurer's work for the church many years.

Nettie and Lane had no children so when a niece of Nettie's died and left a baby girl behind, they adopted Mary Lou. She is now married to Elbert Scheffers. They had also lived on Washington St., had a house built at 813 Franklin, then in 1958 built the house at 1106 Main where he lived the remainder of his life.

On Aug. 12, 1965, Lane remarried to Stella Rozandaal. She had worked for Menninga Insurance for 15 years as a secretary. After their marriage she was a homemaker until 1971 when she worked as a domestic at Hilltop Manor for 15 years resigning Mar. 19, 1986.

Lane felt it an honor to feed ducks at Sunken gardens next to their home. He watched over them like they were his children many years. Lane began to suffer heart trouble in early 1984 and after a short illness died May 1, 1984. He outlived all his brothers and sisters. In Sept. 1984 Stella moved to 910 Columbus where she now lives.

by Stella J. Meulpolder

MEULPOLDER, MARINUS AND LILLY
F356

Marinus and Lilly Meulpolder, Lorraine and Stuart. 1948 photo.

Marinus Meulpolder was born Dec. 10, 1892, in Klootinge, province of Zeeland, Holland. His older brother Dan came to the United States in 1910. By the year 1913, he had saved enough money to send for Marinus. The two brothers worked in California saving their money. They spent a nickel a month on themselves for an ice cream cone. The brothers attended night school in California to learn English. Marinus served in the Army in World War I. By 1920, they had enough money to send for the next brother Lane, and that year Marinus came to Pella to join his brother Dan in the restaurant business.

Lilly Margit Sofia Wesslund was born in Ostersund, Sweden, on Sept. 28, 1898. She was employed by the Swedish government as a telephone operator. She took a year's leave of absence to come to America and help her sister Mia who was married to Dan Meulpolder. Mia was expecting her first child. When Marinus first met Lilly, he told Dan in Dutch that this was the girl he was going to marry. It was a three-year courtship with Lilly moving to California to be with her mother. Finally on Dec. 10, 1924, Lilly and Marinus were married in California. They returned to Pella in April, 1925. Lilly did not return to Sweden for 42 years.

Settling into Pella, Lilly and Marinus paid $8000 cash for their home at 809 West Second Street in 1930. The house was built to their specifications with lots of room to accommodate their growing family. Lilly gave birth to Lorraine on Aug. 24, 1927, and to Stuart L. on Oct. 27, 1934.

Lilly and Mia provided for their family and friends a distinctive meld of Swedish and Dutch traditions. They were independent women who took their children on summer vacations and to the Iowa State Fair while the

husbands worked. The children learned to understand Swedish as their mothers used their native tongue when using the telephone or when they didn't want the children to know what they were discussing. All the children were very close, and to this day, Mary (Mia and Dan's daughter) and Lorraine are more like sisters than cousins. Their combined offspring know them as "Aunt Mary" and "Aunt Lorraine".

The Meulpolders were and continue to be members of the Second Reformed Church. Lilly belongs to the Ladies Aid and at one time their quilting group. Lilly and Mia quilted blankets for the Holland war effort during World War II and received plaques in gratitude from the Queen of Holland.

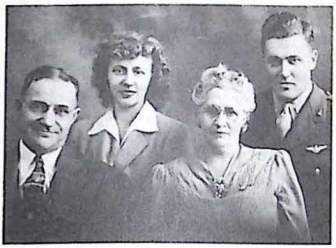
Marinus died in May, 1959, from complications resulting from Parkinson's disease.

Lilly has resided at Fair Haven since Dec. 1966. She has always been active. When she was 81 she walked four miles in a walkathon. Even though she has broken both hips, she remains active. She is an avid reader and knitter. In Aug. 1987, she went on a trip to Oklahoma to her son's home to celebrate her 89th birthday.

by Lorraine Oonk Synhorst

MEUPOLDER, DAN AND MIA (SVEA MARIA)

F357



The Dan Meulpolder family. Dan, his wife Svea Maria, daughter Mary Lillian and son Dan Ray. "Mia" the mother, was born in Sweden. Dan was born in Holland. They met in Calif. where both had immigrated and came to Pella in 1919.

Svea Maria Wesslund was born in Sundsvall, Sweden (1888-1949). Mia (as she was known) came to the U.S. by boat in about 1910 and traveled to California to live with a retired missionary aunt. She soon found employment as a cook for some very wealthy people.

Dan Meupolder was born in Kloetinge, Holland (1889-1962). He often told of saving his pennies as a young boy to pay for his dream of coming to America. He was able to book passage about 1910 and went to a friend in Michigan and worked as a stone mason. Being a stone mason was not his dream, so he went to California where an uncle got him a job in a copper mine. This was even worse so he quit and moved to Pasadena, Calif., where he was hired by a landscaping firm. He soon established a good reputation with his gardening skills and advanced quickly. Dan and Mia met at a night school they attended to learn the English language. They were married in Pasadena and saved their money to come to Iowa to buy a farm.

In about 1919, Dan took a train to Newton, Ia., and was met by Mr. Van Weley who told him about a cafe for sale in Pella. Mr. Donai asked $2,000 for Bart's Cafe. Dan called Mia in California and she agreed it was a good idea. Her cooking talents were put to good use and soon they had a thriving business. Restaurant work is hard with long hours and Mr. Donai expected them to give up in two months. He didn't know the Dutchman and his Swede!

On Apr. 4, 1921, they had a son they named Dan Ray and on June 24, 1924, a girl they named Mary Lillian.

In the mid-thirties Dan started the Silver Fox Farm just a mile west of Pella and also planted an apple orchard. The orchard was ruined with the Nov. 11, 1940, frost. Dan and his brother Lane "pelted out" the fox farm in 1945 because of the Russian influx of furs on the market.

When Tulip Time started in Pella they became very involved. The Meupolder family soon had original Dutch costumes and joined the parade. Mia looked more like a Dutch lady than a Swede when riding the Parade of Provinces float, and Dan was the originator of the "Whole Dutch Family." They did this, plus serving a host of people at Central Park Cafe. Dan became Park Commissioner so he could help plan and plant many tulip beds in Pella's many parks.

Dan was a staunch Democrat and enjoyed a political argument. He especially liked having Pete Kuyper come into the restaurant for a cup of coffee so they could do verbal battle.

Living in a Dutch town must not have been easy in the 20's and 30's but the Swedish lady won everyone's hearts. She became very active in Second Reformed Church and the Central College Auxiliary. Their home was always open to college students and friends. Also, during the depression they even decided their home was "marked" because of the number of hoboes who stopped for a good meal.

The restaurant business took Dan away from home most of the time. So one morning Mia went next door to VanZante's and said, "Gen, let's drive to Schilders and get meat for dinner." "But Mia," she said, "you can't drive a car!" "Well," Mia replied, "we'll try it anyway." Heaven helped them as they made it to town and back. Mia had her wheels!

During World War II Mia opened her house to donations of clothing and blankets which they boxed and sent to war-ravaged Holland. In January of 1944 their son, Dan, was shot down in the Pacific by a Japanese zero. He was a torpedo bomber pilot in the Marine Corps. Their intense grief was shared by the wonderful people of Pella.

Mia and Dan Meulpolder have passed away and are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Mary Du Pree

MEYER, PETER RICHARD AND BERTHA EMMA (BRANDERHORST)

F358

Left to Right: Mary, Pete, and Bertha Meyer, taken in Rehoboth, N. Mex. in the early 1950's.

Bertha and Pete Meyer, 50th Wedding Anniversary.

Bertha Emma Branderhorst was born in The Netherlands on Sept. 16, 1899 in North Brabant. I was the eighth child of a family of 14 to William Marius Branderhorst (1864 – Jan. 10, 1944) and Maria Johanna Vander Beek (1869 – Oct. 26, 1957).

I was nine years old when we as a family came to America in Sept. 1908. The boat had just made its first trip across. It was very luxurious, like a little city. The food was

excellent and the service likewise. I spent much of the time on deck, watching the big waves and whales. Some of the older children were seasick, maybe mostly homesick, as they had to leave their boyfriends in Holland. After a few weeks we reached New York, and to see the beautiful Statue of Liberty was indeed very exciting. The trip from New York to Iowa was not so pleasant, as accommodations were not so great, especially for Mother, as she was caring for a three-month-old baby, my youngest brother. The agent of the boat had presented us girls with a beautiful doll and we took turns carrying it. After two days traveling by train and on the last leg of our journey, my sister tripped over some luggage and broke the beautiful doll. We were all heart broken.

When we arrived in Pella the next spring we moved to Prairie City to a farm. We had to go to a country school house. It was very exciting to walk a mile to school in the winter over high snow banks. We all mastered the English language very quickly. I finished my eighth grade and was always very sorry I did not get the opportunity for higher education.

When I was seventeen I started working at Fair Haven for three years, and later was office girl at Lankelma brothers, dentists of Pella.

A few years later I was introduced to a young man by the name of Peter R. Meyer who later became my husband. After a Wednesday night catechism he asked to walk me home and we kept on dating till we got married on Dec. 30, 1920.

Peter Richard Meyer was born on July 2, 1897, near Sully, Ia. to Richard Meyer (Aug. 1, 1865 – Oct. 29, 1950) and Zientje Splint (June 9, 1871 – July 25, 1951). He was brought up on a small farm near Sully and attended Sandridge School. Later he moved with his parents to a farm near Harvey for a short time. They then moved to a double house (duplex) in Pella located on the southeast corner of Columbus and West Third Street.

After our marriage we lived on a farm for three years. It was during the depression and it was a hard struggle like everybody else experienced. It wasn't pleasant at the time but nevertheless a good experience.

On May 14, 1923, we were blessed with a sweet baby girl named Cynthia Clare. At the age of 13, on Apr. 11, 1936, the Lord took her to Himself. That was indeed a big blow but the Lord sustained us in a wonderful way. On May 2, 1929, we were blessed with another sweet girl, Mary Joan. She married Dale De Young on Apr. 2, 1954. A son, Merrill Bryce was born on July 20, 1955. The Lord took their first-born to Himself at the age of 16 months and 8 days on Nov. 28, 1956. Their second child was a girl, Merrilee Dawn, born Sept. 9, 1957. She married Jim Frantum on Mar. 15, 1980 and they have one child, Meegan, born Mar. 14, 1986.

Pete and I did little traveling until we were appointed to the Indian Mission Field in New Mexico in 1944. We got a month's vacation every year and usually took different routes traveling to Iowa, stopping at different places of interest. We also have been to California several times, to Denver, and to Arizona. The first two years of our mission work were in Zuni, N.M. where we maintained the mission complex and boarded five school teachers. Mr. Meyer worked with the Indian children. Then the mission board transferred us to Rehoboth, about 40 miles from Zuni. We occupied a home and went back to a more private life. My husband was assistant to the administrator and I helped out wherever help was needed, mostly in the hospital.

After ten years we moved back to Pella. Later he was employed at Fair Haven, Garden Chapel Funeral Home, and as a taxi driver for Ulrich Motor until he was 80 years old. He continued driving privately for a few more years. After retirement we lived in an apartment on Franklin for eight years. Then the Lord took to Himself my dear husband on Nov. 13, 1984. The next June 10, 1985, I entered Hill Top Manor for which I thank the Lord for leading me here. It is a wonderful place when you get to the time that you are not able to maintain a home. I go to church once a Sunday health permitting. I am a charter member of the Christian High School Auxiliary and go to the Senior Helping Society whenever I can.

I don't want to give you the impression that my life was always strewn with roses. I have experienced joy, sorrow, and frustration; but the Lord was my constant helper and sustainer and I know He will carry me to the end.

by Bertha Meyer

Front, l-r: Richard and Zientje Meyer. Back, l-r: Peter and Emma Meyer.

MEYER, RICHARD AND ZIENTJE (SPLINT)

F359

Richard Meyer was born Aug. 1, 1865, in Beetgum, Friesland, The Netherlands, to Martin Meyer and Emka Stienstra. His father died when he was one and one-half years old which left his mother with the care of several children. His mother remained a widow for several years and then married Cornelius Cuperus. Richard moved in with his sister and was raised by her. At the age of nine he was taken out of school and went to work on a truck farm. He worked hard in the gardens and delivered produce to the capital city of Leeuwarden.

When he was 16, Richard came to America. He worked out when he could find work and eventually homesteaded a 60-80 acre farm near Sully. He married Zientje (Zien or Cynthia) Splint on Mar. 10, 1890.

Zientje Splint was born in Nykert, Gelder-

Richard Meyer, left, planting tulip bulbs while custodian of Central Park.

Home of Richard Meyer, 1215 Washington St.

Richard Meyer's woodpile.

land, The Netherlands, on June 9, 1871, to Peter Splint and Evertje Van Gelder. Her father was a wooden shoe maker. At the age of eight she came to the United States with her parents.

Richard and Zientje had three children: Emma Meyer Vander Wilt (Sept. 29, 1893 – Apr. 25, 1971); Peter Richard Meyer (July 2, 1897 – Nov. 13, 1984) who married Bertha Branderhorst; and Martin who died in infancy.

While living near Sully the Meyers boarded school teachers. Also, many of Richard's friends who were left in the old country would write to him and ask about conditions in America. Because there was no opportunity in The Netherlands, Richard would write and tell them to come to America. He would find them a job and get them started. Many came, at least six or eight.

There is an unusual story about Richard's beard. A Mr. Branderhorst and Mr. Rouwenhorst came to Sully from Holland and stayed with the Meyers through the winter. Richard taught them some English and found them a job. On weekends, if they could get away, they would come to visit the Meyers for a few days. Richard never could keep his razor sharp and Mr. Branderhorst offered to take it back with him and sharpen it. The two men started back to work on a rainy night with a horse and buggy. They were both killed crossing the Wabash Railroad track new Cordova. Richard never shaved after that.

Richard and Zientje moved to a farm near Harvey for a short time, then to a double house in Pella, located on the southeast corner of Columbus and West Third. Later they moved to a house at 1215 Washington St.

Richard Meyer was Central Park custodian for 14 years, from 1922-1936. The following is taken from the July 30, 1936, *Pella Chronicle* about his retirement: "Mr. Meyer has proven himself an efficient workman. He has worked untiringly to keep the park clean and inviting attention. And he has succeeded admirably well, despite the fact that it is no easy task to do so. Any day of the week except Sunday Mr. Meyer could be found picking up refuse, raking the lawn, mowing the grass, trimming up hedge, or doing other things to give the park the proper appearance. He has always kept it clean. The large tulip collection in the park last spring was set out by Mr. Meyer and R. Vander Ploeg."

Memories of his daughter-in-law, Bertha Meyer, and his granddaughter, Wilma Vander Wilt Memmelaar, also concern the park. Richard would take the fish home from the cement pond in the center of the park and keep them in a stock tank in his basement during the winter. One of his jobs was to put the canvas on the bandstand for the Saturday night concert. He would also set up all the chairs, take them down again, and pick up the trash, making a late Saturday evening. Wilma remembers him traveling the distance between home and the park in a Model T Ford with the top always down. He always went to Central Park Cafe for coffee time.

Richard Meyer not only kept things beautiful at Central Park, but at his home also. People traveling through would stop at his home to admire the flowers and sometimes would end up buying a plant.

Richard was always chopping wood. This is what he did in his leisure time. Zientje liked her wood stove. Richard finally persuaded her to get an oil stove, but she still preferred the wood stove. It just cooked so much better. She had coffee ready at all times of the day. She baked pies every Saturday and would often send one home with her children.

In the summer of 1950, they moved in with their daughter Emma and her husband Gerrit Vander Wilt who lived just east of Oskaloosa, Ia. Richard died Oct. 29, 1950. Zientje died July 21, 1951. Both are buried in Graceland Cemetery in Pella.

by Gloria Vander Wilt Vander Peut

MONSMA, KENNETH AND DOROTHY "DOTTIE"

F360

The Monsmas arrived in Pella in July, 1966. Dr. Monsma was joining Dr. Alvin E. Evers in the practice of family medicine, in his office at 410 Franklin St. (the building now occupied by the Protestant Reformed Church). Nine months later the two physicians merged their medical practice with Drs. Gene Van Zee and Stewart Kanis to form the Pella Medical Center, located at 412 Jefferston St.

Pella was not new to the Monsmas. Kenneth John, who was born July 21, 1937, to John and Johanna Branderhorst Monsma on a farm east of Prairie City, Ia., had commuted to Pella four years to attend Pella Christian High School (1951-1955). Ken left home to attend Calvin College and in the spring of 1957 his parents moved from their farm near Prairie City to 418 Elm St. in Pella, where his father was employed at the Rolscreen Company. John died at the age of 62 years, on Jan. 6, 1962. Johanna passed away June 30, 1973, at the age of 69 years.

Dorothy Ann, a daughter of Martin W. and Gertrude Lourens Van Zee of Prairie City, Ia.) was born July 27, 1938. She boarded during the school year with her paternal grandparents, William and Dora Buwalda Van Zee, at 1008 Washington St. while attending and graduating from Pella Christian High School (1954-1956).

Ken, while a senior at Calvin College, and Dottie, employed at Pine Rest Christian Hospital, returned to Pella to be married on June 12, 1958. Their wedding was the first one performed in the Calvary Christian Reformed Church.

Two of their daughters were born in Iowa City while Ken was in medical school at the University of Iowa (1959-1963). They are Deborah Lynne (Mrs. Paul) Meeter, born on Oct. 7, 1960, who resides in Grand Rapids, Mich., and Patricia Ann (Mrs. Gary) Nieuwsma, born on Apr. 18, 1962, of Pella.

After graduation from medical school, the Monsmas moved to Seattle, Wash. where Dr. Monsma served his internship in the Public

Kenneth Monsma family. Left to Right: Donna, Pat, Deb, Dottie, Dr. Monsma, and Mike.

Health Service Hospital.

Their son, Michael Kent, was born in Bismarck, N. Dak., on Oct. 24, 1965. The family was living in Fort Yates, N. Dak., on the Sioux Indian Reservation where Dr. Monsma served two years with the Public Health Service. Dr. Monsma served as Director of the Standing Rock Indian Hospital prior to moving to Pella.

Their youngest daughter, Donna Joy, was born on Mar. 13, 1969, in the Pella Hospital. The Monsmas' only grandchild, Lease Marie Nieuwsma, daughter of Gary and Patricia Monsma Nieuwsma, was also born in Pella on Jan. 14, 1986.

by Kenneth Monsma

MONSTER, HENRY

F361

Henry was born on June 15, 1919, on a farm south of Pella, Ia. to Leendert J. and Julia Hackert Monster. Henry has three sisters all living in Pella: Cornelia Vink, Jannetta Vander Linden, and Leona Vander Molen. He had one brother, Jacob, who passed away in 1969.

Henry married Elva Van Engelenhoven in 1941 and separated in 1973. Three daughters were born to this union. Twylah Beth, 1943. She married Douglas Wilson in 1961. Lola June, 1947, was married to David Toom in 1966. Eva Lynn was born in 1952 and married Randy Vander Wert in 1969. Twylah and Doug have two daughters, Heidi Beth married to Kendal Robison. They have a daughter Amanda Beth, 1981, and a son, Heath Christopher, 1983. Twylah and Doug's second daughter, Holli Ann, is married to Stu Job. Lola and Dave have one son, Jeffrey David, 1968, and a daughter, Nicole Marie, 1972. Chad Dylan, 1972, is the only son of Lynn and Randy.

Henry served in World War II with the 34th Infantry Division in Italy from 1943 to 1946. Before entering the service Henry operated a grocery store, The Jack Spratt Store, in the building now occupied by The Steenhoek Bootery at 707 Franklin St. Henry is semi-retired after completing 30 years with the Vermeer Manufacturing Company, of which 28 years were spent in sales.

Henry Monster and Catharina Benes were married on Feb. 12, 1983, and are living in Pella.

by Henry Monster

MOUNT, ROY E.

F362

Roy E. Mount and wife, Greta, taken about 1980, Mesa, Ariz.

Roy Edgar Mount, the son of Edgar A. and Ada Wright Mount, was born July 25, 1912, on a farm near Stuart, Ia. He moved to Pella with his wife Greta in 1978, after they both retired from their positions in the Chicago area.

Roy is of English and Scottish descent. His grandparents, Charles W. and Agnes McKee Mount and William and Lenore Arnold Wright, settled in the Stuart area over 100 years ago. He graduated from Drake University suma cum laude in 1935, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He has had graduate work at the University of Chicago and University of Minnesota.

He began his business career in 1936 as assistant advertising manager of the Louden Machinery Co. of Fairfield, Ia. In 1939 he transferred to Deere and Company Moline, Ill., as account executive in charge of catalogs for John Deere Farm Machinery.

In 1941 he entered the U.S. Army Air Corps and was stationed at Williams Field, near Mesa, Ariz. In 1944 he was transferred to counter intelligence training, Camp Ritchie, Md., then to Drew Field, Tampa, Fla., until his discharge in Dec. 1945, at the end of the war. He then returned to his position with Deere and Company in Moline, Ill.

He was married to Greta Korver Mount, daughter of Gerrit and Estella Carpenter Korver on July 12, 1944. The couple had met at Drake University, from which Greta also took, both bachelor's and master's degrees. Greta began her teaching in Marion Co. at Hamilton High School (three years); then taught in the high schools of Panora, Ia. (three years), Davenport, Ia. (six years), Moline, Ill. (three years) and Highland Park, Ill. High School the last 20 years.

After Roy's return from service, the couple lived in Davenport, Ia., then in Moline, Ill., where their daughter Margaret was born in 1949. In that same year, Roy transferred to Aubrey, Finley and Hodgson, the Chicago Advertising Agency handling advertising for International Harvester Farm Machinery, as well as a number of other large accounts. The Agency later merged with the Griswold-Eshleman Co. with offices in Cleveland, Pittsburg, and Chicago. Here he was named creative director, and became vice-president of the company.

Repeatedly, he was honored by awards from the Chicago Council of Advertising for excellence in advertising, and for a number of years for "Best" black-and-white and "Best" color ads.

In 1952, a son, Roy E. Jr., was born, and in 1953 the Mounts built a home in Highland Park, Ill. where they reared their family and lived until their retirement to Pella. The entire family was active in school, community, and church activities throughout their 29 years in the Chicago suburban area.

Margaret took her bachelor's degree at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. and her master's from the University of Colorado. She was with the Denver Public Schools in Health Services until she married and moved to Vail, Colo. More recently she has taken an M.B.A. from Denver University.

Roy E., Jr. (Ed) took his bachelor's from Iowa State University, and his doctor's (D.D.S.) degree from Loyola University at Chicago. In 1978 he set up his dental practice in Newton, Ia.; in 1981 he married Janet Mauk of Des Moines. They are the parents of one daughter, Lindsay, born Dec. 9, 1984.

In Pella, the home area of Greta's parents and grandparents, Roy and Greta are members of the Second Reformed Church, the Historical Society, and the Tulip City Golden Agers. They live in Pella Manor, adjacent to Fairhaven, for whose founding Greta's mother, Estella Carpenter Korver, collected funds in 1906. (See also Korver, Gerrit)

by Greta (Korver) Mount

MUILENBERG, SAMUEL

F363

Henrietta Muilenberg was a school teacher when she married Ben Bonnema on Feb. 19, 1927, at Orange City, Ia. However, some of her ancestors were some of Pella's early residents. Her parents Samuel Muilenberg (1862-1955) and Adriana (Markus) Muilenberg (1864-1924) were both born in Pella. Their parents did come to Pella from The Netherlands. Huibert Muilenberg (1822-1918), his wife Klazina (Versteeg) Muilenberg (1823-1897) came from Vurn, Gelderland. They both died in Orange City, Ia.

On the Markus side of the family, Johannes Markus (1821-1887) was born in Utrecht, Utrech, Netherlands. He came on the same ship as Rev. P. Scholte and after he arrived in Pella he worked for him. He was married to Adrianna Bollard (1826-1881) who was born in Strijen, South Holland, Netherlands. This couple also died at Orange City, Ia.

Huibert Muilenberg was known as "Huibert the Pioneer". He emigrated to America in 1848 with his parents Jan. W. Muilenberg (1792-1873) and Teuntje (Schalk) Muilenberg (1792-1879). They died at Pella, Ia. Jan W. fought in the Battle of Waterloo in 1815 against Napoleon.

In the Spring of 1869 Huibert, Jr. Pelmulder, and S. Sipma were appointed to leave Pella and go to northwest Iowa to find out about homesteading land. They returned with a favorable report. They went in a covered wagon pulled by a team of mules. A big picture of the group hangs in the Sioux County Courthouse, Orange City, Ia.

Henrietta (Muilenberg) Bonnema and Ben Bonnema lived in the Orange City, Ia. area their entire lives. Most of the time on a farm West of Orange City. They were the parents of two boys: Earl, born in 1928 and living in Orange City, Ia., and Donald, born in 1929 and living in Pella, Ia.

by Donald Bonnema

MULDER, IVAN RICHARD AND RUTH ELAINE (SCHUITEMAN)

F364

Ivan's paternal ancestry is recorded as far back as 1760, before people had surnames. They were from Friesland, and according to tradition were proud, stoic, self-reliant and fiercely independent and outspoken. The

Front, l-r: Jerry and Shaughn Roorda with Lance, Ruth Mulder, and Geselle Mulder; Back, l-r: Ivan Mulder and Gavin Mulder. Tulip Time 1985 at the Scholte House Gardens.

name "mulder" was derived from the term "molenaar," which was the Dutch spelling of the occupation of the first Mulder to receive a surname and who was a miller by trade. The Frisian pronunciation of "molenaar" was "moulder" and in time the letter "o" was dropped and thus the family name was started. According to reports of those visiting Friesland, the Mulder name is still displayed at the entrance to the farm where Ivan's great-great-great grandfather was a land owner and operator. After debating for two years the family decided to migrate to America, instead of South Africa.

In the Mulder genealogy occupations varied. While the first one recorded was a miller, it appears that many were craftsmen, carpenters, farmers, livestock dealers, and dairymen who specialized in raising Holstein Frisian cattle. It also seems that in many of these families, at least one of their sons was educated to become a "schoolmeester" or educator.

At the turn of the century, when a great number of European people migrated to the United States, members from both sides of Ivan's family (some of them on the same boat) came to Sioux Co. and settled in the newly established community of Orange City. Ivan's paternal great-grandfather came to Le Mars, by train and by wagon to Orange City, and homesteaded northwest of Carnes. Ivan's maternal grandfather, Fred De Jong, came to America with his parents from St. Anna Parochie, Friesland, around 1896, at the age of 18. His maternal grandmother, Jennie De Jager, came from Groningen when she was nine. Both came directly to Sioux Co. The De Jongs came to Orange City, and the De Jagers to Maurice, in 1903.

Ruth's paternal great-grandparents, H. William Rensink and Haremina Jukking traveled from Wisconsin, through Minnesota by covered wagon. It is not known when they came to America or settled east of Sioux Center. Ruth's grandfather, Aart Schuiteman was born in Nuspunt, Holland, in 1862. To escape the army, he came to America at the age of 18, and settled on a farm a mile south of Sioux Center, rented for $3 an acre. He married Willimina Rensink in 1890 and settled on a farm two miles east of Sioux Center, he bought for $40 an acre.

Ruth's maternal great-grandfather, Johannas Bonnes, was born at Wildervank Groningen, Holland, as was his wife Engelena Erkes. After many years of being an impoverished sea captain, he and his wife decided to take their six living children to America in 1883. The maternal Hofland great-grandparents were also born in Holland. They came to Orange City in 1888 looking for a better future for their 14 children.

Ruth's father, Art, was born Jan. 22, 1904, the youngest of seven. He died of a brain hemorrhage, Dec. 11, 1949. Ruth's mother, Catherine Hofland, was born Nov. 12, 1908, and is the third of nine children of Jacobus Hofland and Grietje Bonnes. Ruth's parents were married Feb. 14, 1928, at a triple wedding ceremony (two sisters and a brother) in Orange City. Ruth was born May 30, 1943, the youngest of six.

Ivan's father Alvin, born Feb. 20, 1911, is the oldest of ten children of Yge (Ed) Mulder and Ida Borgman. His mother Rose was born Mar. 8, 1912, and was the oldest of eight of Fred De Jong and Jennie De Jager. His parents were married Feb. 10, 1933. Ivan was born Mar. 16, 1940, the fourth of ten, in a farm house between Ireton and Sioux Center. Ivan's mother died Mar. 2, 1970, of heart disease.

Ivan and Ruth were married Aug. 31, 1961, in Sioux Center. This was between Ivan's first and second year at the Reformed Bible College, Grand Rapids, Mich. Daughter Shaughn Ruth was born in Sioux Center Community Hospital, Nov. 2, 1963, while Ivan was a student at Dordt College. Following his graduation in May, 1966, from Northwestern College, Orange City, the Mulders joined the employ of the Christian Reformed Board of Home Missions. First at the Christian Reformed Church, Brigham City, Utah, where Ivan was Coordinator of Student Religious Activities with Navaho Indian young people who were students at the Intermountain Indian School. Daughter Geselle Lamae was born, Jan. 28, 1967, in the Cooley Memorial Hospital of Brigham City. During June of 1969 they moved to San Francisco, Cal. Ivan was Evangelist Assistant and Administrator at the Friendship House, an American Indian church ministry and social service center. While in California, son Gavin Ritchie was born at the Oakland Kaiser Hospital, Sept. 28, 1970. Besides being a homemaker, Ruth worked at a nursing home in Brigham City, and as a secretary in San Francisco. She had also worked as a nurse and secretary to help Ivan through college.

Lured by a biblical studies teaching position at Pella Christian High School, Ivan and Ruth and children moved to Pella, in of 1972. Deep-rooted ties to the community have been formed over the past 15 years. April, 1974, Ruth unexpectedly became paralyzed below the neck. An eleven-week stay in the University of Iowa Hospital and a lengthy recovery at home brought about an incredible display of concern and helpfulness from many people in the community. While Ruth has retained partial paralysis in the right arm and leg, she continues to be active. Mar. 12, 1982, Shaughn married Jerry Alan Roorda. Jerry is the son of Dale Roorda and Wilma Wyngarden of Leighton. Shaughn graduated

from the Des Moines Area Community College, May of 1983. Lance Alan Roorda, son of Jerry and Shaughn, was born Feb. 12, 1984, in the Pella Community Hospital. Since Geselle was chosen as the 1985 Tulip Queen, the Mulder's 13th Tulip Time in Pella was very special. Queen Geselle reigned over the 50th annual celebration of Pella's Tulip Time, May 9, 10, 11, 1985. Like her sister Shaughn, Geselle also managed to find her husband from the Pella community. She married Brian Keith Steenhoek, Aug. 15, 1987. Brian is the son of Jaren Steenhoek and Donna Wichhart. Both Brian and Geselle hope to graduate from Northwestern College, Orange City, May, 1989.

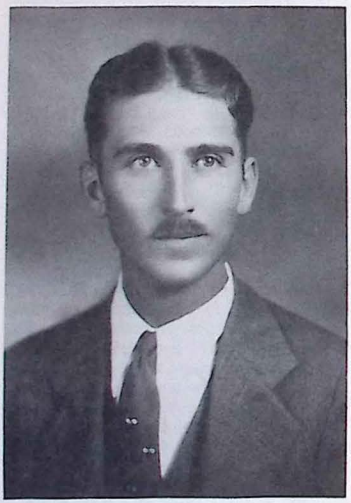
During their 25 years of marriage, Ivan and Ruth have lived in four states. Each of their children was born in a different state. Including their first honeymoon apartment in Grand Rapids, they have lived in 15 different houses. The summer of 1985 they moved into their present home, at Dutchman's Landing West.

by Ivan Mulder

MUYSKENS, DOROTHY

F365

Lydia (Hoffs) and Peter Muyskens



William DeBoer

Dorothy Amelia Muyskens

Born Jan. 10, 1845, Jan Muijskens was the eldest son of Dirk, a federal tax officer on the Friesian Island of Terschelling, The Netherlands, and his second wife Japke Pals. Jan became a seaman who worked on merchant sailing vessels. While this took him to such exotic places as Russia and Indonesia, Jan married a girl from home, Tettje (Tilda) Gerrits Roggen, who gave birth to their first of fourteen children at the age of fourteen. They were: Gerrit (Kate Groendyk) 1865-1905; Dirk (Berendena Geurink) 1867-1938; Japke or Jacoba (Albertus Menning) 1869-1911; Cornelius (Wilhelmina Geurink) 1871-1946; Pieter (Lydia Hoffs) 1872-1955; Arien, 1874-1877; Trijntje or Kate (John Korver) 1875-1956; Anna (H.K. Bekman) 1877-1933; Rev. Arien or Arie (Jeannette Knooihuizen) 1879-1944; Martje or Martha (Hendrik Fennema) 1880-1950; Jan, 1880-1882; Marie, 1884-1969; Rev. John (Gertrude Strong) 1885-1948; and William (Louise Gaul) 1888-1967. The demands of his growing family convinced Jan to give up the sea for farming. Since land on Terschelling was limited, the family decided to immigrate to America in 1882. Father Jan served as cook for part of the steamship trip. Each child who was old enough had assigned chores; Pieter's was to empty the chamber pots. Five-month-old baby Jan did not survive the trip. The family landed in New York, took a train to Chicago, and a covered wagon to Orange City, Ia. By 1889 Jan acquired land for a farm northeast of Alton. Pieter, called Cyclone Pete for a temper which disappeared as quickly as it came, was one of the sons who also chose to farm. He married Lydia Wilhelmina Hoffs in 1896. Her family had moved west from Cedar Grove, Wisc., where she was born (Dec. 9, 1875-Nov. 17, 1962). She had two sisters and a brother: Hattie or Het (Grotenhuis), Minnie (Boer), and Henry. Peter and Lydia had eight children: Dr. John (Louise Swank) 1897-1923, who died of a ruptured appendix shortly before he was to have gone to Japan as a medical missionary; Harvey (Thelma Farver) 1899-1980; Ted (Eleanor Gorman) 1900-1968; Dorothy Amelia (William De Boer) Dec. 20, 1904-Mar. 25, 1985; Margaret, 1906-1959, (Ed Reeverts) who became a nurse; William (Glady Olson) 1913, Jacoba or Coby (Luman Bottolfson) 1911-1985; and Lillian (Bob Madison) 1915.

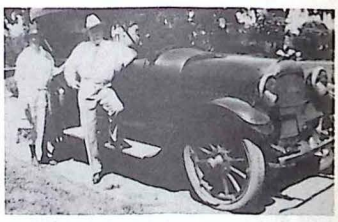
At the age of two, Dorothy nearly died of typhoid fever. Just when her parents had given up hope, she pulled herself up in her crib and started singing a Dutch psalm. From childhood she hated farming and wanted to become a teacher. The family joke was, "Has Dot been in the barn yet this year?" At sixteen she graduated from the classical academy in Orange City, took a normal school coarse, and then taught country school for three years to earn money for college. She lived with her beloved Tante Het's family whose home was near the school. Her sister Lillian was one of her students. In 1924 Dorothy enrolled at Central College in Pella, Ia. Although in the summer she raised a bumper crop of cabbages in Hollandale, Minn. where the family had moved, after two years Dot's money ran out. She was unexpectedly rescued by Nettie, Mrs. Albert Van Houwelling, who asked Dot to live with them and be a companion for their daughter in return for which they paid her expenses. At college Dorothy gained a certificate to teach English and met her future husband William De Boer.

Dorothy and Bill were to be married in Albert Lea, Minn. where her parents now resided. However, Bill, who had taken a teaching position at Anneville Institute in Kentucky, had slipped and fallen over a waterfall while hiking and had shattered his knee cap. When Dot heard the news, she had such strong sympathy pains that she had to be excused from teaching at New Hartford High School for the rest of the day. As soon as the school year ended, Dorothy packed her bridal gown and took a train for Kentucky. Girls from the institute decorated a bower with wild larkspur and daisies for the wedding in the infirmary on June 19, 1929. For their wedding trip, Dot pushed Bill's wheelchair from the girls' ward to the boys'. (For the remainder of her story see William De Boer, William De Jong, and Marie Blom.)

by Joline De Jong

NAAKTGEBOREN, CORNELIUS J. AND WILHELMINA (SIMONES)

F366



Mr. and Mrs. Naaktgeboren in their first Paige car.

The Naaktgeborens were both born in Rotterdam, Holland. Mrs. on January 1, 1883, and Mr. on January 9, 1879. They married on April 27, 1904, and November 1906, set sail for America with their son, Martin, leaving the grave of a second child that was stillborn. They arrived in November after 14 days on the ocean.

They settled in Pella, on North Main, on the N.W. corner across from from Sunken Gardens.

In February 1907, their first daughter, Antonette, was born; in 1909, Antonia, but in between the girls another son was stillborn. Following them were Wilhelmina in 1911; Cornelius Jr., 1913; Wilhelm J., 1915; Hendrick, 1916; Susan, 1917, who passed away at age 19; David D., 1919, who died as a prisoner of war in WW II in 1943; Eamand C., 1921; Fredrick J., 1923; John, 1925; and Thresa in 1928. The Naaktgeboren's made their permanent home at 309 Liberty from 1914 to 1961. (Peter H. Kuyper was previously born in that house.)

Cornelius, better known in Pella as "Case", worked for George Heeren in his woodworking shop, then went to the Buerkens Wagon Factory, and also the Stacker Factory, where he was a blacksmith. After the Stacker Factory closed, he worked for Gezel and Bruinekool Blacksmiths. He was Pella's last blacksmith, retiring in 1958. Every year Case planted a large garden and his wife preserved a cellar full of food each summer. In the evenings Case would sit and half sole the shoes for the children for longer wear.

Several times a week, Mrs. Naaktgeboren would bake 10-12 loaves of bread for her large family. She would store it in a galvanized tin cupboard that measured 18 inches wide by three feet high that Case had made for her. On top were tin cookie boxes for the oatmeal and spice cookies. It took a lot of food to feed 13 children.

Each of the children went to work at an early age to help provide for the family. Some of the boys worked for places as the old Jaarsma Bakery, Arie Schilder, Ulrich's bologna shops, and A.B. Van Houweling's Auto. The older girls worked in homes of Hugo Kuyper, J.S. Wilson, John Van Vliet, Kamp Wormhoudt and others.

The first car purchased by the family was a Paige. On Sunday afternoons the family would go to Knoxville. By the time they got to the river hill, the car would stall for more power, and then all the children and their mother would bail out and get some large rocks or branches and put them behind the back wheels, so it wouldn't roll back down any farther. Then Case would proceed to get it up the hill, and all would get back in and on they would go.

Case also belonged to the volunteer fire department. When the whistle would blow he would run from home to the station. They did not have fire trucks, all they had were water wagons, which the firemen would get on each side of and grab a handle and pull it to the fire.

Catechism classes were held on Saturday afternoon for the children, which were taught in the Dutch language. The church services were also in Dutch on Sunday afternoon. Up until the time there were only six children, all would attend services together. When more children were born, the older ones stayed home with them, so Case and Mrs. Naaktgeboren could attend.

In the Naaktgeboren home was a pump organ which was replaced later on by a Victrola, and after that a real luxury was bought for the home, a player piano, which was played mostly by the oldest son, Martin. Each Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the Grandparent's birthdays, we would all go to their house. It was a big disappointment if one of the children and their family could not come, as there were so many of us, and we anticipated a house full, the more that came, the more fun we had!

This was the only family in Pella with the Naaktgeboren name. The Naaktgeborens celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in April of 1964. In August he passed away, and four years later, Mrs. Naaktgeboren died in April of 1968.

Still surviving are eight children. Antonette (Naaktgeboren) Zickel still resides in Pella.

I am the oldest living granddaughter of the Naaktgeborens. This is a tribute to my grandparents for all the precious memories they gave to me throughout their lives.

by Willa M. (Zickel) Hart and Antonette Zickel

NAGEL, REV. FLOYD V. AND RUTH H.

F367

Rev. Floyd V. and Ruth H. Nagel were born and reared in Minnesota. Our grandparents emigrated from the Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands, in the 1850's and lived in Wisconsin for a number of years before coming to the present Greenleafton community, which at that time was a new unsettled pioneer area in Fillmore Co., Minn. in the 1860's.

We both graduated from Central College and both taught in Sioux County before Floyd entered the seminary in New Brunswick, N.J. After his graduation in 1931, he accepted the call from the Princetown Reformed Church at Giffords, N.Y., near Schenectady. We were married in 1934. Our two daughters, Elaine, now Mrs. Ralph Jaarsma of Pella, and Betty Jean, Mrs. John Sikkink of Apple Valley, Minn., were born in Schenectady.

Our next church (1939-1947) was the North and Southampton Reformed Church in Churchville, Penn. From there we went to Guilderland Center, N.Y., where we served the Helderberg Reformed Church (1947-1957). Then we moved to Newton, Ia. to serve in the Community Reformed Church (1957-1959). Our next move was to Annville, Ky., where Floyd was the director of Reformed Church Missions in Jackson Co. In 1963, we went to Williamsville, N.Y., to start a new church (1963-1965). Just three weeks after the church was organized, Floyd died at the Roswell park Institute in Buffalo, N.Y., on July 22, 1965, at the age of 63 years.

Since Oct. 1965, Ruth has been living in Pella enjoying her family which now includes the two daughters and their spouses, seven grandchildren, two granddaughters-in-law, and three great-grandchildren, her church (The Second Reformed Church), the Historical Society, and Central College activities.

by Ruth Nagel

NETTLOW, MARIE (SAMSON)

F368

I, Christine Marie Samson, was born to Gerrit and Johanna Van Der Veer Samson, near Tracy, Ia. on Apr. 23, 1912. My older brother, Adrian, an invalid by spinal meningitis and polio, died the next year at age two. In 1914 father and several relatives and fellow church members purchased farms in North Dakota. They farmed with horses, but everyone prospered. My two younger brothers, Jacob and Conrad, were born there. Father donated a corner of his farm for a small Dutch church. Country school was a mile away. I was the youngest child in school. I was double promoted and finished the sixth grade when I was nine.

Winters were fierce, but we had hard coal heaters and my parents entertained a lot. My Uncle Charley Molenaar was caught in a terrible blizzard one night and died near our home. He was buried near Honeyford, N.D., as were my grandfather, Adrian Samson and Uncle Arie's infant son. In 1918 my father bought his first Model T Ford. That winter we took the train to Iowa to visit my grandparents. Everyone became ill with the flu. Many people died, including many of the soldiers. During the war, economic times were good and father expanded, bought more land, and built a new barn and house. Before we could move in, the post-war economy collapsed. Most of us returned to Iowa, where I attended Pella Christian School. Mother's health failed. There was little work. As I was much younger than my classmates, Prof. Lobbes permitted me to stay at home to care for my mother and brothers while father worked in Harvey. Then he obtained work in Pella and we lived near my grandparents, so I finished eighth grade at Pella Christian School. I stayed home the next year while Mother had surgery and regained her strength, then began high school in Tracy. Father obtained steady work in Newton so I graduated from Newton High in 1930, and worked in a dentist's office. My parents took in a little girl, Joan, to raise, whose father had died and her mother had six children — no ADC then. We had always wanted a little sister.

That winter I attended American Institute of Business in Des Moines, then returned to Newton and worked in a law office. I married Eugene F. Rector. We moved to Minnesota where our two daughters, Joanne and Beverly, were born. We all had scarlet fever during an epidemic which killed many. Eugene developed a heart condition; eventually he died of a stroke. We had moved back to Iowa where I worked in another law office, then the Maytag office until 1940, when I received a civil service appointment along with my brother, Jacob. We were thrilled to live in Washington, D.C., and did lots of sightseeing on weekends. We both enrolled in evening college classes. When Pearl Harbor was attacked, I was working in the Commandant's office in the Washington Navy Yard.

Peaceful, beautiful Washington became a city of blackouts with anti-aircraft on the buildings. I worked long hours, including weekends — had only Christmas Day off. It was no place for my children, so I transferred, first to Chicago, then to US Navy Pre-flight School, Iowa City. I continued civil service until I married Charles M. LaFavre, a widower, who worked for the Newton Post Office. I continued to work in Newton offices. Together we raised his son, Dennis, and my two daughters. Dennis later married my sister, Joan, lives in Colorado, has three children, Diane, Stephen, Denice, and two grandchildren, Shannon and Jason. Joanne married Wayne Pennock, lives in Newton, is a church secretary. Wayne works at Maytag, farms 120 acres. They have three children, Debra, David, and Timothy. Debra taught music four years. She married Fred Worrell, also a teacher, and lives in Kiron, Ia. They have two sons, Daniel and Michael. David and Timothy are both in college.

Beverly is a graduate of the University of Alaska, married to Major James A. Marker, USAF, now stationed in Florida. She had six children: Brenda McCracken (who died along with her infant son in an automobile accident in 1982 in Colorado leaving 3 children: Jennifer, Stephanie, and Robert; Carol Ann Marie Fournier has two daughters, Nicollette and Jolene; Gerrit, died in infancy; Frank, has a son, William; Kelly Walter has a daughter, Tonya; Valerie Honeman has a son Sean and daughter Cynthia. All live in Alaska.

In 1956 Charles retired from the post office and we moved to Colorado where I reinstated in civil service; I worked at Lowry Air Force Base for 15 years. Charles remained active, worked a few years, was active in church, president of the Lions Club, started a pilot program for Sr. Citizens, and we both became Sr. Advocates. We bought a new home in Commerce City and a cottage in Evergreen, and we enjoyed the weekends and vacationing in mountain areas in Colorado. In 1969, my oldest granddaughter, Brenda, came to live with us and attended community college, married and still lived near us. After I retired in 1972, Charles and I wintered in Arizona. He died in 1977 from lung cancer. I then traveled to Alaska where Beverly's husband was stationed; to Europe, with Joanne and Debra where we visited relatives and saw the beautiful home my grandfather built in 1879, "Pool Zicht", near Hazerswoude, The Netherlands. I purchased my parents' home in Newton and continued to winter in Arizona, where I met Oliver P. Nettlow, a widower. We were married Oct. 4, 1980. In 1982 his neck was broken in the car accident, which killed Brenda and her infant son. He is not paralyzed and we are still able to winter in Arizona, summer in Iowa, and Colorado.

by Marie Samson Nettlow

NEWENDORP, ELMER VERNON AND ALBERTHA JOAN (VER MEER)

F369

Elmer Vernon Newendorp was born May 11, 1929, to Charles and Carrie Vroom Newendorp west of Leighton. He attended Black Oak and Scott Center Schools. In Mar. 1937, the family moved to Rural Route #3, east of Pella where he attended the Wheat Grow School. As a young man, he worked for Bakker & Rus Feed Mill. In 1950 he started farming the family farm. Elmer worked part time driving semi-truck for Peoria Stockyards. In 1966 he purchased the farm that he is now farming from his father. In 1980 he started driving his own livestock truck. He made confession of faith in First Reformed Church of Pella where he now attends.

On Feb. 22, 1950, Elmer married Albertha Joan Ver Meer, daughter of Anthony D. (Tone) and Dena Kloosterman Ver Meer. Albertha was born July 19, 1930, at Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. She grew up in Pella, attending Pella Christian Grade School and moved to the farm in 1950. She made confession of faith at the Second Christian Reformed Church, transferring to the First Reformed Church where she now attends. She worked as a clerk for a grocery store, department store, in her father's cafe, and now is employed at Hilltop Residential Home as a cook.

Elmer and Albertha had three children. Vernon Lee Newendorp was born Jan. 12, 1951. He started his schooling at Wheat Grow, later attending the Pella Community Schools, graduating in 1970. Vernon was employed at Ring-O-Matic after graduating and before enlisting in the U.S. Navy in 1970. He was stationed in Pearl Harbor and had a tour of duty on the Coast of Vietnam. After serving his active duty, he returned home in 1973 and was employed at Vermeer Manufacturing. He died Aug. 31, 1974, in a car accident.

Karen Joan Newendorp was born Mar. 21, 1953. She attended the Pella Community Schools, graduating in 1971. She worked for Central College as a secretary, then moved to Oskaloosa in 1974 where she now works as a receptionist and secretary for Garden and Associates.

Larry Dean Newendorp was born Sept. 25, 1954. He attended Pella Community Schools, graduating in 1972. He was employed at Vermeer Manufacturing and Foulke Rubber Products. He married Sharla Visser July 26, 1974. Larry died Aug. 31, 1974, in a car accident. A son, Larry Vernon Newendorp, was born Jan. 11, 1975.

by Elmer Newendorp

NEWENDORP, HARRY AND HARRIET

F370

Harry L. Newendorp was born to Isaac and Elizabeth Grandia Newendorp on Sept. 24, 1896, on a farm west of Leighton. When he was three years old they moved to a farm northwest of Leighton. He attended school at Meade No. 7 and then stayed home and helped his father with farming.

He was drafted in the Army in 1918 during World War I and served at Camp Dodge in Des Moines, Ia. for six months.

He was baptized and made profession of faith at the Ebenezer Reformed Church of Leighton.

He married Harriet Van Zee on Nov. 24, 1920. Harriet was the daughter of Govert and

Front, l-r: Harriet and Harry Newendorp; Back, l-r: Elva, Raymond, Freda.

Elizabeth Van Oss Van Zee and was born on Aug. 3, 1898. She grew up on a farm near Leighton. She attended the Black Oak and Scott Center School.

She was baptized and made profession of faith at Ebenezer Reformed Church.

Harry and Harriet moved to his father's farm northwest of Leighton where they lived until 1937 and at that time purchased a farm east of Pella and lived there until 1964. Harry raised corn, hay, oats, hogs, and dairy cows.

During this time they were members of the First Reformed Church where Harry served as Deacon and Elder for many years.

Harry also served on the REA Board for several years and was also Township Trustee.

Three children were born to them: Raymond in 1922, Freda in 1927, and Elva in 1939.

Raymond married Clara Roorda on Aug. 15, 1946. They have always been engaged in farming in the Pella area and presently live in Pella. They have four sons: Robert, Keith, Bruce, and Ronald.

Freda married Alvin Goemaat on Oct. 8, 1947. They lived in the Oskaloosa and Leighton area and are now retired and live in Leighton. They have three children: Connie, Nancy, and Larry.

Elva married Don Roorda on Apr. 10, 1959, and they have always lived in Pella. They have three sons: Scott, Craig, and Todd.

In 1964 Harry and Harriet retired and moved to Leighton. Harriet died Mar. 11, 1970, and Harry Apr. 17, 1972.

by Mrs. Raymond Newendorp

Left to Right: Keith, Ronald, Clara, Ray, Bruce, and Robert.

NEWENDORP, RAYMOND AND CLARA

F371

Raymond Isaac Newendorp was born to Harry and Harriet Van Zee Newendorp on Dec. 5, 1922, on a farm northwest of Leighton. He attended school at Meade No. 7 after which he stayed at home and helped his father farm. In 1937 the family moved to a farm east of Pella and while living there he was drafted in the Navy in 1945 during World War II and served there for one and one-half years. He had his Boot Camp Training at Great Lakes Naval Station, Ill. He was transferred to Oakland, Calif. and assigned to the *U.S.S. Wyman* and the Naval Air Station at Alameda, Calif.

He was baptized in the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton and made profession of faith in the First Reformed Church in Pella where he is an active member and served as Deacon and Elder.

He married Clara Ruth Roorda on Aug. 15, 1946. Clara was the daughter of Wigert and Reino Borgman Roorda and was born Oct. 27, 1923. She grew up on the Roorda family farm two miles northwest of Pella and lived there till 1944 when she moved to Pella with her parents. She attended Pella Public Schools and graduated from Pella High School. She worked as a secretary at the City Office till her marriage. She was baptized and made profession of faith at the First Reformed Church, where she is an active member, and taught Sunday School and held offices in Guild and Circles.

After their marriage, Raymond and Clara lived in Pella. Raymond drove a truck and in Mar. moved to a farm they rented northwest of Pella. They lived there six years, then rented a farm northeast of Leighton and lived there seven years. In 1960 they purchased a farm five miles east of Pella on Highway 163. They lived there 20 years and also purchased his father's farm and farmed it. Raymond raised cattle, hogs, corn, beans, oats, and hay.

They were active in 4-H work, Raymond as leader and Committeeman and Clara as Committeewoman.

Raymond also served on the Board of the Farmer's Co-Operative Exchange of Pella for several years and was Black Oak Township Clerk for many years.

Four sons were born to them: Robert in 1948, Keith in 1950, Bruce in 1955, and Ronald in 1958.

Robert and Keith started school at Black Oak No. 6 in Mahaska County, and then all the boys attended Leighton Grade School and graduated from Pella Community High School.

Robert went to Marshalltown Junior College and then transferred to Ia. State University at Ames, Ia. He went into the trucking business and now also farms. He was married to Cynthia Wanders of Pella in 1975. They live at 1517 West Fourth St. in Pella. They have two children: Josiah and Lisa.

Keith graduated from Ia. State University at Ames, Ia. and was drafted in the Army in 1972 and was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and Madigan General Hospital at Tacoma, Wash. After his discharge he worked for Farmer's Hybrid Hogs at Hampton and Cherokee, Ia. He moved to Pella and started farming with his father. He was married to Cheryl Vander Plaats of Oskaloosa in 1976 and they have three children: Eric, David, and Jaclyn. They live on the family farm on Route 3, Pella.

Bruce went to Ia. State University at Ames and majored in Engineering. He works for John Deere at Waterloo, Ia., in the Engineering Department. He was married to Janice Hauber of Dyersville, Ia. in 1976 and have one son, Brandon. They live at Cedar Falls, Ia.

Ronald started to work for Vermeer Manufacturing of Pella after graduation and has worked there for seven years. He lives at home.

In 1980 Raymond and Clara built a house in Pella at 1329 East 7th Street where they now reside. Raymond still helps his sons on the farm and Clara keeps busy doing crafts, sewing, reading, and community volunteer work.

by Mrs. Raymond Newendorp

NEWENDORP, WALTER AND MARIE

F372

Walter John Newendorp was born to Issac and Elizabeth (Grandia) on Jan. 31, 1902, on the Newendorp family farm northwest of Leighton in Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co., which his father had purchased from the Howards. At one time there had been a horse race track on the north 80 acres and a brick hotel had stood on the south 80 acres.

He received his education in Meade No. 7 rural school. He helped his father and brother farm until he and his parents moved to the home in Leighton purchased from Ebern Dykstra in 1920. Then Walter picked up eggs and cream on a daily route for Rene De Reus.

He was baptized and made profession of his faith in the Ebenezer Reformed church in Leighton where he still is a member.

He was married to Marie Louisa Dorothea Groenendyk, daughter of Bastian and Elizabeth De Jong, at the parental home on the Locust Grove Farm just north of Leighton on

Walter Newendorp Family – 1968. Front, l-r: Walter, Marie; Back, l-r: Beulah, Louise, John, Dorothea, Wilbur.

Dec. 30, 1925. Marie was born on Feb. 10, 1901. She received her education in the Leighton school. She then helped her parents on the farm and also worked for the Brandt Van Maanens. During World War I, she helped take care of families who had the flu. Her father raised Angus cattle and at one time she showed the champion steer at the Chicago livestock show.

She was baptized and made profession of her faith in the Leighton Christian Reformed Church. After her marriage she transferred her membership to the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton, where she was an active member of the Dorcas Circle.

After their marriage, Walter and Marie moved to her father's farm southeast of Leighton in Scott Twp., Mahaska Co. They farmed here for 29 years. Their children are : Wilbur, Beulah, Louise, Dorothea, and John.

Wilbur was born Nov. 12, 1926. He graduated from West Weaver School. Later he helped his father on the farm and did some trucking before leaving for service in 1952. On Apr. 29, 1954, he married Gladys De Geus, daughter of Francis and Agnes (Walraven). They live west of Pella on a farm. Their children are: Vincent, Vicki, Vaughn, and Valerie.

Beulah was born on Dec. 22, 1927. She also graduated from West Weaver School. She helped her mother until she became a nurse's aid in Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. She married Dormand Arkema, son of Oney and Katie Bruxvoort, on June 27, 1950. Their children are: Duane, Doyle, Maria, and Michael. Doyle met with a fatal farm accident on July 26, 1976. They live in the Sully area.

Louise was born on Oct. 18, 1931, received her education at West Weaver School, and helped her mother until becoming a nurse's aid in Mercy Hospital. On Nov. 17, 1953, she married John Van Woerkom, son of Bastian and Gertie (Vande Wall). They live on the Tone Van Zee farm northwest of Pella. They are the parents of Bonita, Janice, Karen, Kenneth, John, and Jay.

Dorothea was born on May 31, 1934. She also received her education at West Weaver School, helped her mother at home, and later was a nurse's aid in Mercy Hospital. She married Dwight Wanders, son of Louis and Julia Brand, on Feb. 14, 1955. They live in the Barnes City area. Their children are: Julia, Steven, Gary, Laurel, Mary, and Marsha.

John was born on Jan. 15, 1941. He attended West Weaver and Leighton schools and graduated from Pella High School in 1959. He attended Northeast Missouri State College and also served with the air national guard. He married Karen Vander Leest, daughter of Raymond and Josephine De Vries, on July 12, 1963. They live in Leighton and are the parents of a son Kevin and a daughter Kimberly.

Walter and Marie retired in 1954 to a home they purchased from Jeltje De Jong in Leighton and in 1964 moved to the Groenendyk home they purchased from her mother. Walter then started woodworking as his hobby. He has made mantle clocks, a grandfather clock, and numerous wood articles for the home. Marie enjoyed doing embroidering, quilting, crocheting, and all kinds of handwork for herself as well as her children and grandchildren. Marie passed away on June 11, 1973. Walter now lives in the Leighton Leisure Living Complex, where he enjoys visiting with family and friends.

by Wilbur and Gladys Newendorp

NEWENDORP, WILBUR AND GLADYS

F373

Wilbur Isaac Newendorp was the eldest child born to Walter and Marie Groenendyk on Nov. 12, 1926 on a farm southeast of Leighton, Scott Twp., Mahaska Co. He graduated from West Weaver School which joined his parents' farm on the north. Later he helped his father farm and did some trucking before serving in the army from 1952 to 1954 during the Korean Conflict. He served with the 832nd Engineer Aviation Battalion for two years. He had his basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. and was transferred to Beale Air Force Base in California where his battalion served under the air force. He was a dispatcher in the motor pool. His battalion also spent six months at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska.

He was baptized and made profession of his faith in the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton, later transferring to the First Reformed Church in Pella where he served as deacon and elder and is an active choir member.

He married Gladys De Geus, daughter of Francis and Agnes Walraven, on Apr. 29, 1954, at the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton since First Reformed Church, Pella, was under construction at this time. She was born on Jan. 15, 1929, and grew up on her parents' farm four miles west of Pella, Summit Twp., Marion Co. She attended Silver Grove School which was located three-fourths mile south of her home. Some of the memories of country school are walking to school every day, her Dad taking her to school when the roads were impassable with horses and wagon, sledding during noon hours, the Christmas program, and the picnic which marked the end of the school year. Gladys graduated from Pella High School in 1947 and worked for the Pella Rural Electric Cooperative until her marriage.

She was baptized and made profession of her faith in the First Reformed Church of Pella and later transferred to the Ebenezer Reformed Church of Leighton. At the present time she is again a member of the First Reformed Church where she teaches Sunday School, is church librarian, and is involved in Guild and Circles.

After their marriage Wilbur and Gladys moved to his parents' farm southeast of Leighton and in 1962 they moved to her parents' farm west of Pella along Highway 163 near the Four Mile Railroad Crossing. One of the landmarks of this farm is the Thunder Creek which runs through the northeast section of the farm. This creek is noted for going on a rampage and overflowing after a heavy rain. In Apr., 1965, Gladys' parents purchased the farm that joined them on the south from Lucy Bogaards.

They are the parents of two sons and two daughters: Vincent W. was born on Jan. 14, 1955, in Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa; Vicki Gail was born on July 29, 1956, in Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa; Vaughn W. was born on Dec. 24, 1960, in Mahaska Hospital; and Valerie Gay was born on Mar. 22, 1963, in Pella Community Hospital. Vincent and Vicki started school in Lincoln School, Oskaloosa and then all the children attended Pella schools and graduated from Pella Community High School. Vincent, Vicki, and Vaughn were baptized in Ebenezer Reformed Church, Leighton and Valerie was baptized in the First Reformed Church of Pella where all the children made profession of their faith.

Vincent graduated from Iowa State College in Ames, Ia. with a B.A. degree in agricultural engineering in 1977. At present he is engineering manager, Agricultural/Tree Products Division at Ver Meer Mfg. Co., Pella.

Wilbur Newendorp family – 1982. Front, l-r: Vicki, Gladys, Valerie; Back, l-r: Vaughn, Wilbur, Vincent.

On Feb. 22, 1985, he married Monica May, daughter of Marvin and Marilyn Terpstra at the Third Reformed Church in Pella. She teaches second grade at East Elementary School in Knoxville. They are members of Third Reformed Church and live at 1526 Pleasant Drive in Pella.

In 1978 Vicki graduated from Central College with a B.A. degree in elementary education. In 1976, during her sophomore year, she was a member of the Tulip Court. She was married to Paul Jones, son of Harry and Muriel (Jeske) of Chicago, Ill. on June 9, 1979, in the First Reformed Church of Pella. Vicki is teaching kindergarten in the Leighton School and Paul is vice-president of Farmers Savings Bank, Leighton. They have two daughters. Amy Marie was born on June 28, 1982, and Elizabeth Gail was born on May 28, 1985. They live in Leighton and are members of the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton.

Vaughn graduated from Central College in 1983 with a B.A. degree in business. He is a purchasing assistant at Precision Pulley Inc. in Pella. On Sept. 21, 1984, he married Donna Van Rees, daughter of Donald and Delores (Bokhoven), at the Sully Christian Reformed Church. Donna is personnel secretary at Precision Pulley in Pella. They live at 118 East 12th St. in Pella and are members of the First Reformed Church, Pella.

Valerie was a member of the Tulip Court in 1981. She graduated from Central College in 1985 with a B.A. degree in secondary education. She is teaching home economics in the Shawnee Mission High School, Shawnee Mission, Kan. On June 7, 1986 she married Todd Sutphen, son of David and Ardie (Pals). Todd is cost accounting and expenditure supervisor at the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City, Mo. They live on North Oak Traffic Way in Kansas City, Mo. They are still members of First and Second Reformed Churches in Pella.

Wilbur is actively engaged in farming, raising livestock and grain; and Gladys works part time as a receptionist-bookkeeper for Dr. James Dahm, D.D.S. During the years they have been active in community affairs, Gladys as a 4-H leader and committee person and Wilbur on the Spark of Life board and A.S.C.S. County Committee. They enjoy refinishing antique furniture in their spare time.

by Gladys Newendorp

NEYENESCH, HERMAN

F374

The ancestry of Herman Neyenesch can be traced back five generations to the town of Haarlo near Eibergan in The Netherlands to Hendrick Overbeckinck (early 1600's), who married Ermgard, "otherwise Ermtgen."

His great grandfather Esken Overbekkink changed his name to Nijenesch after his first marriage to Anna Nijenes. His father Gijshert Nijenesch changed the spelling of his name to Geysbert Neyenesch. He and his father were both gardeners.

Herman Neyenesch (died Oct. 25, 1823, died June 26, 1914) was born to Geysbert Neyenesch (born Jan. 14, 1791, died Apr. 28, 1835) and Hendrika Engberts (born May 2, 1794) from Velp in the municipality of Rheden.

Herman's first wife was Johanna Van Den Toorn. They had four children: no record of eldest, Hendrika Gijsbertha Petronella, Petronella Julia, and Herman. In 1863 he married Anna M. Neuwenhuysen. Their three children were: Amanda (born Dec. 13, 1863, died Dec. 18, 1938); Maria Louisa (born Mar. 24, 1866, died Oct. 10, 1959) who married Arnoldus Kuyper (born Aug. 7, 1863, died Dec. 6, 1910) on Nov. 17, 1890; and Julia (born Sept. 16, 1867, died Apr. 18, 1939).

Herman was highly educated and spoke several languages. In 1850 he was a teacher of the second rank. The municipality of Rheden allowed him in that year to start a day-and-boarding school at Velp. In 1850 he decided to emigrate to Pella and sent his resignation as of Apr. 1. He left the country with his wife and three children the same year, settling in Pella, where, as one of the first teachers in Pella, he taught for 15 years. Part of the time he taught at Central University, and part in the public schools.

In 1870 he commenced his journalistic experience as editor of *Weekblad*, a nine-column paper published in the Dutch language. His daughter Maria assisted him as a typesetter for the Dutch language newspaper. He also owned and published the *Pella Blade*, published in English, and also published a religious paper in the Dutch language known as the *Christian Heraldied* He continued in the publishing business about 31 years.

In 1860 he was elected city recorder and held this position 11 years. In 1874 he was elected mayor and held that position for five terms. He was also Justice of Peace for 11 years.

A new English-speaking church was organized in Feborn 13, 1863. On Apr. 7, the name "Second Reformed Dutch Church of Pella, Ia." was adoptedied H. Neyenesch was one of 25 Charter Members.

Mrs. Neyenesch was honored to receive a personal thank-you note dated July 2, 1917, from President Woodrow Wilson, thanking her for the bedspread she crocheted for them.

The children of his daughter Maria Louisa Neyenesch Kuyper and her husband Arnoldus were: Peter Herman (born Sept. 24, 1891, died Jan. 11, 1981); Louis Arnold (born Aug. 8, 1898, died Oct. 8, 1985); and Julian Arthur (Bob) (born May 7, 1904, died Sept. 4, 1976).

by Esther Kuyper

NIBBELINK FAMILY

F375

Stoffel Groot Nibbelink, baby Bertha, and Antonia (Van Maanen) Nibbelink.

Stoffel Groot Nibbelink

Stoffel Groot Nibbelink left for America in the Spring of 1883 with three small sons and

Gerrit Willem

Everett Coenraad

their stepmother, Antonio Van Maanen. His first wife, Henrietta Kruseman, had died when their youngest child was born. They and his aged father left from Dodewaard, Gelderland. There was no picture of the boys' mother, so they carried with them a framed letter she had written to her parents in 1867. This letter is still in the family. Also on the same ship were several members of the Kurseman family, including the boys' grandmother.

The sea voyage was very rough and lasted 28 days. Four days after they left Holland an anchor screw broke and the ship had to return to England to have it repaired. After a week's delay, they decided to take a shorter and more northerly route. On this route they ran into icebergs so the captain let the ship drift. When an iceberg hit it felt like the ship would break apart, scattering pots and pans all about. Many were seasick on the voyage. The youngest child died and was buried at sea on that long trip. Upon arriving in New York, the Senior Nibbelink was so sick that he had to remain behind while his son and family continued on to Pella. They never heard from him again. Was he perhaps buried in the nearby Potters Field where strangers were buried? In later years his grandson G.W. Nibbelink said, "I couldn't have done it, leave my ailing father behind like that." But have buried one child at sea and being in a strange land, they likely had no choice but to say with their group and travel on, arriving finally in Pella with Gerrit Willem, age seven, and Everett Coenraad, age five. They settled in the Peoria area. A daughter named Bertha was born to them there. Some time later the family became charter members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

Bertha married Gerrit Van Der Hart who was also from Peoria. They had a large family of five girls and four boys, most of whom made their homes in the Pella area. They are Jeanetta, Stoffel, Godert, Anna, Helen, Marie, Wilma, Paul and Cornie.

The Groot Nibbelinks later retired in Peoria, but he often helped out with butchering, which was a big job. Once he cut his hand severely, but didn't think the white bandage the lady offered him was necessary. Instead he wrapped his handkerchief around it and continued to work. But blood poisoning set in and he died. His wife then made her home with her daughter, Bertha. You will find their graves in the Peoria Cemetery.

Bill and Coen, as the boys were called, became farmers and in later years together bought a threshing machine. With a steam engine they set out to thresh the neighborhood grain. In Feb. of 1899, Coenraad married Johanna Olivier. They had no children. After farming several years they moved to Pella where he was foreman of the wagon factory for many years. He liked to hunt and to make things from wood, especially walnut, and to finish it himself. He made a drop leaf table, a bookcase, lamps and stands, some of which are still in the family.

Also in Feb. of 1899, William married. His wife was a girl from across the Skunk River named Reca Engbers. Reca remembers that Indians used to camp along the banks of the river. They first lived on a very hilly farm five miles north of Peoria, where four children were born. He then purchased 200 acres, two miles southeast of Peoria, on the New Sharon road, where five children were born, Henrietta Ida Wilhelmina (named for her grandmother), Albert, Stoffel, Willem, Hendrik, Antonie, Wilmpje, Ida and Marie Clazina. Groot appears on some of the baptismal cards but somewhere along the line it was dropped and a few names Americanized.

In 1938 they moved to Pella. Both Bill and his brother Coen built new homes for themselves near West Market and in 1949 both celebrated 50 years of marriage, a week apart. All four passed away within a two-year period. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery and have identical gravestones.

by Mrs. Henry Nibbelink

NIBBELINK FAMILY

F376

G.W. Nibbelink

This large family, the children of G.W. Nibbelink and Reca Engbers, grew up on the farm southeast of Peoria.

Henrietta was born in 1900, on the Fourth of July. Being the oldest of such a large family, she was expected to grow quickly. Her familial responsibilities took precedent over school and thus her formal education ended at an early age. She remained living in the house of her parents until 1986 when she moved to Pella Manor.

On Feb. 11, 1926, Albert married Jeanette Vos and farmed near Peoria for several years. They then moved to Pella where Albert worked for three different meat markets. He was one of Pella's skilled meat cutters. They now reside at Hilltop Manor 2. Their children are Ruth Jean, wife of Rev. Norman Van Heukulem, and Keith W., married to Norma Van Velthuizen.

On Jan. 2, 1930, Steve (Stoffel) married Gertrude Vos. They farmed four miles southeast of Peoria for 56 years of their married life. In the summer of 1986, they retired to Hilltop Manor because of failing health. There are three children: Bonna Rose, married to Rev. Gorden Negen; Verla Joy, married to Ron Jansen; and Gary Wayne, married to JoAnne Van Der Hart.

Being the fourth child in the family, William's assistance in the farm work was less essential. After graduating from Central Academy, he worked for a time at Klyn and De Winter Meat Market. He was drafted into the Army and served as a medic in the South Pacific during World War II. After returning home, he worked at the Veterans Administration in Des Moines where he met Betty Nixon. They were married on Oct. 24, 1953. They live in Des Moines.

On Mar. 2, 1938, Henry married Nellie Blom. The day after their wedding, the elder Nibbelinks moved from the family farm to Pella leaving the "home place" in the hands of the newlyweds. Henry spent the first 61 years of his life on that same farm.

In 1954 the large old farm house was taken down and replaced with a new brick one.

Henry and Nellie had three children: William H. married to Wilma De Young; Jonathan E. married to Doris Ultermarkt; and Nelson R. married to Phyllis Deur.

In 1969 Henry and Nellie moved to Pella. In 1978, at the age of 70, Henry died suddenly from a heart attack. He was choring at the family farm at the time of the attack. His life began and ended on that same cherished family farm. At the time of this writing he is the only member of the family not living and his presence is sorely missed. The inscription on his tombstone in Oakwood cemetery reads, "Blessed are the dead who died in the Lord."

Tony farmed with his brother, Henry, for six years. On Dec. 29, 1943, he married Frances Roose, and moved to an adjoining farm owned by his father. They had one daughter, Marilyn. When Marilyn was six, a tragic fire destroyed their home and took the life of her mother, Frances. Tony and Marilyn then made their home with Frances' parents. Tony worked for his father-in-law as a carpenter. Marilyn is married to Bill De Kruyff.

On Mar. 6, 1936, Wilma married Cornie Stursma. They had two children, Retha June married to Alvin Lourens and Edwin who lives in Des Moines. After farming for several years, they moved to Pella where Cornie worked for Ver Meers. After 25 years of marriage, on a hot summer day, Cornie died of a heart attack. After Cornie's death, Wilma worked for Central College, cleaning dormitories. She enjoyed the social contact of coworkers and college students.

On Feb. 22, 1940, Ida married John Kloosterman and moved to his father's farm southeast of Peoria on the New Sharon Road. They still live on this farm and remain active

The G.W. Nibbelink Family. Front, L-R: Mother Reca (Engbers) Nibbelink, Marie, Father Gerrit William Nibbelink, and Ida; Middle, L-R: Henrietta, Steve, Albert, and Wilma; Back, L-R: William, Henry, and Tony.

in their community and in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

On Sept. 17, 1948, Marie married Wilbert Schut, a veteran of World War II. They lived in Pella and had one son, Bernard Henry. They built a new home on Independence Street. When Bernard was 10 years old his father died of a heart condition, leaving a large empty place. Today Marie lives in Pella Manor.

The family's social life centered around the church and neighborhood. All nine children went to the Peoria Christian School at some time in their lives. All made profession of faith in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where Mr. Nibbelink served several terms as a deacon.

One Sunday morning their brand new car stalled half-way down the lane. Stay home from church? Never! They quickly harnessed and hitched the horses to the carriage. The old cliche "better late than never" certainly applied to church attendance. Their propensity for punctuality, however, allowed them to arrive in time, in spite of the unexpected delay.

Like all others of that day, at times they prospered and at times they experienced difficulty. The years of the Great Depression and the drought of 1934 were particularly trying times. The good times were happier and the bad times were more tolerable, because of the love and support the family gave to its members.

by Mrs. Henry Nibbelink

NIEUWENDORP, ISAAC AND ELIZABETH

F377

Isaac and Elizabeth Nieuwendorp – wedding picture – Feb. 20, 1890.

Isaac Nieuwendorp, the son of Christiaan and Neeltje Vander Meer Nieuwendorp, was born July 14, 1865. His father Christiaan was a passenger on the *Nagasaki* which left Rotterdam, Holland Apr. 1847, for America. His mother Neeltje came on a later ship.

Isaac was born in the state of Oregon and as a young boy came with his parents to Pella. Later they moved to Sioux Co. As a young man he drove a team of oxen from Keokuk to Orange City on the Daniel Boone Trail to get groceries and supplies for his family.

At an early age he made profession of faith in the Reformed Church and later transferred his membership to the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton. At a young age he played in a band with a group of young men.

He married Elizabeth Grandia on Feb. 20, 1890, in Orange City, Ia. Elizabeth was the daughter of Jacob and Marie (Colyn) Grandia and was born June 14, 1868. After a few years they moved to a farm in the Leighton vicinity. She made profession of faith in the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton.

Five sons and one daughter were born to them. They were Charles, Clara, Harry L., Walter John, Walter John, and Lawrence W.

Charles was born Nov. 22, 1890 in Sioux Co. As a young boy he moved to the Leighton area with his parents and attended Meade School. He married Carrie Vroom on Feb. 18, 1914. Carrie was the daughter of John and Mary (Van Zee) Vroom and was born May 25, 1891. She attended school at Black No. 6. They farmed in the Leighton and Pella areas and in 1950 moved to Pella. Their children are: Leona, (Mrs. Gerald Meppelink, who died in 1980); Edith, (Mrs. Edward Van Gorp); Verla (who died at the age of two-and-one-half years); and Elmer. Charles died Nov. 26, 1979 and Carrie died mar. 8, 1963.

Clara was born Dec. 3, 1892, in Sioux Co. and at a very young age moved to a farm near Leighton with her parents. She attended Meade School. She married Teunis De Heer on Feb. 10, 1916. He was born Feb. 11, 1892. They farmed near Leighton and Oskaloosa, moving to Oskaloosa in 1948. Their children are Helen (Mrs. Henry Hugen) and Melvin. Clara died Oct. 3, 1975 and Teunis died Aug. 23, 1967.

Harry was born Sept. 24, 1896, near Leighton. He attended Meade School. He married Harriet Van Zee, daughter of Govert and Elizabeth (Van Oss) Van Zee on Nov. 24, 1920. She was born Aug. 3, 1898. They farmed in the Leighton and Pella vicinity and moved to Leighton in 1964. Their children are: Raymond; Freda, (Mrs. Alvin Goemaat); and Elva, (Mrs. Don Roorda). Harry died Apr. 17, 1972, and Harriet died Mar. 11, 1970.

Walter John was born 1899 and died the same year.

Walter John was born Jan. 31, 1902, near Leighton. He attended Meade School. He married Marie Groenendyk on Dec. 30, 1925. She was the daughter of Bastian and Elizabeth De Jong Groenendyk. She was born on Feb. 10, 1901. They farmed southeast of Leighton in Scott Township and later moved to Leighton. The children born to them are: Wilbur; Beulah, (Mrs. Dormand Arkema); Louise, (Mrs. John Van Woerkum); Dorothea, (Mrs. Dwight Wanders): and John. Walter resides in Leighton and Marie passed away June 11, 1973.

Lawrence W. was born 1904 and died in 1905.

Isaac and Elizabeth moved to Leighton in 1920. Isaac died on Aug. 6, 1922 and Elizabeth died on Feb. 3, 1934.

At some time the spelling of Nieuwendorp was changed to Newendorp.

by Elmer Newendorp

NIEUWSMA FAMILY

F378

The Nieuwsma family name came into existence in 1811, under Napoleon when most family names in The Netherlands area had their origin. Hein Jans, born approximately 1718, was married to Pietje Abes, born Jan. 14, 1720, and died Dec. 20, 1757. At this time the Nieuwsma family name was not yet in existence. On record, a son was born to this union Dec. 20, 1757. It was the same date that Pietje Abes died, in all probability due to childbirth. The son was named Renze Heins. On record is a document dated Feb. 12, 1812, where he chose the family name "Nieuwsma". He was married to Adriaantje Bijlsma. He named six children in the document: Cornelius born 1785, Hein born 1788, Pieter born 1789, Wijbe born 1792, and Jan and Maaike, twins, born in 1801. Renze Hein Nieuwsma died Jan. 13, 1824.

Heins, the second son born in 1788, can be most clearly established as the forbearer of the Nieuwsma family name in Pella. A Rotterdam newspaper article in 1947, featured news of 100 years ago 1847, of Hein Nieuwsma a schipper who was lost at sea in 1847. This article was clipped and saved by a distant cousin Johannes Nieuwsma. He lived in Schiedam in Sept., 1980, when we were privileged to visit there. This article correlates with accounts the family has passed on, of a great-grandfather lost at sea while a schipper on a boat. Actual dates of this family are not clear or who he was married to.

Heins had a son named Renze Nieuwsma and was married to Tryntje Rienks, no dates given. The records and dates of this time are not complete and further research is pending. It is thought the records of various communities may have been destroyed during World War I after which the remaining records were then located in the central records division at Leeuwarden. Six children were born to Renze and Tryntje in Hyum, Friesland. They were Hein, Sepke, Johannes, Bokke, Tryntje and Hielke.

Hiekke, born Nov. 28, 1865, the youngest of the six children, came to America in 1884, with a young friend at the age of 19. On Mar. 3, 1893, he was married to Antje Zylstra who was born July 4, 1861, in Engwierum, Friesland. She was the daughter of Gerben Zylstra and Cornelske Smits. She had three brothers: Paul, Chebe, and Martin. The family came to America when she was around the age of 20. Hiekklke and Antje lived on a farm south of Pella until the fall of 1901, at which time they moved to Minnesota for two years. Subsequently, they lived on farms near Leighton, Pella, and the Peoria areas. They retired at 915 Union St. Pella, Ia., where they lived until they passed away. Hiekle died May 9, 1946, at the age of 80, and Antje died Oct. 21, 1952, at the age of 91. Nine children were born to them: Rense born Nov. 25, 1893, died Jan. 11, 1955; Cornelia (Ozinga) born Mar. 22, 1895, died Jan. 21, 1964; Katie (Vander Molen) born Mar. 7, 1896, the only one still living; Gerrit born Apr. 4, 1897, died Nov. 1, 1977; Henry born July 19, 1898, died Nov. 5, 1978; Paul born Jan. 29, 1900, died Feb. 15, 1979; Sarah born May 29, 1901, died Nov. 30, 1966; Ella (Roose) born May 29, 1901, died Feb. 16, 1977; and John born Oct. 29, 1903, died Aug. 2, 1971. This recent history of Hielke and Antje (Zylstra) Nieuwsma, their nine children and thirty-eight grandchildren, many of whom are now grandparents and great-grandparents, is recorded in a Nieuwsma family history book. It was assembled by members of the family to which younger generations can add names, dates and ages of descendants to this rich heritage.

This information was compiled by Gelmer Nieuwsma. He is the second son of Henry Nieuwsma born July 19, 1898, died Nov. 5, 1978, and Irene Andringa born May 25, 1901, oldest child of Gerrit Andringa and Anne Vande Lune. Henry and Irene have six children: Harold born Dec. 21, 1923, Gelmer born Oct. 23, 1925, Arvin born July 16, 1928, Ruth (Van Wyk) born Apr. 6, 1931, Norma born July 26, 1933, and Lois (Vos) born July 9, 1939. On June 14, 1950, Gelmer married Thressa R. (Stursma) born Oct. 24, 1931. They have six children. Judith M. born Feb. 17, 1952, married Rick D. Pringle June 8, 1972, who was born Jan. 11, 1950, and have three children: Todd E. born Jan. 23, 1975, Michael G. born May 20, 1976, and Luke R. born Sept. 7, 1977. Marilyn F. born July 27, 1953, married June 7, 1973, Douglas S. Van Zee who was born Jan. 7, 1953, and have two children: Scott A. born Dec. 12, 1976, and Erin M. born Jan. 24, 1980. Gayle J. born Nov. 3, 1954, married ar. 30, 1976, Stuart W. Ver Meer who was born Oct. 25, 1950, and have three children: Jeffrey S. born May 30, 1979, Mark R. born Oct. 25, 1982, and Sara E. born Apr. 22, 1985. Gary W. born Nov. 12, 1955, married July 25, 1981, Anna Maria Sifuentes who was born Aug. 2, 1957, and have one child: Analisa born Sept. 30, 1986. Ruth A. born May 16, 1959, married Aug. 24, 1979, Michael A. De Wild who was born Apr. 9, 1958, and have two children: Megan M. born July 7, 1983, and Bradley A. born Nov. 4, 1986. Steven H. Nieuwsma was born Feb. 12, 1965.

by Gelmer Nieuwsma

NIEUWSMA, HARRIS G.

F379

Harris Glen Nieuwsma was born Sept. 14, 1928, the only son of Paul Nieuwsma and Minnie Andringa Nieuwsma and grandson of Hielke R. and Antje Zylstra Nieuwsma. His parents, Paul and Minnie, were married Jan. 25, 1925, in her parents' home in Peoria, Ia. They farmed in the New Sharon, Sully, and Pella area until retirement in 1960. In addition to Harris their other children were: twin girls who died in infancy; Esther (Van Gent); and Alenna (Jansen). Harris' parents often told him about the house fire they had when he was only three. The morning after his mother gave birth to Esther, Grandmother Andringa smelled smoke and called Paul. The fire erupted swiftly so Paul wrapped his wife and newborn in a quilt and put them outside through the window. The house burned to the ground with the young family staying with neighbors until they could find other lodgings. This story always preceded a warning to be careful with heating equipment.

In 1951, Harris married the Sandridge school teacher, Gladys Leusink, who had come to Pella to attend Central College. Gladys was born May 8, 1930, on the Rosebud Indian Reservation in Todd Co., S. Dak., to Gerrit John (who died in 1953) and Hendrikje (who died in 1963) Koele Leusink. Her Koele grandparents immigrated from Gelderland to the Hull area where they first farmed and later operated the livery stable. When cars prevailed, they retired. Her Leusink grandparents came from the same province and farmed in the Middleburg, Ia., area. Family stories tell about Grandpa Leusink's big draft horses which hauled the foundation stones for the old Middleburg Reformed Church and of the big bell he donated when the church was completed. The old bell still hangs in a little belfry on the church grounds in Middleburg.

After the first World War, Gerrit John took his wife and small son, Gerald, to South Dakota where inexpensive land was available. Jeanet (Schultz), Gladys, and Harlan were born there as the verdant land succumbed to drought, dust storms and grasshoppers. In 1937, the Leusinks were the third family to migrate from South Dakota to Southern Wisconsin where their friends, the Jake Coehoorns, had found them a rental farm. Later, many families stayed with the Leusinks as more moved to find a better life. The depression was not over and the Leusink's rent was 20 dollars a month paid by a 20 dollar milk check — until the milk factory went broke and there was no check at all! The Leusinks raised an acre of cucumbers, for the Darien pickle factory, to survive. During this time, Joyce (Pease) and Bernys (Sutphen) were born.

After their marriage Harris went to service, spending the second year in Germany. Gladys taught in Rock Count, Wis., and after their return to Pella, at Warren School and at European #3. Harris worked at Klyn Tire Shop for two years, then built a miniature golf course just east of the present outdoor swimming pool. In 1956 he bought Anthony Van Zee's Jeep trencher which began a 22-year career installing drainage tile. The couple had three children: Randal, the Media Director at Calvin College and married to Renee Bill in 1986; Sherilyn, a registered nurse and married to Craig DeWitt in 1981 with one daughter, Lauren Elizabeth born in 1984; and Gary a state trooper in the Iowa Highway Patrol and married to Patti Monsma in 1982 with one daughter, Leasa Marie born in 1986. Gladys went back to Central and earned her degree in 1973 after which she started a career in real estate as the first active female in the profession in Pella. In 1982, she began her own business with the BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS franchise. She was active in the League of Women Voters serving the state board during the unsuccessful campaign to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment.

In 1978, Harris sold his business and built two wand-type car washes to occupy his semi-retirement time. The couple still lives on the west end of Sunset Drive where two trailers once stood, owned by an engineer employed at the dam who died from a shotgun wound suffered under alleged dubious circumstances. Five years after they built their home, the slope behind them changed from a cornfield housing A-frame hog sheds to a graded area and the first Parkview home went up in 1974. In eight years the open view changed to houses on every planned street.

Wedding of Randal Nieuwsma and S. Renee Bill. First Row, l-r: Harris Nieuwsma family and Gerald and Geesje Leusink; Second Row, l-r: Dale and Joyce Leusink Pease family; Third Row, l-r: Harlan Leusink family, George R. and Bernys Leusink Sutphen family; Fourth Row, l-r: Earl and Jeanet Leusink Schultz family; Fifth Row, l-r: Kenneth and Esther Nieuwsma Van Gent and Keith, Robert and Alenna Nieuwsma Jansen, Rodney and Lianne.

In Sunset Hills West, homes are taking over today where the children raced horses across Leonard Gosselink's pasture. The street in front of their home remains unpaved, but sidewalks are appearing here and there. It's progress.

by Harris G. Nieuwsma

NIEUWSMA, JOHN
F380

Hielke R. Nieuwsma was born Nov. 28, 1865, in Hyeum, Friesland, Holland. He was the son of Rense N. and Tryntje Rienks Nieuwsma. He came to America in 1884. Hielke was married To Antje Zylstra. She was the daughter of Gerben and Cornelske Smits Zylstra. Antje was born July 4, 1861, in Engwierum, Friesland, Holland. She came to America in 1881. Hielke and Antje were married on Mar. 3, 1893, and became the parents of nine children of whom John was the youngest.

John was born Oct. 29, 1903, in Mahaska Co., Ia. On Jan. 20, 1927, he was married to Henrietta Van Kooten at her parents' home near Searsboro, in Poweshiek Co., Ia. Rev. Ralph Bolt performed the ceremony.

Henrietta was born Dec. 7, 1905, in Appeldorn, Holland to Hendrik and Cornelia Schut Van Kooten. She came to America in 1910, at the age of four along with her parents and 11 brothers and sisters.

The family first settled near Alton, Ia. and in 1912 journeyed by train to Oskaloosa, Mahaska Co., Ia. They settled on a farm near Lacey, Ia.

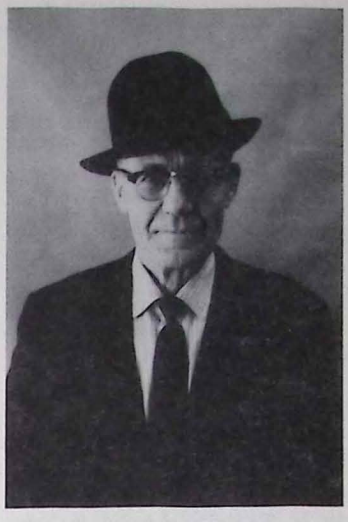
After their marriage John and Henrietta farmed in the Peoria, Ia. area until 1951 when

Henrietta Nieuwsma.

they moved to a farm west of Pella. In 1954 they retired from the farm and moved into Pella, where John worked for a year at the Buerkens Wagon Factory and then 14 years at the Rolscreen Company.

Henrietta worked as a cook in several area restaurants and owned and operated the Pella Lunch and Sandwich Shop on S. Main from 1955 to 1957.

John died of a heart attack on Aug. 2, 1971, at the age of 67. He is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. Henrietta continued as a domestic helper for several families in Pella.



John Nieuwsma.

John and Henrietta are the parents of four children. Harlan, born Aug. 30, 1933, married Shirley Rook. He is an engineer with Collins and Honeywell in Cedar Rapids, Ia. Connie, Mrs. Ted Overbergen, was born July 24, 1936. She is co-owner of Mar-Co Travel in Oskaloosa, Ia. Doretha, Mrs. Donald Plate, was born Apr. 20, 1940. They live in Le Mars, Ia. Dennis who married Diane Carney was born May 30, 1947. He is a career person in the U.S. Air Force and is currently stationed in Germany.

On Dec. 27, 1977, Henrietta was married to Dick Rolffs. They currently live in the Pella Manor.

by Henrietta Rolffs

NIKKEL, JERRY AND JUDY (VAN ZEE)
F381

Jerry Gene Nikkel was born in Pearl River, N.Y., to Joe and Mary Jansen Nikkel of Sully, Ia. on Feb. 14, 1944. He attended Sully Christian School, Lynnville-Sully High School, and graduated from Central College in 1966 with a B.A. degree in business

Left to Right: Jason, Jerry, Judy, Jeff, and Joel.

administration. He received his M.A. degree in 1972 from Northeast Missouri State University.

Judith Ann Van Zee, daughter of Albert A. and Matilda Jabaai Van Zee, was born at the Mahaska County Hospital on Mar. 6, 1947. She attended Pella Christian Grade and High School. After high school graduation she worked one year in Des Moines.

Jerry and Judy were married by Rev. John H. Piersma in First Christian Reformed Church of Pella on Aug. 11, 1966. Their first home was in Sioux Center and a year later they moved to Hull. Jerry's first teaching job was at Western Christian High School in Hull where he taught business courses and assisted coaching girls' and boys' basketball. Judy worked in the Dordt College business office for one year, and in 1968 at the Sioux County *Index-Reporter* newspaper office in Hull.

In 1969 Jerry found a teaching position at Pella Christian High School. He became the head boys' basketball coach at P.C.H.S. in 1974 and received the Class 2A "Coach of the Year" award in 1984 and again in 1986.

Judy worked part-time at *The Pella Chronical* and Christian Opportunity Center. In 1978 she began working in Central College's clerical office, and transferred to the Registrar's office in 1985. Music played an important part in Judy's life, and she served as church organist at First Christian Reformed Church in Pella, Hope Christian Reformed Church in Hull, and Faith Christian Reformed Church in Pella.

Three sons were born to Jerry and Judy. Jeffrey Dean was born in Sioux City, Ia. on Feb. 20, 1968. At this writing he is a pre-engineering student at Iowa State University. Joel Dwayne was born June 27, 1971, at the Pella Community Hospital. He is currently a freshman at Pella Christian High School. Jason Dale completed the family, born Aug. 24, 1974, at Pella Community Hospital. He is a sixth grader at Pella Christian Grade School.

by Judy Nikkel

NOLLEN FAMILY

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The history of the Nollen family has been traced back to the late 1600's. Nollen was the name of a farm located between the towns of Nijverdal and Wierden in the province of Overijssel. Just outside of Wierden there is now an area named De Nollen. The Nollens of Dutch descent in the United States originated from one family that emigrated to Pella, Ia. in 1854. Gerhard Hendrikus Nollen was born Feb. 6, 1798, in Wierden, the son of Jannes and Aalken Kamphuis Nollen. His father died when Gerhard Hendrikus, known as Hendrikus, was a small boy, about 1801. His mother was able to support her two sons by managing an inn which later was taken over by the older brothers. Hendrikus was apprenticed to a scholar who lived in the village of Deventer. During this time Hendrikus became fluent in both French and German and acquired a fund of general knowledge much like his mentor. A teaching certificate, the first of three, and still in the possession of the Nollen family, was issued to Hendrikus in 1812 at age 14. Later he accepted a position as school master, city

Nollen Family. Hendrikus (Herman) Nollen b. 1842 d. 1928, Dirkje (Wolters) Nollen b. 1852 d. 1915.

clerk, church sexton and organist in the small village of Didam in the province of Gelderland. On Apr. 23, 1827, Hendrikus and Zwaantje Jongbloed were married and the family circle grew to include seven children, namely: Johannes (John) 1828-1914, Gerhard (Gerard) 1830-1901, Gezina Aleida 1832-1861, Hendrik (Henry) 1833-1920, Gezina Hendrika 1835-1855, Zwaantje 1837-1914, Hendrikus (Herman) 1842-1928. The oldest son, John, was able to play the organ for church services at age 13. The children were educated both at home and at school. Another son, Gerard, developed a talent for portrait and landscape painting. Henry at an early age learned to play the piano, organ, and violin and later was the organist at Second Reformed Church in Pella for many years. As economic conditions in the Netherlands deteriorated, and having corresponded with friends and acquaintances in Pella, the decision was made to leave Didam. Records show that the Nollen family sailed from Rotterdam on Mar. 24, 1854, and arrived in Havre, France, on the 26th. There they waited for passage to New Orleans. Family records indicate the Nollen family finally arrived in Pella on June 13, 1854. Later a farm approximately three miles west of Pella was purchased and the duties of running the farm were entrusted to the two younger sons, Henry and Herman. The farm was part of the 12,000 acres H.P. Scholte bought when he founded Pella in 1847. A certificate of registration and description of the land, signed by James K. Polk, president of the United States in 1848, is in possession of the Nollen family. Hendrikus died in 1867 at age 69 and Zwaantje in 1892 at age 90.

Herman, the youngest child of Hendrikus and Zwaantje Nollen, was born Dec. 7, 1842, and was 11 years old when he came with his family to Pella. He had the equivalent of a high school education when he left Holland and like his brothers was a great reader and also made many charcoal pencil drawings. On Aug. 4, 1870, Herman married Dirkje Wolters, daughter of J. Heukelman and Gysbertje Welle Wolters. J.H. Wolters managed the first drug store in Pella, located near the center of Washington and Broadway. Four children were born to Herman and Dirkje namely: Walter Henry (1872-1940), John (1874-1900), Garrett Henry (1877-1940), and Gysbertje or (Bertha) (1883-1955). Herman was active in farm, church and school activities. He was secretary of the Silver Grove School District for 52 years and only five days before his death turned over the books of the district to his successor.

The oldest son, Walter, was born Mar. 3, 1872, on the family farm. On Nov. 23, 1899, he married Grietje (Maggie) Van Houweling. She was born July 1, 1874, the daughter of Gysbert and Nellie De Jong Van Houweling. The Van Houweling family has been traced back to the early 1700's, and is still quite numerous in the province of South Holland in the cities of Nieuwland, Kedichem, Meerkirk and Gorinchem. Nellie De Jong, the mother of Maggie Van Houweling Nollen emigrated from Vianin, Netherlands in 1855 with her parents Adrianus and Maria Den Braven De Jongh. This family history published by Dirk De Young in 1934 traces the De Jonghs to Ghent, Belgium in the 11th and 12th centuries. Five children were born to Walter and Maggie Nollen. They are: Dorothy, married to John R. Van Gorp; Marion, who married Dorothy Van Arsdale; Herman married to Opal Lust; Elmer married to Marie Wanders; and, Myron married to Cordelia Van Zante.

In 1981 a family history called "The Nollen Family in America" written by Carl, son of Elmer and Marie Nollen, and Paul, son of Marion and Dorothy Nollen, was completed and published. This gives in more detail the origins of the Nollen family in the Netherlands until the present day.

by Marie Nollen

NOLLEN, ELMER AND MARIE

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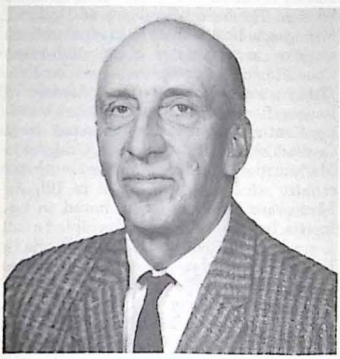
Nollen farm home taken in 1985, home of Ken and Linda Nollen.

Elmer James Nollen was born on June 10, 1910 on the Nollen farm three miles northwest of Pella on Highway #163, the son of Walter and Maggie Nollen. Elmer's grandfather Herman was the youngest of the Hendrikus Nollen family who emigrated from Holland in 1854 and the only one to take an interest in farming. Over the years the farm increased in size and Elmer's father, Walter, built a new house in 1922. The total

Nollen family picture taken in 1979. Back, l-r: Linda, Kenneth, Marie, Elmer, Ramona, Carl, Nancy, and Stanley; Front, l-r: Holly, Nicole, Reuben, Russell, Andrew, Christine, and Timothy Nollen.



Elmer Nollen's passport picture taken in 1967 for tour of Europe and Russia.

cost of the house was $4502.00 including $400.00 for a Delco generator to provide electricity. After graduating from Pella High School in 1928, Elmer helped at home with the farm work.

In March of 1937 he was married to Marie Wanders, the daughter of Albert and Bertha Van Donselaar Wanders. Both the Wanders and Van Donselaar families emigrated from the province of Gelderland in the early 1890's. Marie lived on a farm four miles southeast of Pella on the Marion, Mahaska county line, attended Valley Rural School and graduated from Pella High School in 1930. Elmer and Marie have lived through three-quarters of the 20th century, sometimes called the age of technology. From kerosene lamps to electric lights, from horses to tractors, from wood and coal burning stoves to central heating and later central air-conditioning, the party-line telephone to the private line, computerized telephone. Radio came in the 20's, then television, VCR's, and enormous changes in both farm machinery and farm management, also, open-pollinated corn to hybrid seed corn and other improvements in crops and livestock.

Elmer and Marie have been active members of Second Reformed Church. Elmer served on the consistory for 12 years and Marie has filled various offices in Ladies Aid, Women's Guild and taught Sunday School. Elmer served for 28 years on the Marion County Board of Education and on the Pella Cooperative board of directors for 17 years. Both have served as president of the Marion County Farm Bureau and are active in Republican Party affairs. Marie worked part-time in the Central College Bookstore from 1969 until 1983.

Carl Nollen, born in 1939, graduated from Pella High School in 1957, attended Iowa State University for two years where he majored in biology and graduated from American Institute of Business. He has since worked in the trucking business and presently works in the Crouse Cartage office of Des Moines, Ia. Carl Nollen married Ramona Riley on Aug. 29, 1966 in Chicago, Ill. The Riley family came to United States from Ireland around 1800, and eventually to Valentine, Neb. in 1913. Ramona worked at Cedar Pass Lodge in the Badlands National Monument near her home after graduation from high school at Interior, S.Dak. and was employed in Chicago in the early sixties. Carl is active as a volunteer and member of the Iowa Genealogical Society of Des Moines. They live on an acreage east of Des Moines near Runnells, Ia. They have three sons Russell, born in 1967, Andrew, born in 1970, and Reuben, born in 1972.

Stanley Nollen born in 1940 also graduated from Pella High School and Iowa State University. He received his master's degree in agricultural economics from Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. Stan worked for Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Mich. for two years before returning to the University of Chicago where he earned an MBA in 1970 and a Ph.D. in economics in 1974. Stan is Professor of Economics at Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. Several summer sessions have been spent at Oxford University, England administering a program for graduate students. Stan has received grants to do research on Alternative Work Schedules and has written numerous books and articles. In July of 1965, Stan married Nancy Wilson from the Washington, Ia. area and a graduate of Iowa State University in 1963 in hme economics. She earned a master's degree in family life in 1967 from Central Michigan University at Mt. Pleasant, Mich. Nancy is presently employed as director of an employee training program at a bank in Alexandria, Va. Stan and Nancy are the parents of Timothy, born in 1970 and Christine, born in 1974.

Kenneth Nollen, born in 1946, also attended Iowa State University and graduated in 1969 with a degree in mechanical engineering. Ken married Linda Van Kalkeren in May of 1967. Since both were still in college they lived in Pammel Court (married student housing) until Linda graduated with a degree in elementary education. Ken worked for General Electric in Schenectady, N.Y. and Linda taught school there for a year. In 1970 they moved back to Pella where he accepted a position as plant engineer with Rolscreen Company and Linda taught school in Prairie City, Ia. Linda's father has relatives in the Netherlands in the province of Gelderland, where her parents have visited and his cousins have also been in the Pella area to visit relatives. In 1979 Ken and Linda bought the Nollen farm and his parents moved into Pella. They have two daughters, Holly born in 1972 and Nicole born in 1973.

by Marie Nollen

NOLLEN, HERMAN AND OPAL

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Herman Henry Nollen is the third child born to Walter Henry Nollen and Maggie Van Houwelingen Nollen. Herman was born Jan. 17, 1908 in Pella. He graduated from Pella High School in 1925. Because his parents lived on a farm west of Pella, Herman was needed on the farm to help his parents. Therefore he didn't go on to college.

On May 24, 1933 Herman married Opal Louise Lust of Monroe, Ia. Opal was teaching a rural school in Marion Co. when Herman met her. Opal was the daughter of George and Nancy Rexroat Lust and was born Apr. 14, 1909. Opal's grandfather, Abraham Rexroat, had the distinction of being the first white male baby born in the state of Ia. near what is Burlington, Ia. today. Her great grandfather was a veteran of the Revolutionary War. After Opal graduated from Monroe High School, she attended the Des Moines University Normal School and graduated in 1928. She taught five years in three different schools.

After Herman and Opal were married, they started farming on the original Nollen farm through the 1933-34 seasons. From 1934-1947 they rented a farm three miles NE of Pella. In 1947 they purchased a farm four miles NE of Pella where they farmed until they retired in June, 1968 to a new home in Pella.

When Herman and Opal lived on the farm, they were very active in 4-H work. Opal was County Committee Woman for eight years,

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Nollen's 50th Wedding Anniversary. Front, l-r: Mrs. Opal Nollen, Stephen Gross, Mrs. Gloria Nollen, daughter Marcy Marie Nollen, Herman Nollen. Back, l-r: Mrs. Jan Gross, Ronald C. Gross, Keith Allen Nollen and Marc Nollen.

and Herman was the Swine Superintendent for the Southern Iowa Fair. He also served on the Mahaska Co. Farm Bureau Board. They are members of the Second Reformed Church where Herman has served as a deacon and Sunday School Supt. Opal was active in Women's Societies and many other activities. They were instrumental in organizing a center for Senior Citizens at the old Pella High School building. For the last twelve years Herman has served on the Advisory Board and Executive Board of the Commission on Aging, known as Crossroads of Iowa. In 1984, Herman was presented an award from the Governor of Ia., Gov. Terry Branstad, for an outstanding volunteer in that work.

Herman and Opal are the parents of two children. Janet was born Dec. 10, 1942, and Keith was born May 25, 1945. Janet grew up on their parents' farm and was a great help to her mother with gardening and household duties. She had the distinction of doing outstanding work as a 4-H club member, having taken several articles to the Iowa State Fair. Janet attended Central College in Pella, and later transferred to A.I.B. where she graduated from Business School and accounting. From 1962 through 1971 she worked as an accountant and secretary in various places in Ia. On Oct. 3, 1964 Janet married Ronald Gross, son of Clarence and Amy Gross. The Gross family is of German origin, coming to the U.S. in the 1700's. Ron grew up near Newberg, Ia., where he graduated from high school in 1956. He served in the Army for four years and later attended school for training in radio and T.V. Ron worked for seven years at Rolscreen and later they began farming west of Pella. They attend Second Reformed Church in Pella. Ron and Janet have one son, Stephen, who is a fifth-grade student at Lincoln School in Pella. Stephen likes school very much, and science is his favorite subject.

Keith Nollen, the second child of Herman and Opal, helped his father with farming. As a 4-H member, Keith had many projects and was President of Mahaska Co. Boys 4-H in 1962. He attended Flint Ridge Elementary School for eight years, graduated from Pella High School in 1963, and graduated from Central College with a degree in Geography. He received his M.A. degree in Geography-Geology from the University of Nebraska. He taught for five years in the Omaha Public Schools. On Aug. 6, 1966 Keith married Gloria Hugen of Oskaloosa, Ia. Gloria also graduated from Central College with a degree in Elementary Education. She taught third grade in the Omaha Public Schools. In 1973 Keith and Gloria decided they would like to make farming their life's occupation. They purchased a farm near Albia, Ia. where they now live. Keith and Gloria are active members of the Central Reformed Church in Oskaloosa. They have two children: Marc and Marcy. Marc enjoys singing in the school choir and playing in the band. Marcy started kindergarten and enjoys school very much.

Herman and Opal have lived in or near Pella all of their life. They have celebrated 53 years of married life together. They are thankful to God for permitting them to live together that many years.

by Herman Nollen

NOLLEN, MARION

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Marion Nollen was born Mar. 24, 1903, as the first son and second child of Walter and Maggie Van Houweling Nollen on the family farm three miles west of Pella. He attended the East Silver Grove School just east of the Nollen farm where he received his elementary education. He helped his father on the farm for several years before entering the academy at Central College. There he finished the high school curriculum in two years and then continued with the college course of study. He graduated from Central College in 1928 with a B.A. degree in psychology.

Marion Nollen

Feeling a call for the ministry he entered Western Theological Seminary at Holland, Michigan, in 1928. In 1931 he graduated from seminary as a minister in the Reformed Church in America. In that same year on June 17th, he married Dorothy Van Arsdale of Raritan, Illinois, whom he met while attending Central College. She graduated from Central College in 1931 with a B.A. degree in Mathematics. Before her marriage she taught country school near her home in Illinois. Marion and Dorothy Nollen moved to Lafayette, Indiana, where he had accepted a call to serve in the Reformed Church. While in Lafayette, Marion earned a master's degree in psychology from Purdue University. They ministered in Indiana until 1944 when he accepted a call to the Presbyterian Church of Cambria, Wisconsin. Marion Nollen died Apr. 10,1958 in Cambria, Wisconsin. Dorothy Nollen continued to live in Cambria until 1960 when she moved to Pella where she makes her residence at the time of this writing.

Marion and Dorothy Nollen are the parents of four children, three of whom are still living. Walter Henry, the oldest son, was born Mar. 28, 1932. He attended schools in Lafayette, Indiana, and Cambria, Wisconsin, after which he entered Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin, graduating with a B.S. degree in business in 1956. He served in the army with the Military Police from 1953-54. He worked for the Boston Store, Briggs and Stratton Co., and Square D Co. in Milwaukee before moving to Huntington, Indiana, as a process engineer for Square D. on July 13, 1957, he married Margaret Reuter, a native of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They are the parents of two children, Robert Paul Nollen, born Feb. 6, 1959, and Michelle Sue Nollen, born June 11, 1966. Robert married Tammy Jo Watson on Apr. 19, 1986, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

The second son of Marion and Dorothy Nollen is Paul Marion, born Feb. 24, 1934. After attending schools in Lafayette, Indiana and Cambria, Wisconsin, he followed his older brother to Carroll College, where he

graduated in 1956 with a degree in biology education. He continued on to the University of Wisconsin and finished the requirements for an M.S. in botany in 1957. After three years with the Army Medical Corps in Japan, he returned to the states to teach biology at Oconomowoc (Wis.) High School from 1960-62. He attended Purdue University and received his Ph.D. in zoology in 1967. Since that time he has taught in the Department of Biological Sciences at Western Illinois University, Macomb, Illinois. On Aug. 20, 1966, he married Sheila Hunt in Richmond, Indiana. They are the parents of two children, Marie Louise Nollen, born Aug. 2, 1969, and Nathan Henry Nollen, born June 20, 1973.

The third child of Marion and Dorothy Nollen was Lois Marie, born on June 25, 1939 in Lafayette, Indiana. She died in a drowning accident at Holland, Michigan on July 14, 1944.

The last child of Marion and Dorothy Nollen was John Lowell, born at Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, on June 8, 1946. He attended schools in Cambria, Wisconsin, and Pella, Iowa, before entering Carroll College. He graduated with a degree in business administration in 1968 and took a job with the General Electric Co. He served two years with the army at Fort Polk, Louisiana. After his discharge, he returned to General Electric in Cincinnati, Ohio, as an accountant. He earned a master's degree in finance from Xavier University in Cincinnati. On Nov. 8, 1975, he married Betty Fredrickson, a school teacher from Cincinnati. They are the parents of two children, Michael John Nollen, born Feb. 2, 1982, and Erica Kristin Nollen, born June 5, 1983.

by Paul M. Nollen

NOLLEN, MYRON AND CORDELIA (VAN ZANTE)

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The Nollens of Dutch descent in the United States originated from one family that emigrated to Pella, Iowa, in 1854. The father was Gerhard Hendrikus Nollen (1798-1887), a schoolmaster, city clerk, church sexton, and organist in the small village of Didam in the province of Gelderland. He and his wife, Zwaantje Jongbloed Nollen (1802-1892) brought with them their seven children ranging in age from ten to 27 years old. The ten-year-old Hendrikus (Herman) was Myron's grandfather.

They sailed from Rotterdam on Mar. 24, 1854, to Havre, France, boarded the vessel Charlemagne on Apr. 12, 1854, and arrived in New Orleans May 20, 1854. They then went by steamer to Keokuk, Iowa, and then by team and wagon to Pella arriving on June 13, 1854. The way of life in a raw pioneer town was quite a change from their established way of life in the Netherlands. Success was measured in what you owned – land, livestock or business. In Nov. of 1854 Gerhard Hendrickus purchased a farm approximately three miles west of Pella near the Hospers and Welle families. The two youngest, Henry and Herman, were responsible for running the farm.

Photo of the Myron and Cordelia Nollen family taken at Jean's wedding, Feb. 9, 1985, at the Second Reformed Church in Pella. 1st row: Mark Woofter, Linda Nollen Woofter, Adrienne Nagle, Jean Nollen-Backous, Angela Backous, Michael Backous, Belinda Backous, Michael Backous. 2nd row: Mark Nagle, Carol Nollen Nagle, Cordelia Nollen, Erin Nagle, Myron Nollen, David Nossaman, Richard Nossaman. 3rd row: Reuben Buwalda, Edith Nollen Buwalda, Kristin Buwalda, Cherie Buwalda, Joan Nollen Nossaman, H. Lee Nossaman

Grandfather, Herman Nollen (1842-1928), on Aug. 4, 1870, married Dirkje Wolters (1852-1915). They had three sons – Walter, John, Garrett – and one daughter, Bertha, Mrs. Bert Ver Meer.

Father, Walter Nollen (1872-1940), on Nov. 23, 1899, married Grietje (Maggie) Van Houweling (1874-1946), the daughter of Gysbert and Nellie De Jong Van Houweling. Five children were born to Maggie and Walter Nollen – Dorothy (Mrs. John Van Gorp), Marion (1903-1958), Herman, Elmer, and Myron.

Myron was born Jan. 26, 1915, and was raised on the Nollen farm west of Pella. He attended East Silver Grove School for one year, then went to Pella grade and high school where he graduated in 1932. Various means of transportation were used to get to school – walk, horse and buggy, bicycle, and later by car.

On Mar. 15, 1939, Myron married Cordelia Van Zante, daughter of Albert D. Van Zante (1880-1956) and Elsie McReynolds Van Zante (1889-1971). Cordelia's grandparents on the Van Zante side were Dieles A.B. Van Zante (1840-1916) and Echje Van Houweling Van Zante (1844-1924). On the McReynolds side, her grandparents were Francis E. (Frank) McReynolds (1858-1932) and Minnie Van Ness McReynolds (1872-1954). Her grandfather, Frank McReynolds, came to Iowa by covered wagon from Illinois in 1860 and settled in the Fairmont, Iowa, area. Cordelia's grandmother, Minnie McReynolds' parents were William Van Ness (1849-1919) and Caroline Martin Van Ness (1853-1932). Caroline Van Ness' parents were John Martin (1820-1908) and Sarah Vanatta Martin (1820-1879). They lived in Flemington, Pennsylvania, and the family moved to Iowa to the Reasnor area in 1896.

Cordelia was born Oct. 8, 1916, and grew up on a farm in the Otley neighborhood. In 1924 they moved west of Monroe where she attended Valley country school and Monroe High School. In 1933 she and her parents moved to a farm 11 miles north of Pella. She then went to Pella High School where she graduated in 1934. Cordelia has one brother, Francis, and two sisters, Agnes, Mrs. Carl Shannon (1912-1938), and Minnie, Mrs. Sam Miller.

Myron and Cordelia lived on the Nollen farm for five years, then moved to the Langerak farm in the Bunker Hill or Bethel neighborhood six miles northwest of Pella. They lived there ten years, then bought the A.W. Den Adel farm three miles north of Pella in 1954. They moved on that farm and still live there to this date (Oct. 1986). They now enjoy retirement and spend the winters in Mesa, Arizona.

Myron was a 4-H leader for 25 years, served as a Sunday School teacher, and was on the consistory of Second Reformed Church. Cordelia was also active in church work and served several years on the Marion County Extension Council. She was named Master Farm Homemaker in 1966. Cordelia has many crafts and hobbies – china painting, rosemaling, quilting, etc.

Myron and Cordelia Nollen have five daughters – Joan, Edith, Carol, Jean, and Linda. Joan married H. Lee Nossaman. They live near Leighton, Iowa and have two sons, Richard and David. Edith married Reuben Buwalda. They live near Pella and have two daughters, Cherie and Kristin. Carol married Mark Nagle. They live near Mason City, Iowa, and have two daughters, Adrienne and Erin. Jean married Michael Backous. They live in Colo, Iowa, He has one son Michael, and two daughters, Angela and Belinda.

Linda married Mark Woofter and they live in Omaha, Nebraska.

by Myron Nollen

OLIVIER, CORNELIS AND ANNA LAMBERTHA DE JONG

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Cornelius Olivier, a widower, came to America with his family of four young children from Friesland.

Cornelis Olivier emigrated from Friesland in 1909. He was born in 1864, in Friesland. He was a very prominent business man in an area near Leewarden. He met with some reversals in his business when an extensive remodeling project was planned. The beautiful, wide streets lined with linden trees were to be rebuilt, and since his business was in the area being modernized, he decided to look elsewhere for a home and business. A brother had moved to Canada and a sister was in Sully, Ia. They were "doing well." Cornelis Olivier decided on the monumental task of taking his four young children to America, his wife having been dead many years. They arrived in the little Dutch town of Pella, and it was here that he raised his children.

Cornelis Olivier died in 1926, and he is buried in Graceland Cemetery north of Pella. His wife, Anna Lambertha De Jong, is buried in the village of Jelsum, in Friesland.

by Maurice Van Willigen

OOSTROM - DE ZWARTE FAMILY

F388

Great Grandpa Oostrom had a dairy farm in Holland with a barn attached to the house. The cows got the pox and died. Because of this, they came to America and settled in Illinois, in the Chicago area. They had seven children: Hubert, Lena, Clazina, William, Maatije, John, and a John who drowned in a water ditch at the age of four years in Holland.

The whole family took small pox in Illinois. Great Grandma, Hubert, Lena, and Clazina died. Great Grandpa worked for a farmer. Coming home one night, he fell through the ice and his feet froze. He warmed them when he got home, got gangrene, and later died.

William Oostrom lived and worked as hired hand for other neighbors. Maatije worked for a family, when she was 13 years old, as a hired girl; but she also took care of her brother John who was only five years old. About three or four years later they all came to Pella.

Maatje Oostrom (1858-1918) married Michelle (Michael) De Zwarte (1857-1931) around 1880. They had nine children: Tryntje, Alltje, Marinus, Henry, John, Jose, Marie, Lena, and Jennie who died at nine years of typhoid fever.

Michelle De Zwarte had one brother Marinus and one sister Attjie. They lived south of Pella near the Des Moines River as children.

John De Zwarte was born Dec. 6, 1886. On Feb. 8, 1912 he married Marie Goemaat (born Feb. 20, 1889). They lived on the family farm south of Pella. They had four children: Jennie (Mrs. Henry Van Essen), Dorothy (Mrs. Tudor Ver Meer), Margaret (Mrs. Vernon Menninga), and Verlan De Zwarte.

John died Feb. 1, 1955 and Marie died Aug. 30, 1968.

by Vernon Menninga

OVERKAMP, ISAAC

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Issac Overkamp portrait with grand-daughter, Marie (Love) Gaas Scholte (Mrs. Paul H.)

Isaac Overkamp was born in The Hague, Holland, Feb. 26, 1810. One day, when he was about fifteen years old, he was walking out on the city street, and the King and his valet passed him. The King asked his valet to call the young man back; that he wanted to talk to him. Then the King said to him, "Young man, what is your name and who are your parents?" He replied, "My father left home one day and we think he was drowned in the ocean, as he never returned. My mother makes a living doing fine needle work—a living for my brother and myself." The King asked him to come to the palace with his mother, which they did, and were interviewed by the King and Queen. So the Queen made his mother a Lady in Waiting to do fine sewing, and sent Isaac Overkamp to college at Leydens. After his graduation from college, where he majored in language, he was appointed instructor of language in French, German, and English to the sons of the royal household.

While attending college at Leydens, Isaac Overkamp became a close friend of Dominie Scholte. When Dominie Scholte preached against the state ruling the church, he ultimately gathered together about 800 people to go to America. They went to Rotterdam and chartered three vessels. Mr. Scholte took charge of the group on one ship and Isaac Overkamp took charge of a group on another ship called the *Maastroom*. They were directed to the United States instead of going to Java.

In Holland, friends asked the mother of the Overkamp boys not to make the trip as she was ill, and said they would provide for her and give her a home, but she said she was going wherever her sons went. She became very ill at sea. There was a glass roof where her cabin was, and the children walked over it with their wooden shoes and the noise bothered her very much. Isaac would round up the children and give them a whipping for making such a noise. When they landed they took a canal boat for the West. The mother became very ill and died, and was buried at Wheeling, W. Va. Isaac's brther, Gerriet Overkamp, had his family with him and they all came by boat to St. Louis and then on to Keokuk by water. From there on they came by teams and wagons which they bought in Keokuk.

The group stopped at Fairfield, Ia., where the Reverend Post, who took the mail to Des Moines by pony express, directed them to a place on the Des Moines River. They went there and called it New Amsterdam but, on account of the river overflowing, the colony moved three miles up to high ground and called the place "Pella."

Isaac Overkamp was a charter member of the First Reformed Church, an elder in the church for many years. He would often give the sermons when the pastor was out of town. He would draw a larger congregation than the pastor as he never read his sermons. He would read his text, close his Bible, and give his sermon, which had a great effect on the congregation.

He was secretary of the colony at the time it was incorporated. Henry Peter Scholte was President of the colony, and Isaac Overkamp was city treasurer for 30 years, except when he was elected Mayor in 1858 and 1859. Isaac Overkamp was Pella's first school master, and the first school was carried on in the home of Gerriet Overkamp, his brother. He

was also postmaster for a short time.

Isaac Overkamp married Heltje den Beste in 1850. She was born in The Netherlands in 1828 and died in Marion Co. in Pella in 1854, leaving one daughter, Artie (Mrs. John D. Gaass) with whom he found a pleasant and happy home until his death in 1896.

It was written of Isaac Overkamp that he was a man whose standard of morality was high and whose conviction of duty strong, and in all places and under all circumstances, he was loyal to truth, honor, and right. His social powers were admirable and his moral character irreproachable. At over three score and ten years his step was still firm, his form erect, and his countenance cheerful. His influence for good could not be measured in words. One said of him that Isaac Overkamp was as a benediction as he walked down the street, and reminded him of the first three verses of Psalm I: "His delight is in the law of the Lord."

Isaac Overkamp built his brick home next to the little chapel, a half block west of the southwest corner of Central Park. He brought his wife to live there. His daughter was born there and later all six of his grandchildren were born in the same house.

by M. Joan Farver

PETERS, CHRIS
F390

The Chris Peters family came to America in 1908 and lived near Rock Valley, Archer, Sanborn, and Hospers, Ia. Nina (Peters) Rensink was three years old when she left Holland. A diary of the crossing of the Atlantic tells an interesting story and is being preserved. They came from the city of Baarn in the Province of Utrecht, Netherlands. On Mar. 27 she married Arthur John Rensink in a home wedding. They lived on the Rensink home place then known as the Rising Sun Dairy Farm. It has a colorful mural painted on the hayloft door of the barn. It was of a pasture, Holstein cows and a rising sun. This farm has been in the family over 100 years.

This couple had two children: Harriet Joyce born Oct. 10, 1929; and Glen Arlan born Nov. 21, 1932. Glenn lives on the home place near Newkirk. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rensink spent their retirement years in the town of Sheldon, Ia. Arthur died in 1961 and Nina (Peters) died in 1984. They are buried in the Newkirk Cemetery. Their daughter, Harriet Joyce, is married to Donald Bonnema and they are living in Pella.

by Donald Bonnema

PLANTINGA FAMILY
F391

Rev. Donald, Susan, and Joel Plantinga

Reverend Donald Plantinga, his wife Susan, and their son Joel, moved to Pella in 1978 when he accepted the call to become the pastor of Trinity Reformed Church.

Donald was born Aug. 20, 1943, to William and Margaret VanderMeer Plantinga in

Rev. and Sue Plantinga with their son, Joel, at a recent Tulip Time.

Chicago, Ill. Susan was born June 13, 1949, to Abe and Dorothy Verhoeks Vanderwel in Grand Haven, Mich.

Donald graduated from Fenger High School in Chicago in 1961. He continued his education at Hope College in Holland, Mich., where he graduated in 1966. He then attended Western Theological Seminary and graduated in 1970. He was ordained to the ministry in June of 1970, at his home church, the First Reformed Church of Roseland, Chicago, Ill.

Susan graduated in 1967 from Spring Lake Senior High School in Spring Lake, Mich. She attended Hope College in Holland, Mich., and transferred to Augustana College in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., where she graduated in 1971.

Donald received a call to be the minister of the Reformed Church in Dell Rapids, S. Dak., where he began his ministry in June of 1970. Donald and Susan were married Aug. 29, 1970, at the First Reformed Church in Grand Haven, Mich. They lived in Dell Rapids from 1970 until Aug. of 1978. Their son Joel was born Oct. 13, 1973, at Sioux Valley Hospital in Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

In the spring of 1978, Donald received a call from Trinity Reformed Church in Pella, which he accepted. On Aug. 28, 1978, the Plantingas moved to Pella where they still reside and serve Trinity Reformed Church. After four years of substituting and aiding in the Lincoln Elementary School, Susan is presently employed there.

While in Pella Don has served on the Board of Central College, as President of Pella Classis, and is now serving on the General Program Council of the Reformed Church in America.

Joel is a seventh grade student at the Middle School. The Plantingas enjoy Pella and really feel at home here. It will always be a special place to them.

by Susan Plantinga

POHLMANN, CAROL
F392

My mother's maiden name was Henrietta Hospers. Her uncle, Henry Hospers, was 17 years of age when he came to America with Dominee Scholte in May, 1847. He wrote many letters back to Holland, telling his father and mother of life here in America. He was a surveyor and that was an important job as each family claimed their land which needed to be surveyed. After 2 years, Henry's father, Jan, and his mother with the rest of their 9 children, came over on a boat in May, 1849, to join Henry. They settled on a farm 3 miles west of Pella. There my grandfather Nicholas was married and lived in the same house. Also my mother was born there and when she was 15 years old her mother died. So Mother had to quit school and become the mother of the family. She had two younger sisters so Mother had to learn how to bake, cook, and sew. At that time in a situation such as this, different ladies would come in to the house to teach Mother these things. Mother learned these skills very well as she was a fine seamstress and an excellent cook. Her lack of schooling gave her a real thirst for knowledge. She did lots of reading and learning by herself to make up for the time she was unable to attend school. I can still remember Mother taking notes when she heard a lecture at the age of 80. She still wanted to learn and be informed. I don't think she ever lost that desire to learn. Mother was writing the family history at the time of her death in 1980. So we have it compiled and put in book form titled "My Family Story". The Historical Museum has a copy of this. It contains many interesting stories of the journey over, that the Jan Hospers family made. Two of their children died during this journey, both girls. One was buried at sea and the other died in Albany, New York and was buried there. Henrietta Hospers died at the age of 95.

I know little of the history of my father. He was the only child of W.W. and Jennie Koek and was born in Pella in 1881. The name "Koek" was later changed to "Cook" at the suggestion of W.W. Koek's employer, Central Academy, where he taught mathematics. He died at the age of 80.

My father, Edward S. Cook, married Henrietta Hospers August 24, 1910. To this union 3 children were born: Dorothy Herold of Santa Barbara, California and Jean W. Cook of Tempe, Arizona. Neither Dorothy nor Jean had children. Jean Cook remained single. Carol Edna Cook married Earl L. Pohlmann, (of German Descent and born in Hartley, Iowa), in June, 1946. A daughter Julianne Cook Pohlmann was born. She married Rodney D. Zylstra in 1978.

Earl Pohlmann came to Pella in July, 1941 in the capacity of chief pilot at the Pella Airport. There was a civilian pilot training program here at that time and was followed by a war training service program. Later he enlisted in the Navy and was a flight instructor in the Navy during the war. After being honorably discharged and married to Carol Cook in 1946, they moved to Jefferson City, Mo. There he owned a Culligan Soft Water Service until 1949, when the illness, rheumatoid arthritis, of his wife Carol made it necessary for him to sell the business and move back to Pella. After working as parts manager for Ulrich Motor Co., he purchased

Cook's Insurance Agency. He was active in the insurance business until December, 1984, at which time he sold to Howard Slagter.

Even though "Poly" was not Pella born and bred he became a Pella booster. He served as president of the Chamber of Commerce and several years on the original Dutch Fronts committee. Years ago when people that were not of Dutch descent moved to Pella, they were known as Americans, which indeed he was, but he came to call Pella "home".

I truly appreciate my heritage and am grateful to Pella for trying to preserve the Dutch traditions.

by Earl Pohlmann

PORTER FAMILY

F393

Joseph Porter was born in Kent Co., Del., on Aug. 10, 1818, of Scotch-Irish descent. His father was a farmer, and Joseph's parents died early in life.

He did not have the opportunity as a boy to have formal schooling, but his father taught him how to farm. At age 19, Joseph walked to Lafayette, Ind. It was a distance of 900 miles, and he made the trip in 26 days. He had no money save that which he earned through his own labor. In Indiana, he worked on the Wabash and Erie Canal, and also worked on farms.

He purchased a horse, which was almost his only possession at the time of his marriage to Mary Ann Chezem in Vigo Co., Ind. on Dec. 31, 1840. He then rented land and began farming on a small scale for seven years. In 1847, they started for Iowa, taking all of their earthly possessions with them. They traveled up the Des Moines River. They were one of the early settlers of Marion Co., where they purchased a claim from the government.

After five years, having put in improvements on the property, Joseph sold it, and moved to Pella. He built a sawmill and purchased the first steam engine in the county. This mill was located on the corner of Broadway and Union Sts., on the south side of the street across from the Pella Community Building. Two years later, he built a second mill on East Third St., about two blocks east of where the Washington Mill was first located. He also added a grist mill to this establishment which ground wheat into flour, corn into feed and cornmeal.

In 1857, he traded his mills to John B. Hamilton for part of the land which was afterwards well-known as the Porterville Farm. Here Joseph and Mary Ann lived for many years. He became known as one of Marion Co's. most progressive and successful farmers and stock raisers. He purchased the first reaper in the county and also operated one of the first threshing machines. He owned 300 acres of fine land, well-improved. He built a brick home and a large barn, added seven miles of fence. He also owned three farms in Mahaska Co. and one-third interest in 320 acres of land in Kansas, where his son William went to farm after his marriage.

Joseph held the office of township trustee for 15 years, and school director for about 20 years. He gave land and helped build two country schools from his farms. He also gave land for the Porterville Cemetery where he and many of his family were buried.

He was chosen to represent his county in the Iowa State Legislature, where he served with honor and credit to himself. He was a leading member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Joseph also took an active part in Sunday School work and did everything in his power to promote the moral advancement of the people among whom he lived. The poor and needy found in him a friend, and he was willing to give of his time and means to assist others. He was a man of above average height, of an athletic build and, when young, worked very hard. He possessed natural mechanical ability and was a millwright by trade. In later years, his attention was given exclusively to his farm work. He had an able assistant in his wife who was a most capable lady. She helped him in learning to read.

Mary Ann Chezem, Joseph Porter's wife, was born July 22, 1821, in Vigo Co. Ind., and helped him in many ways. Joseph and Mary Ann had 11 children, the first three born in Indiana. John H. was born June 20, 1842, died in Marion Co., Ia., Mar. 18, 1860; James was born in 1844; Sarah Elizabeth was born in 1845 and married William Millison. The remaining children were born in Marion Co., Ia. George W. was born Feb. 25, 1848, and died Feb. 10, 1857; Marion, born in 1851, married Margaret A. Liter, 1854-1895; Nancy A., born 1854, married M. Nankin Wray; William M., born Sept. 10, 1854, married Clara Bitting in 1881 and she died Apr. 17, 1883. He then married Martha Jane Miller, born Oct. 7, 1857, who lived until Jan. 17, 1943. They were married on Jan. 17, 1885. Charles was born in 1859. He married Emeline Kimmel, born Mar. 10, 1861, who died July 15, 1950. They were married Feb. 10, 1881. Charles died Aug. 20, 1921. Twins Mary F. and Frank Joseph were born Apr. 8, 1862. Mary died May 8, 1862, and Frank died in Lenox, Ia. Margaret Catharine was born May 28, 1865, and she died Jan. 19, 1887. She married Joe Kelly.

by Emeline Gezel Vos

PORTER, CHARLES

F394

Charles Porter was born May 11, 1859, in Pella, Ia. His parents were Joseph Porter and Mary Ann Chezem. He was a very kind man. He worked with his father as a young man and was a traveling salesman for a time. I remember him for he and his wife, Emeline, lived across the road from us when we were children in South Pella. They lived on the north side of South St. and we lived on the south side of the street. Grandpa Porter played a violin and our mother, Edith Porter Gezel played the piano. He would come over after work, and we would have music in the house. He also taught us how to sing and dance. The night before he died, he came over with his violin. Since a storm was brewing, he and Grandma went home. The next morning we were told that he had been struck by lightning as he responded to a fire call at a college building. He never made it to the fire, even if he was a fireman.

He was an active member of the A.F. and A.M. Masonic Lodge. He also served on the Pella Fair Board. The fair was held each year east of Pella near the present Walmart Store. He died Aug. 20, 1921. He lived in the large brick house his father had built. Grandpa Charles and Grandma Emeline moved in the home after his mother passed away. The property was put in his name. Emeline moved out after Charles passed away. She worked as a nurse helping people that were not able to get out of bed. In those days there were no hospitals, and if you had no family, you hired someone to work for you by giving them board and room. After she moved out, my Uncle Edgar and Auntie Kay, Verlan, and Faye moved in. The property was sold to Mr. Peter Kuyper in 1925 when the first Rolscreen Co. was started in Pella. Mr. Kuyper had around 20 men working for him. That was the start of many families having a good livelihood.

When Grandma Emeline Porter became ill, she would go to her daughters' homes. After Mr. Huber was no longer able to work, he had a small building which his daughter, Lucy Huber, had made into a small home. Grandma Emeline moved into it and was able to live there several years. In her late 80's she moved in with our family and helped a young mother with her young children. It is something I haven't forgotten. She did have to move in with my mother later.

Both my grandparents, Charles and Emeline, were members of the Baptist Church.

Charles Porter was the eighth son of Joseph A. Porter and Mary Ann Chezem. Charles and Emeline had four sons and two daughters: Reuben H. was born July 15, 1883, died Aug. 29, 1885; George E. born Mar. 4, 1893, died Sept. 24, 1893; Claude E., born Nov. 22, 1881, and died Nov. 13, 1946. Claude was married to Grace and their daughters were Barbara Ann and Antonette and they lived in Kansas City, Mo. Edgar F. Porter was born Aug. 20, 1885, and died Oct. 24, 1893. His wife was Cornelia (Kay) Sutton. They had one daughter, Faye (Porter) Visscher, and two sons, Verlan Charles Porter and Robert James, who died in infancy.

Edith Lillian Porter was born Aug. 20, 1885, and died Jan. 7, 1974. Her husband was George Gezel who was born June 30, 1885, died May 9, 1949. Helen Madelyn Porter married Marion L. Myers. They had twelve children: Rhea Helen, Claudia Wilma, Marion Charles, Caroline Louise, Georgia La Vonne, Edward William, Merle Wesley, Myrtle Lorraine, Myna Aileen, Lewis A., Hazel June, and Marianne.

by Emeline (Gezel) Vos

POSTMA FAMILY

F395

Great great grandfather, Dirk Gerkes Postma, was born July 3, 1803 in Oudwoude Holland and came with his family to Pella on the good ship Peter Floris that sailed from Amsterdam in April, 1847.

Dirk Gerkes, from the Province of Friesland, Municipality of Dantumadeel, with his wife Jitske Alberta Plantinga, left Holland with their 4 children. Twelve year old Gerke Dirk, nine year old Hinke, six year old Tjitska, who died in route,and one year old Albert.

From 1847 until 1852 it is not known how this family survived but in 1852-1853 they homesteaded 80 acres of land west of Porter Grove Cemetery. They acquired 40 acres

Richard, Hubert, and William Postma

Gerke Dirk Postma

from the government in 1852 and 40 more in 1853. Dirk Gerkes died in 1853 and in 1856 the 80 acres was sold to Moses Covey for $240.00.

Dirk Gerkes' widow, Jitske, on March 5, 1854 married Gosse De Vries. (He was also a passenger on the Peter Floris in 1847). They settled in Summit Township, north of Cordova.

The three Postma children married and settled in the Cordova and Red Rock area.

Albert married Getze Hoekstra in 1866, they farmed and were the parents of Dirk, Maggie, and Henry. Albert died in 1873 and in 1875 his widow, Getze, married Garrit Buikstra.

Hinke married Dingeman De Bok in 1855, they also farmed and were parents of 10 children: Jane, Yetska, Elizabeth, John, George, Johanna, Sara, Mary, Charles and Henry.

Great grandfather Gerke Dirk married Seberije Leegsma in 1862. They farmed until 1869 when they moved to Otley and he ran a huckster wagon. They were parents of Sara, William, Dirk G., John, Ben, and Harry. In 1889 Gerke Dirk and Seberije moved to Rock Valley, Iowa to live out the remainder of their lives.

Grandfather William, was born in 1864 and married Caroline Weideman of Galesburg in 1892. They were the parents of 9 children: Charlie, Bertha, Clayton, Richard, Carrie, Wilbur, Oren, Cecyle and Gladys. In the early 1900's they operated a hotel and restaurant in Sully. In the Sully newspaper, dated September 29, 1900 it was stated "The table he sets is away above the average to be found at hotels in towns the size of Sully", which says much for Grandma Caroline's cooking ability. In 1912 they bought a farm 5 miles east of Monroe, on the Draper Road, and farmed until his death in 1938.

Father Richard was born in 1898, married Della Ione Risewick of Knoxville in 1920. They had 4 children: Alice, Hubert, Harold and Darlene. Richard was a Maytag employee, and in 1930 he built and operated the service station in Otley. In 1940 they moved to Pella and owned and operated a pool hall. In 1946 they moved to the old home place and farmed until his health failed.

Hubert was born in 1923 and married Juanita Lemmon of Kansas City in 1949. They have 4 children: Dodd, Denise, Diane, and Dawn. Hubert graduated from Pella Community in 1940 and in 1942 enlisted in the Navy Seabees. After service he went to watchmaker school in Kansas City and in 1948 accepted a job working at De Vries Jewelry located next door to Paardekoopers Drug. In 1955 went on the road as a salesman and returned to Pella to live in 1965.

NOTE: One interesting and confusing fact we found in tracing the Postma Family history is since many early Dutch settlers could not speak or write English, often times their names were misspelled. On the Peter Floris passenger list the name Postma was spelled Postuma and later on great grandfather Gerke Dirk's name was spelled five different ways. Even on the marriage records he is listed as Gerka De Postma instead Gerke D. Postma.

by Hubert H. Postma

REMPE, HENRY G. AND RUTH A. (VAN HOUWELING)

F396

Ruth Van Houweling graduated from Pella High School in 1930 with a Normal Training Certificate. She taught in a rural school in Mahaska County. This was during the depression of the thirties. Hopefully, not a reflection on her teaching ability, but rather indicative of the times, she started with a salary of $75 per month, the second year $65 per month, and the third year $60 per month for a nine month year or $540 yearly salary.

In 1934 she married Henry G. Rempe, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Rempe of the Leighton community. Farming has been their occupation for fifty plus years. They are the parents of four children.

Dolores, a graduate of Iowa University and now living in Houston Tex. with her husband Tom Wisdom. She teaches in the Houston school system. Her three children are: Kimberly, a Texas A.& M. graduate – now a business woman in San Antonio; Thomas in the Marine Reserve; and Andrea, a student at Texas A.& M.

Jerry, the elder son, is married to Marleen Duven. Both attended Central College and now are dairy farmers on the home farm. They are the parents of seven children: Candace, married to Randel Simons, farm near Leighton. They have a son, Jacob Paul and a daughter Michelle Ann; Scott, a graduate of Iowa State University is working in Detroit, Mich.; Leisha and husband Steve Linde are 1987 graduates of Northeastern Missouri University and live in Kirksville, Mo.; Pamela and husband, David Baldus are attending Iowa State University and have an infant son named Michael David; Todd, a senior at Pella Community High School; and twins, Brenda and Bradley are in the 9th grade.

Lee Rempe spent four years in the army, serving with Army Intelligence in Berlin Germany for two years. He and his wife Kathy are graduates of the University of Northern Iowa. They teach in the West Delaware schools in Manchester, Ia. Their two daughters, Erin and Elizabeth, are in the elementary school there.

Patricia and her husband Tom Larson are also graduates of the University of Northern Iowa, and taught several years. They now live in West Chester, Ia. where Tom is president of the bank. They have three daughters, Amy, Laura, and Kate, all students at Wellman Elementary.

by Ruth Rempe

RENSINK FAMILY

F397

The Rensink name started in 1762 in Aalten, Netherlands. Because it was close to the German border it is possible that the name could have been German. G.J. Rensink, Sr. came to America in 1866 with his father, Berend, who was a widower. They settled in the Hospers-Newkirk area of Sioux Co.

G.J. Rensink, Sr. (1803-1876) and Jenneken te Bokkel had seven children when they came to America. Of these children Gerrit, Jr. (1850-1923) was a pioneer of Capel Twp., Sioux Co. He married Berentje Geurink (1863-1932). They raised nine children of their own plus two adopted children on the home place near Newkirk, Ia. A tornado in 1898 destroyed the house at the time when Arthur John was a baby and older sisters had to rush back upstairs from the cellar to rescue him before the house blew away.

Harriet Joyce Rensink was born Oct. 10, 1929, on a farm near Newkirk, Ia. in Sioux Co. to Arthur John Rensink (1898-1961) and Nina (Peters) Rensink (1905-1984). Schooling was at the Newkirk Consolidated School and she graduated from high school there in 1947. She always rode a bus to school. The first bus was a Model A Ford with two long benches, one on each side of the windows. Newkirk had a school, store, garage and a church, plus a half dozen homes. The store was a gathering place for young people to gossip and eat snacks after basketball games. In the summer the store had a mobile store on wheels called the peddler wagon. It came to the farm every Wednesday to pick up eggs and deliver groceries right from the truck. Peanuts were thrown in with the groceries for free. A big apple orchard on the farm made apple selling a small, profitable business. The farm had lots of evergreens on three sides

which made for an excellent windbreak. Only other family member was a brother, Glenn, born in 1932. He played on the basketball team that went to the State Tournament in 1950. In later years the school district was reorganized.

The wedding of Donald Bonnema and Harriet Joyce Rensink on Mar. 22, 1951, had to be postponed due to closed roads. Three big snow storms, the month of March made roads impassable. The county had to dynamite one bad corner to open the road to church. Driving on the roads between high banks of snow reminded one of the Israelites crossing the Sea. The small Newkirk church is still active.

Four children were born to this couple. Sharise Leigh born June 29, 1952 and died Jan. 9, 1955. Loren Keith born Jan. 2, 1954 and living in Pella.

Cheryl Beth Bonnema went to A.I.B. after graduating from Pella High in 1973. After graduating from there in 1974, she worked for Central Iowa Blood Bank in Des Moines. She then moved to South Holland, Ill. where she worked for the Back to God Hour and the World Home Bible League. In 1977 she married Jay A. Schaap from there, and they have two children, Bradley born in 1980 and Stacey born in 1983. Jay is a computer salesman and programmer.

Charma Joy graduated from Pella High in 1980. She married another Pella High graduate of 1980, Mike Vander Wert. He was born Sept. 27, 1961, to Evan and Linda Vander Wert of Pella. They lived in Ames while Mike attended Iowa State University. In January of 1986 after graduating with a Civil Engineering degree they moved to Kansas City, Mo., where Mike is employed at an engineering firm. Their first child named Lindsey Joy was born Feb. 23, 1986.

by Donald Bonnema

RHYNSBURGER, CORNELIS AND REGINA (VAN DER LEY)

F398

As a boy, Cornelis Rhynburger arrived in Pella in 1855 from The Netherlands with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dirk Rhynsburger. On the ship's list were brothers Adrianus J., Marinus, Dirk, and Henry. Sisters listed were Janna and Maria.

One of the first adventures in Cornelis' life was told by his son, Dick, in a *Chronicle* article May 4, 1939. Young Cornelis and his friend, Thomas W. Cox, both about 12 and 14 years of age ran off to find their relatives serving in the U.S. Army during the Civil War. (Cornelis' father and two brothers were in the 15th Iowa division and young Cox's brother Murray and possibly others were in the 17th Iowa division). They found the relatives all right and Tommy Cox, older of the two runaway boys, was accepted as drummer boy and Cornelis was sent home.

Cornelis helped support the family left at home by "baby sitting" and getting paid in eggs which eventually led him to go into the egg business as he found his early experiences

Cornelis and Regina Rhynsburger

with eggs as pay led to some profitable trading. Cornelis also worked in the New American House operated by Mr. Post. He was a stagecoach driver and when the railroad opened the way, he picked up again on the egg business.

Cornelis' wife came to Pella in the second migration in the summer of 1849. She came with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Pieter Van Der Ley and three other children, Johannes, Adrianus, and Hannis.

Cornelis Rhynsburger died Sept. 11, 1914, and his wife died in July, 1911.

RIETVELD FAMILY

F399

Jan Rietveld of Noordeloos, the Netherlands, was unanimously elected to the Christian Association for Emigration in Utrecht on Christmas Day, 1846. Joining H.P. Scholte, the new president, the Board fixed late Mar. or Apr., 1847, as the best time for departure to the United States.

Along with Dominie Scholte, Rietveld and the other Board members directed the policies of the Association, together with the actual engagements and the transactions to transport the nearly 800 Hollanders to the new world. He helped charter ships, set up administration to aid the travelers on the way, the collection of dues, and the payment of expenses involved.

Together with their eight children, Jan and his wife, Dirkie Blokland, left Rotterdam on the ship *Catharina Jackson* for Baltimore, Md., in the beginning of Apr., 1847. Along with J. Smeenk, Rietveld was in charge and supervised the 108 passengers. Their ship was the first of the four ships to arrive on May 22, with the loss of one child during the journey. They arrived in fine health, well clad, and with an abundance of money to locate themselves in America.

Journeying by train, canal boat, and steamboat, the family finally arrived in St. Louis three weeks later, where they found kindness as Hollanders. Rietveld was appointed to the all-important Investigating Committee to search for a suitable place for the permanent settlement. He helped locate the present site of Pella, buy the land from the American settlers, and administer its divisions. Scholte believed that Rietveld's work, and that of the other committee members was "not sufficiently understood and appreciated."

For his own farmland, Rietveld paid $1.25 an acre to Scholte who had purchased the land in his own name. He settled his family next to the Des Moines river, near the site of the new city of Amsterdam (Howell Station area) which was laid out as a port city for Pella, but abandoned in 1851. Two more daughters were born, raising the children to ten in number. There he and his family lived, farmed, and raised horses until his death on Nov. 30, 1859.

Wiggert, Jan's oldest son, moved north of Pella and built a new home during the Civil War years in the future Bethel neighborhood. Here Wiggert's youngest brother, Dirk, married Elizabeth Van Lint and raised a family of nine children. On Mar. 13, 1889, his son, John Dirk, married Maggie van Houwelingen, the daughter of Albert van Houwelingen and Annigje Klein. At the time of Albert's death, he was one of the largest landowners in the entire Pella colony.

Moving down the road a short distance, John and Maggie raised their children, Dirk, Elizabeth, Anna, Alma, Albert, and Antoinette. They built a new home on their farm and shared in the community life surrounding the Bethel Church built in 1866. The children attended Bunker Hill School, where both Alma and Antoinette later served as school teachers.

Dirk, the oldest son, married Anna Van Baale on Feb. 26, 1911, and continued farming in the Bethel neighborhood where their children, John Willard, Nenver Marion, and Donna Mae were born. Dirk served as Superintendent of the Bunker Hill School Board and as organist and Superintendent of the Sunday School in the Bethel Church. Later, Dirk and his family moved to Grundman's Grove, just north of Pella, where he operated a dairy farm.

During this time, Willard delivered milk to town. While on his milk route he met Gertrude Sneller who was babysitting twins. They were married on July 17, 1932. Gertrude is the daughter of John Sneller and Peetije Kelderman, both from Gelderland, the Netherlands. They lived in the original log cabin home of the American Tuttle family (built in 1843) which still stands on Lincoln street today. Willard operated Rietveld Motor Company on the west side of the square. With their only son, Ronald, they moved to Des Moines in 1939. They were the first Rietvelds to move "west." There Willard and Gertrude ran a trucking company for 20 years and operated a garage service until his death in 1978. Gertrude currently resides in Pella.

Ronald and his wife, Ruth Davis, together with their sons, John Laven and James Dirk, live in Fullerton, Cal. Dr. Rietveld is a professor of history at California State University, Fullerton.

The Rietveld family members have been very active in the ministry of the Christian faith and several have served in the field of education, following in the footsteps of their forefather, Jan Rietveld, who was both a

spiritual leader in the Pella colony and the first school board superintendent in the area south of Pella.

by Ronald D. Rietveld

RIETVELD, ALBERT R.

F400

Albert Rietveld, Mar. 20, 1924.

Cora Rietveld, Mar. 20, 1924

Bunker Hill School.

John D. Rietveld house, built 1913, Otley, Ia.

Cora and Albert Rietveld, taken at their grandson's wedding on Apr. 19, 1977.

On Dec. 13, 1899, Albert Ray Rietveld was born to John D. and Maggie Van Houweling Rietveld at their farm home four miles east of Otley, Ia. Albert was the fourth of six children born to this family. There was one brother Dirk Jefferson, and four sisters: Anna Clarissa, Elizabeth Pearl, Alma Katherine Laura, and Antoinette Pauline.

Childhood years were spent on the farm in the Bethel neighborhood seven miles north of Pella. The Rietveld children received their education at Bunker Hill School and religious training began in the Bethel Reformed Country Church with Dutch services. Albert was baptized as a child and profession of faith was made at Bethel.

John and Maggie, Albert's parents, built a new house on the home place in 1913. Charles Lautenbach was the carpenter. Albert was 13 years of age at this time and he would drive the horses and wagon to Pella twice a day to get lumber and brick for the new house. The cement was hauled from Otley. The men who assisted with the building had their room and board with John and Maggie from Monday through Saturday. The house was built at a cost of $4,000.

Albert met Cornelia (Cora) Johanna Ver Ploeg, daughter of James E. and Gertrude Vander Wilt Ver Ploeg. Cora was their fourth child born April 5, 1905 to the Ver Ploeg family. There were five brothers: Dick, Harry, Forrest, Elton, Alonzo, and one sister Pauline. After five years of courtship Albert and Cora were united in marriage on Mar. 20, 1924 at the home of the bride, the "Green London" farm five miles north of Pella. Rev. John Wesselink officiated at the wedding ceremony. Attendants were Dick Ver Ploeg, brother of the bride and his fiance, Agnes Van Rees. Cora's wedding dress was a white crepe which had been handmade by Molly De Reus.

Albert and Cora made their home on the farm seven miles north of Pella in Lake Prairie Twp., Sec. 17. Their life centered around the activities of the Bethel neighborhood. Albert was engaged in farming: raising corn, oats, and hay. Cattle and hogs were fed from the crops that were grown on the farm.

During the threshing season Albert could be found operating the steam engine that powered the threshing machine. He had been around the steam engine as a young man when it was his duty to keep the water tanks filled for the steam. Many times the water would be pumped out of the river and if he did not get back in time they would blow the whistle to "hurry up".

A wash basin was set up on a wooden box under the shade tree and water pumped from the well for hand washing. This pump still is in use today. This was the "washroom" prior to sitting down to tables laden with fried chickens, mashed potatoes, vegetables, loaves of homemade bread, and homemade pies.

It was in 1928, when Albert's parents moved to Pella, that Albert and Cora moved onto the home place. Cora enjoyed the fellowship of the Bethel Ladies Aid Society. She also busied herself with gardening, canning, sewing and knitting. Music was very important to her and she played her piano every day. They lived on the farm until Aug., 1975, when they purchased a home at 900 Independence Street from Albert's uncle, A.B. Van Houweling.

Their home on the farm was a home to many who lived away from home including school teachers, hired men, and foreign exchange students from Holland and India. The home in Pella housed many college students including some from Japan, France, and Brazil.

Albert and Cora had two children: Patricia Ann, born Nov. 4, 1933 at their farm home and John Albert, born Aug. 13, 1939 at Mahaska County Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. Patricia married Elma Van Waardhuizen of Pella. They have three children: Craig Alan, Kathleen Boot, and Valerie Terlouw. John married Marlyn Van Ee and they have three children: Rebecca Eversman, Bradley John, and Alissa Beth Rietveld. There are eight great-grandchildren.

On Feb. 18, 1984, Cora went to be with the Lord. She passed away at the Pella Community Nursing Home. Albert resides at Hilltop South, a residential care center.

by Pat Van Waardhuizen

RIETVELD, HERMAN

F401

Herman Rietveld was a well-known Pella business man. He had managed the Pella Brick and Tile Company and was associated with the People's Savings Bank of Pella.

Herman was connected with two early Pella families. He was the son of Herman D. Van Dam who gave him for adoption to

Wiggert and Anna Rietveld.

Anna Caterine Grundman was born in 1820 in Utrecht, The Netherlands to a ship's carpenter. At the age of 14 she went to live in the family of Herman Dornencius Van Dam. The Van Dam family, parents and two sons, had come to the U.S. in 1849. Anna's father was Hendrik Grundman who also came in the 1849 migration.

The Rietveld family had come in the first group, with Scholte's entourage. They had sailed on the ship *Catherina*. Wiggert was the son of Jan Rietveld and his wife who took up land on the Des Moines River bottom three miles south of Pella in what came to be known as Amsterdam.

The Van Dams lived in town and ran a store, becoming well-to-do during the time of the gold rush when thousands passed through Pella. Anna Catherine stayed with the Van Dams as store clerk, store manager, and housekeeper. The father of the Van Dams was ill; the mother had died and the two sons let the business fail. After the father's death, Anna had to sue to get her back wages. She had worked for them for a period of 30 years.

Anna Grundman and Wiggert Rietveld were married July 1, 1858, and farmed in the river bottoms on Rietveld land until it flooded "once too often". They then bought 600 acres of prairie land six miles northwest of Pella and built a brick home. They lived there until 1897 when they turned the farm over to Dirk Rietveld and moved to Pella.

The adopted son was the only living child in Wiggert's family. Two children had died in infancy. He attended Bunker Hill Country School, Pella High School, and was graduated from Central College in 1888.

Herman also had worked for the Pella Stacker and Feeder Co., in Portland, Ore., but later returned to Pella and went into farming on what he called the "Hunkeydory Farm". He farmed in Fairfield, Ia., also. He later became circulation manager of the *Longview Daily News* in Longview, Wash.

Herman Rietveld was also credited with establishing businesses that made up the little town of Harvey, Ia., near Pella.

His first marriage was to Frances Ota Livingston of Monroe in 1888. His second marriage was to Florence Abbot Amason in Long Beach, Calif. in 1847. She died in 1957.

Herman's children were: Harriet Rietveld; H.L. Rietveld; Mrs. Henry Howell; Mrs. William Henke; and Mrs. Sara John.

Herman died May 1, 1959, in Knoxville where he lived with his daughter, Helen Avery. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella with his adoptive parents, Wiggert (Feb. 21, 1829 – Sept. 30, 1914) and Anna Catrine (Nov. 8, 1820 – Jan. 13, 1899).

– from Pella Chronicles May 2, 1940 and May 9, 1959

RIETVELD, JAN AND CHRISTINE (VAN LOON)

F402

Jan Rietveld was the son of Jan and Dirkie Blockland Rietveld. He came to Pella with his parents in 1847 on the ship Catherina Jackson and grew up on the family farm on the north side of the Des Moines River near what is now the north side of the Red Rock Lake Tailwaters. He received his early education in Pella from the Rev. Muntingh who taught the equivalent of elementary and high school subjects. A course entitled *Mental Arithmetic* proved very valuable to Jan in later years as he was able to make land transactions, sell cattle, and farm produce quickly in his head.

Jan Rietveld and Christine (Van Loon) Rietveld

Jan's father died in 1859. He continued living with his mother and farming the family farm, but also purchased land across the river with his share of the inheritance. In order to cultivate this farm, he swam the river every day as there were as yet no bridges.

In 1864, Jan married Christine Van Loon and they moved into an old house across the river and nestled in a little grove just above the rock quarry. Signs of the old rock quarry are seen today. It was from this quarry that the rock came for the pillars of the old Pella-Knoxville bridge.

Christine Van Loon came to America in 1849 with her parents, Gideon and Maria Susanna Solsbergen Van Loon. They settled on a small farm west of Pella in an area later known as West Amsterdam and now the Red Rock Dam entrance.

Her father had never farmed and her mother found it very hard to cope with her new environment, having always been waited upon in The Netherlands. Christine was the oldest in the family and became responsible for helping with the field work as well as providing for the daily living. They had no machinery to cultivate the soil, only a few tools. There were no fences, and those who had stock let them roam wild. In spite of these conditions, they did prosper. Christine, at the age of 12, made and sold hats to Pella's more prosperous gentlemen. Once a week she carried eggs and butter on one arm, a basket of hats on the other, and with her Bible in her hands, walked to Pella memorizing her Sunday School lesson as she went.

Strangers were always welcome at the Rietveld home. Once there was a minstrel; a man carrying a strange looking harp. He came once a year and stayed overnight. His music was strange, but very beautiful. A Jewish peddler also came once a year. He sold lovely cloth which he called Oriental and which came from Arabia. He, too, always stayed overnight. Jan spent much time with him discussing the Bible.

From the upstairs front door could be seen beyond the bend of the river and across to Jan's family home. It is now part of the tailwaters of the lake. One day there sailed slowly around the bend a flotilla of boats which was on its way down the river. It was the Coxy-Kelley Armies; men who were victims of the depression, unemployed and dissatisfied with their lot. This was about the year of 1890 and they were on their way to Washington, D.C. to see the President of the United States. They landed at the foot of the hill about where is now the entrance to the old Pella-Knoxville Bridge. They came up to the Rietveld home and asked for food. Christine always had several loaves of home-made bread on hand. She started making sandwiches and when there was no more bread began to bake biscuits. She baked all day and when the last man was fed, they thanked her and went on their way down the river.

Indians often camped near the quarry in the area of what is now Ivan's Campground. The Rietveld children often visited them and gave them corn for their ponies. Christine gave the women some salted meat and in return they gave baby Lois a string of very small beads which the family still owns.

There were two spinning wheels in the home; a large one that had a very large wheel, and a smaller one. The four older girls did the spinning. Christine knit the yarn into stockings, socks, caps, and mittens for the whole family of 12. All of the girls learned to sew and were very thrifty. They always looked fashionable, although they had little money.

Jan and Christine lived to celebrate their Golden Wedding Anniversary and upon their deaths were buried in T'Lam cemetery as were most of the Rietveld and Van Loon Family.

Children born to Jan and Christine were: Delia, Lizzie (Leonard Weyers), Jennie (John Vanderwal), Marie (Tom Sels), John (Mary Schmidt), Gideon (May Van Loon), Bertha (Jim De Jong), Cora, Katherine, and Lois.

by Mrs. John Harmeling

RIETVELD, JAN AND DIRKIE (BLOCKLAND)

F403

Jan and Dirkie Blockland Rietveld came to America in 1847 with the group that founded Pella. Jan was in charge of their ship, the Catherina Jackson, along with J. Smeenk and was responsible for daily devotions. Upon arriving at St. Louis, he was one of the five men sent ahead to scout out and purchase the land known as the city of Pella. Jan and Dirkie settled on a farm on the north side of the Des Moines River on the old road that led to T'Lam Cemetery. Their house stood at the foot of the hill where is now the entrance to Red Rock Dam. Jan farmed, but was inexperienced, as in The Netherlands he had been a business man. To the east of the house and on the same cemetery road was a lime kiln in which he and his neighbors found plenty of work.

Jan and Dirkie had 10 children. The following are their names and names of their spouses: Wigert Rietveld (Antje Van Dam), Adrian Rietveld (Flora Roorda), Jane (Will Langerack), Jennie (John Toom), Cornelia (Claus Middle Koop), Geretije (N. Ver Steeg), Barbara (Baltus Van Baren), Dirkie (John De Velder), Dirk (Betty Van Lint), Jan (Christine Van Loon).

Each member of the family had his or her work to do on the farm, but there was plenty of time for play and fun. Father Jan liked to talk about his boyhood days, the fun and tricks they played. These were happy days. The river at this time was much wider and deeper as it flowed past the house. The boys swam there in the summer and skated in the winter.

Jan Rietveld died in 1859.

Dirkie Blockland Rietveld died in 1876. She spent her last days in the home of her daughter, Jennie (Mrs. John Toom), who lived on a farm north of Knoxville. Jan and Dirkie were buried in the old part of T'Lam Cemetery, but the location of their graves is unknown.

by Mrs. John Harmeling

RIETVELD, JOHN ALBERT AND MARLYN ELIZABETH

F404

The John A. Rietveld Family. Left to Right: Marlyn, Rebecca, Alissa, Bradley, and John.

Three generations of the Rietveld Family taken on Becky's wedding day. Left to Right: John Albert, Bradley John, and Albert Ray.

The farm in the bottom was purchased in Aug., 1962. John and Marlyn lived here for 12 years. The Rietveld children grew up here.

The Rietveld farmhouse, built in 1913 by John D. and Maggie Rietveld.

The Rietveld farm, taken in March of 1985.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Van Houwelingen purchased the original homestead.

John Albert Rietveld was born Aug. 13, 1939, at the Mahaska Hospital, Oskaloosa, to Albert and Cora (Ver Ploeg) Rietveld. He was delivered by Dr. H.C. Vander Meulen of Pella. John was welcomed to the Rietveld farm home, four miles east of Otley in Lake Prairie "N", Sec. 17, by his sister Patricia Ann. Pat is now married to Elmer Van Waardhuizen and resides at 205 East 13th St., Pella. John was baptized at the Second Reformed Church by Rev. Jacob Prins. During his childhood and teen years he lived on the farm, helping his father and driving truck for Rietveld and Bogaards, mostly hauling livestock to Des Moines for slaughter. He attended Bunker Hill School, being the third generation of the Rietveld Family to receive his elementary education in the one-room country school house, located in Lake Prairie Twp., "N" Sec. 17. His secondary education was at Pella Community High School.

Three hundred and fifity-eight days before John was born, Dr. H.C. Vander Meulen delivered a baby girl to William and Margaret Vos Van Ee in Summit Twp., Sec. 15. Marlyn Elizabeth was born in the living room of her parents' home, because the bedroom was not large enough. On that 20th day of Aug., 1938, she was welcomed by two sisters, Frances Ilene and Alice Nadine. Later three boys joined this family: William Duane, Calvin Gerrit, and David Alan. Frances is now Mrs. John Rus and lives at 1534 Broadway, Pella. Alice married John Vande Haar and they live on a farm on Route 1, Pella. Bill married Yvonne Hoekstra and their home is in Grand Rapids, Mich. Calvin is married to Deb Rysdtrand Vander Linden and resides at Jackson St., Pella. "Little Brother" David is married to Carole Buist and calls Byron Center, Mich. home.

Marlyn was baptized at the Otley Christian Reformed Church by Rev. Fred Van Houten. From Otley the family moved to northeast of Pella and for a short time attended the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. Marlyn attended country school for two and one-half years and then the family moved back to Summit Twp., Sec. 11 and attended the Otley Christian Reformed Church. Services were at 9:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. and every church pew had a good supply of fans for those hot Sunday afternoons. Education continued at the Pella Christian Grade and High School. Childhood memories are outdoor toilets (or the "privy"), gathering the eggs and feeding the chickens, skating in the haymow, spending four hours on the bus riding to and from school, picking wildflowers in the timber, and sledding down the "Big Hill". Marlyn worked at the Pella Rolscreen Company office after graduation from high school and later as a secretary at the Pella Christian High School.

Her courtship with John began in 1958 and they were married on Aug. 19, 1960, at the Calvary Christian Reformed Church, Pella, with the Rev. Harold Bossenbroek officiating. They made their home at 408 East Third St., Pella. Bill and Margaret could now refer to their three sons-in-law as the "Three Johns". After marriage John and Marlyn joined the First Reformed Church of Pella. It was a mutual, neutral agreement. John continued to work with his father on the farm and to drive truck for Rietveld and Bogaards. Their first child Rebecca Lynn was born on Feb. 21, 1961 at Mahaska Hospital, Oskaloo-

sa, delivered by Dr. Kenneth Lemon. On Aug. 20, 1962 Albert and Cora purchased the Roorda farm estate in Lake Prairie Twp., Sec. 7. John, Marlyn, and Becky moved to this farm home in the spring of 1963. When Becky was six months old, Marlyn went to work at the *Pella Chronicle* for Marion De Zwarte and quit her work there before their second child Bradley John was born at the Pella Community Hospital on Jan. 8, 1964, and delivered by Dr. Kenneth Lemon. Being a homemaker and a farm wife was now a full time job. The third child born to this union was Alissa Beth, on Dec. 7, 1970, at the Mahaska Hospital, Oskaloosa. Dr. Kenneth Lemon delivered and announced the new arrival. The snow and ice storm that occurred a day later left many homes without electricity for days and telephone service for two or three weeks. Mother Van Eee said that a family with a new baby living in the country should not be without a phone. So a special effort was made to restore phone service to our home.

Becky, Brad, and Alissa all attended the Lincoln Elementary School in Pella, the Pella Middle School, and Pella Community High School. Becky and Brad attended Middle School in the building that formerly was the Pella High School and presently is the Pella Community Center. Alissa attended Middle School at 612 East 13th St.

Albert and Cora moved from the farm to 900 Independence, Pella, in Aug., 1975. They purchased their home from Albert's Uncle, A.B. Van Houweling. John and Marlyn moved from "The Bottom" to the "Big House" up the hill in Nov., 1975, after some work and restoration in the house. The oak plate rail which had been in the dining room was in the barn at Marie Veenstra's. She was gracious and returned it, so once again it could add its charm and serve a purpose. We left many memories in that "Bottom", some to be treasured and some to forget. How often we had watched the Skunk River turn into a raging stream, flooding the entire bottom, and it seemed to happen so fast. It was hard to watch that beautiful field of green destroyed so quickly and then the men would go back and replant, still hoping for feed for silage. John and Marlyn purchased the farm from Albert and Cora on Mar. 9, 1976, and also the Roorda property that was their home. The large farm house, which was built by John's grandfather in 1913, holds fond memories for each family that called it "home." On the wall in the spacious living room hang the pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Van Houwelingen, the couple who bought the farm and gave it to John's grandmother, Maggie (Van Houwelingen) Rietveld. These pictures were given to John and family by Willard and Bety langerak and had been stored in the attic of Willard's mother's home. Albert Van Houwelingen was one of the few men who had the foresight to buy land after settling near Pella and he was one of the largest land owners in the entire Holland Colony. Willard Langerak in his letter to our family wrote: "In thinking about these pictures it seemed to me that you folks might treasure them – living in the original neighborhood where these two lived and raised their fine family. In a very real sense it might be a nice "homecoming" for the two."

Rebecca attended Central College, Pella, and while at college she met the young man who is now her partner in life, Scott Eversman. They were united in marriage on Aug. 13, 1983 at the First Reformed Church, Pella with the Rev. Jack Boerigter and Rev. Charles Eversman officiating. Their wedding reception was held at the farm home in the front yard. They are presently living in San Angelo, Tex. Their first child was born on Aug. 12, 1986. She is Sarah Marie. Scott is serving in the U.S. Air Force and is a Russian linquist specialist. Becky is a homemaker and teaches at a Day Care Center.

Memories of an A.F.S. student who shared life with us during Becky's senior year in high school still linger. Lisa Jane Dean of Melbourne, Australia will always be our daughter from "Down Under" and the letters and visits will continue. The horses Becky loved had to be sold, but not without tears and a broken heart.

Bradley attended Iowa State University in Ames, Ia. His desire and hope was to farm with his father, but because of hard times on the farm, he went job seeking. He is presently living in Mason City, Ia. and employed by Land O'Lakes as a seed sales specialist. There is no longer the sound of the Motorcycle racing across the yard and the old "57" Chevy is parked in the garage, waiting for paint and added restoration.

Alissa is presently a sophomore in Pella High School, keeping life and activity at the Rietveld farm less than boring. Together the family looks forward to sharing their home with Helle Jorgensen, a Rotary Student from Nibe, Denmark for about four months. The home holds out the welcome sign to all who want to visit – family, friends, and foreign visitors.

Involvement in church and community is a part of the families lifestyle. John presently serves as president of the Otley Farmers Co-op board and is on the First Church board of deacons. Marlyn loves antiques, collectibles, nature, and plant life. The farm reflects her love for trees, shrubs, and flowers. She has been an active member of the Pella Garden Club since 1976. A homemaker, but also a part-time "City Gal", she works as a real estate salesperson and at De Juweliers.

There are many treasured memories: the hayrides shared with 4-H youngsters, church groups, students, and adults; the joy in a child's eyes when he wiggles the handle of the old pump and water comes from its "nose"; dinner in the field when the men were planting and harvesting; and John and Marlyn's 25th Wedding Anniversary celebrated in the front yard with joy and laughter. Amid the joys are the struggles, recalling July, 1979, when we watched the tall green stalks of corn slowly wither in the hot wind and sun which lasted for two weeks, sharing the pain of nature's death. Then the devastation of a tornado in Apr., 1980, which hit the neighborhood with its fury and power. Even silos couldn't stand the force, and tumbled. We saw the black cloud coming across the field straight toward the farm and we headed for the basement. If you have seen one, the impression will last for a lifetime. We remember the tears when we looked out the next morning, and saw the ruin of nature and buildings. The big house stood the test, but the barn was leaning and needed repair. You cannot have one without the other, so the decision was made to set it straight. There was more heartache when the "Place in the Bottom" had to be sold in 1985 because of the farm crisis. But farm families remain strong and seem to have a special built-in hope as they look forward to another year for planting and harvesting. The pendulum of life keeps swinging and behind each cloud there is the sunshine. Favorite words from Isaiah are "But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles." So with faith and trust in God, we live each day and love the land that God gave us to replenish, subdue, and to dress, till, and keep.

by John and Marlyn Rietveld

ROBERTS, RILEY W. AND BARBARA R. (BOBBIE)

F405

Riley and Bobbie have each spent their entire life in Iowa, not far from Pella, but did not become residents here until July, 1980.

Bobbie was the youngest of the family of Orlin and Josie Moon, having two older brothers and an older sister. She was born Apr. 8, 1923, near Indianola and spent her early years on a farm there. After graduation from the Indianola High School in 1940, she attended Simpson College for two years before becoming employed by the Iowa State Medical Library in Des Moines. In 1946, marriage took her to the Prairie City area.

Riley was born on Oct. 28, 1923, the oldest child of Charley and Katharine Roberts. He has a younger sister and brother. He and his father grew up on the same farm and went to the same country school near Prairie City. Upon graduation from high school in Newton in 1941, he was engaged in farming with his father.

On June 16, 1946, Riley acquired his own private "Moon" at the First Methodist Church in Des Moines. They farmed in Jasper Co. until early 1959. They moved to Newton after the farm they lived on sold. Bobbie was a homemaker and helped on the farm in those first years. She started playing Mom to Forrest on May 18, 1948, and to Joan on May 18, 1952.

In Feb. 1956, Bobbie accepted employment at The Maytag Company in Newton in the Marketing Research Department and has been in that area until the time of this writing. All of this time Riley was trying out his wings (literally). He started flying lessons in mid 1957, purchased a small two-place airplane later in the year, and became a private pilot in Mar. 1958. That little airplane was flown by him in 15 states and across one Province of Canada in their five and one-half years together.

While living in Newton, Riley maintained the equipment in a bowling alley and worked in one of the smaller factories. During that time, he continued his aviation training becoming a commercial pilot with instructor, instrument, and instrument instructor ratings, as well as advanced and instrument ground instructor.

Forrest graduated from Newton High School in 1966, and from the University of Iowa in 1970, with a degree in Business Administration. At the present time he is a director at the Allstate Insurance Company in Northbrook, Ill. He and his wife Marilyn

live in Mt. Prospect, Ill. Joan graduated from Newton High School in 1970, and from the University of Iowa School of Nursing in 1974. She obtained her Masters Degree in Nursing Administration from the University of Iowa in 1976. She is presently on the Administrative Staff of the Des Moines Charter Hospital. She and her husband, Dr. John Cisna, live in Des Moines.

In 1974, there became a need for some flight instruction at the airport in Grinnell. Riley purchased a small plane for rental and instruction. This was done on evenings and week ends. On Apr. 1, 1977, Riley became the airport manager for the Pella Airport. A flight operation known as Pella Flight Center was established offering flight instruction, plane rental, and charter service.

In 1980, Riley and Bobbie moved to Pella. In 1982 they purchased and moved to their present home. They are avid do-it-yourselfers and set out to personalize the house — a hobby at which they were well experienced. Some major changes were made. The largest undertaking was digging out one-half of the basement to make a full basement, complete with shower room, laundry room, recreation room, shop, and storage room.

In some ways, it was more challenging moving the short distance from Newton than moving from a much further distance. Do you maintain membership in your church and social organizations, or do you break away and establish new relationships in Pella? Riley and Bobbie chose the latter and have been comfortable in their decision.

by Riley W. and Barbara R. (Bobbie) Roberts

ROELFOS, MINA M. BAKER

F406

Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Baker, Pella, 1955

Mina Baker-Roelofs in her father's baptismal dress and wooden pegged shoes from the Netherlands. Taken in Holland, Mich., 1921.

Ancestry and Life Story

Mina, the only child of the Rev. Thomas Jacob Baker and Fannie De Boer Baker, lived in Holland, Mich.; Ringle, Wis.; Edgerton, Minn.; Fairview, S. Dak.; and Pella, Ia. with her parents. She also lived in Ames, Ia. and Annville, Ky. Thomas Baker (originally Bakker) was born in Dronryp, Friesland, near Leewarden, The Netherlands. Fannie De Boer was born near Alton, Ia.

Mina's maternal grandfather was Gossen De Boer and her maternal grandmother, Mintje. (Mina was her namesake. For more information see the Harriet and George Heusinkveld Ancestry Story; Mina and Harriet are first cousins.)

Mina's paternal grandfather, Jacob Thomas Bakker, of Oosterbierum, The Netherlands, emigrated with his children to Orange City about 1890. A few years later they moved to Yakima, Wash., Moxie area. Her paternal grandmother, Grietje H. Stavinga, died of appendicitis in The Netherlands. Thomas attended Northwestern Academy, Orange City, as an older student, where he met Fannie De Boer of Hull at a party. Fannie had taken an extensive tour with her parents to Holland, Italy, Egypt, and the Holy Land in 1914. They were married in 1916 and did fruit farming in the Yakima Valley for a few years. Thomas decided to become a minister so the Bakers moved to Holland, Mich., where he attended Hope College and Western Theological Seminary. He graduated in 1924. Mina was born in 1920 in the Holland Hospital, now the Netherlands Museum. Rev. and Mrs. Baker served Reformed Churches in Ringle, Wis.; Edgerton, Minn., and Fairview, S. Dak. He preached in both the Dutch and English languages.

Rev. and Mrs. Baker retired in Pella in 1950. Prior to retirement Mrs. Baker was active in Women's Conference work and the Orange City Missionary Home Project. Thomas died in 1960 and Fannie in 1969. Both are buried in Hull, Ia.

Mina's education included going to a country school in Ringle, Wis., and later grade school and high school in Edgerton, Minn. She attended Central College two years and Iowa State University three years for the B.S. Degree. Her M.S. Degree was awarded by I.S.U. in 1946. She was the dietitian at Annville Institute, Annville, Ky., 1942-1945. She returned to Central College in 1946 as chairman of the Home Economics Department, a position held until retirement in 1985. Her specific areas of teaching were textiles and clothing, foods and nutrition, plus housing and interior design. She was coordinator for the Home Economics Cooperative Plan with I.S.U. She traveled extensively in Europe; many of these experiences were study tours. She participated in a five week International Congress for Home Economics and Agriculturalists at Wageningen, The Netherlands, in 1970. She attended Elderhostels in Britain, Holland, and W. Germany and has taught "Seniors" at two Central College Elderhostels. She supervised annual field trips for home economics students to Chicago 1955-1985. She was president and secretary of the Iowa Home Economics Association and was honored by that organization with the Distinguished Service Award of 1985. She is also a life member of the American Home Economics Association. Mina was honored for 40 years of service by the Central College Auxiliary in 1986. She served as Dutch section editor of the "Dat is Lekker Kook Boek" and co-editor with Betty Bergman of the "Pella Collectors' Cook Book." Photography has become for her an important hobby. Her interest in The Netherlands and the Dutch language began when her De Boer grandparents lived with her parents for a year in Holland, Mich. Membership in A.A.U.W. (charter member) P.E.O. Sisterhood, Reading Circle, the Pella Historical Society, and Second Reformed Church are meaningful to her.

Mina was married to Harold Roelofs in the Central College Chapel Aug. 16, 1985. Harold grew up in Greenleafton (Preston), Minn. and before college taught elementary rural schools. After college at Central he served in Annville, Ky. for four years. He was involved in a teaching and business career in Wisconsin before his retirement to Spring Valley, Minn. (See Harold E. Roelofs — Ancestry and Life Story) Mina and Harold reside at 229 Main St., Pella, Ia.

by Mina M. Baker-Roelofs

ROELOFS, HAROLD E.

F407

The abstract of title shows the Roelofs 72-acre farm in Fillmore Co., Minn., was purchased by Roelof Roelofs and wife from Steven Workman and wife. The date was Apr. 5, 1866. The consideration listed was $1,300. Roelof and Helena Roelofs came from Gelderland, The Netherlands, as did their son Gerrit and his wife Gerdina. Roelof declared his intention to become a U.S. citizen on Nov. 7, 1870. His final papers are on file in the Orange City, Ia., county courthouse. His son Gerrit declared such intention the same day and became a citizen Apr. 16, 1877.

This is one of the schools I taught prior to enrolling at Central College in 1936. It is located about 6 miles north of the Minnesota-Iowa line near Spring Valley, MN. The car is a 1928 Pontiac Coach which cost me $175 in 1931. My monthly wages then were $80. Because of the depression just getting started my wages at the school shown were $45 per month. (1935-1936). The contract required that I build my own fires, do my own janitor work and clean the building during the holiday break.

Gerrit and Gerdina Brinkman Roelofs acquired title to the Bristol Twp. family farm Apr. 6, 1870. On Apr. 30, 1901, Gerrit willed use of the farm and personal property to his wife for her lifetime. After her death the title would go to his son John, upon payment by him of $1,000 to each of his brothers and sisters: Roelof; Hattie, Mrs. James De Young; Henry; Lena, Mrs. Henry Wubbles; and Garret; or to their children.

In 1894 John Roelofs married Minnie Wieberdink. Their children are: Ruth, Jeanie, Edwin, Herchal, Carel, and Evert. Only Edwin and Evert (Lonnie) lived to adulthood. Edwin married May Gysbers on Feb. 6 of 1924. Their children are: Deloris, Maynard, Harvey, and Lauris. On Dec. 18, 1929, Lonnie married Vera Mensink. Their children are: Lowell, Gayle, Joyce, and Jon. Both families were lifetime Bristol Twp. farmers. Their mother Minnie died in 1906 because of ruptured appendix, a not uncommon problem in those days.

In Jan. of 1911 John Roelofs married Alyda Gysbers of Alto, Wisc. Children of their marriage are: Harold, Hilbert, and Leona. Harold married Cecil Howard of Spring Valley, Minn. in June of 1940. Their children are: Howard, Donald, and Ann. Harold* spent a lifetime in teaching and other accounting services, while Cecil combined homemaking with obstetrical nursing. Cecil died in 1983, just three years after retiring to the community where she grew up. In 1985 Harold married Mina Baker*, retired Central College home economics professor.

In 1937 Hilbert married J. Floy Broadwater, and in 1948 they purchased the Roelofs farm. Floy died in 1979 but Hilbert continues to reside on the farm as of Aug., 1986. Floy also combined homemaking with her profession of teaching. Their children are: Judith*, Ruth*, and Alice*. Before marriage Leona* spent some years teaching and was also a secretary at the Mayo Clinic. She married Richard Nelson on Mar. 26 of 1949 and joined him on the Nelson farm. They became the parents of Paul, David, and James.

* Alumnus of Central College

by Harold E. Roelofs

ROELOFSZ, JOOST

F408

[This story is edited from a May 2, 1940, article written by Leo C. Beintema of Rock Island, Ill. He was Dr. Roelofsz's great-grandson.]

Among Pella's first settlers was Dr. Joost Roelofsz. Born in 1804, Dr. Roelofsz was a native of Utrecht, the son of Hendrik Roelofsz who owned considerable coffee lands in Java, the Dutch East Indies. Joost was reared in a home of wealth and culture. He was a cousin of Dominie Scholte, Roelofsz's aunt having married Scholte's father.

Joost married Maria Lindeloof Aug. 8, 1832. (originally it was thought her name was Maria Van Dam but further research by Leo C. Beintema found the name to be Lindeloof.) She was born Dec. 18, 1813, and died Nov. 19, 1862. (Martha Lautenbach of Pella received a letter in July 1947 correcting the name of Mrs. Roelofsz.)

Dominie Scholte persuaded Roelofsz to emigrate with his group as no other doctor was listed among the colonists. Not only did Roelofsz and his wife leave behind parents, brothers and sisters, they left behind two married daughters. They bade all good-by in Apr. 1847 in Utrecht where Dominie A.J. Betten and A.P. Koelman and his sons were also leaving.

The two eldest Roelofsz daughters staying behind were Nancy and Libbie. The four younger children were Julia, Jetje, Maria, and Andrew. The younger four joined the parents on the trip to Rotterdam and sailed from there on the *Nagasaki*, the first of the ships leaving there to go to sea with the group

Dr. Joost Roelofsz came with the colonists in 1847.

The wife of Dr. J. Roelofsz was Maria Lindeloof (once thought to be Van Dam). They were married in Utrecht.

following Scholte. There were 213 passengers, not counting the crew. The doctor was very busy on the voyage as there was much sickness.

The Roelofsz family stayed in a hotel in St. Louis as did the Scholte family. In Keokuk it was supposedly Dr. Roelofsz who could not get the horses he had purchased to move until he was told the English words for making horses "get up".

When they first arrived in Pella they lived in a double log cabin half a mile southwest of "Stroojstadt" on a farm owned by G. Hagens who had three children: Willem, Zwaantje, and Mina. Also living in the cabin was the Smeek family with their children: Jacob, Heintje, Werner, Grietje, and Albert. The Hagens had come on the *Nagasaki* and the Smeeks on the *Catharina Jackson*. Later, when the town was platted, Dr. Roelofsz built the unique home on Main Street. [Another story in this book deals with the house he built.]

The doctor began his extensive practice in Pella. He is credited with performing the first surgical operation in Pella using the Lister theory of antisepsis and although the method was proven unsatisfactory, it was the forerunner of modern asepsis in operations.

Harry O. Viersen remembered the doctor as an innovator, as he was the first man in Pella to wear a white linen summer suit on the streets, always with it a long pointed parasol with a green lining, both of which created a sensation. This was soon copied by other men, minus the umbrella.

He was the owner of a lovely Stradivarius violin which he played beautifully, often with his granddaughter Lily Viersen accompanying him. He also was an artist, painting scenes as he remembered them from The Netherlands. He participated in the musicals which were traditional and usually held in the Scholte or Nollen homes. Friends John Nollen played the melodian, Dr. Roelofsz first violin. Henry Nollen played second violin. Henry P. Scholte, the dominie's son, was a master with the flute, and his mother, Mareah, also played the melodian. Robert Beard was the guitarist. The group was the center of musical life in Pella.

To make his long doctor's calls into rural areas, the innovative Roelofsz fixed himself a travel bed to be used in a wagon or sled and hired a driver to enable him to rest or sleep while traveling. He was covered with heavy robes in winter.

Dr. Roelofsz made two trips back to The Netherlands, the last one in 1884. He also made a voyage to visit his relatives in Java.

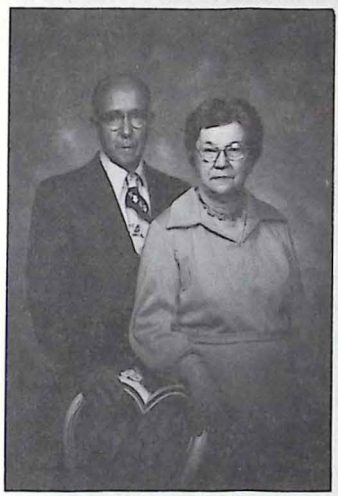
Dr. Roelofsz' brother, Peter Roelofsz, served in the Civil War. Before that, he had a confectionery and notions store. His two daughters married Van Dam brothers and moved to Missouri. Peter's two sons moved to Nebraska. Dr. Roelofsz also had a sister who came to Pella with her husband, Dr. Mortel. They also moved to Missouri.

Dr. Roelofsz died at the age of 93 on Apr. 28, 1888. Dutch Psalms were sung at Graceland Cemetery and Dominie de Vink and Robert Beard conducted the funeral. He had been an esteemed physician.

by Leo C. Beintema

ROLFFS, DICK

F409



Dick and Minnie Rolffs

Sprang Capella in the province of Noord Braband, Holland, was the birthplace of Dick Rolffs. He was born Aug. 22, 1904, to Hendrick Ludolf and Cornelia Vos Rolffs. Dick came to America in July of 1914, along with his family and settled in the Sully area of Jasper Co., Ia. The family traveled on the ship *Nortdam*. Cornelia's brother Willem Vos was their sponsor and he helped them get settled in their new home. Dick's father had been a blacksmith by trade in Holland as was his grandfather Hendrik Jacobus Von Rolffs. Dick attended the Sully Christian School until the age of 13 when he quit school to go to work to help support his parents. He worked as a hired farm hand for area farmers until he was married in 1927.

Dick was married to Minnie Jansen, the daughter of John Dirk and Jannige Plate Jansen, of Sully. Minnie was born July 19, 1904, north of Sully in Jasper Co., Ia. After their marriage Dick and Minnie were farm hands for Everet Kruseman and earned $35 each month, plus a house to live in, and two hogs to butcher for meat. He also milked four cows for half and raised 200 hens for half. Dick and Minnie started farming on their own in 1932 in the time of the depression. They farmed most of their lives in the Sully, Killduff, and Lynnville areas of Jasper Co. Dick was also a breeder of German Shepherd dogs.

Dick and Minnie are the parents of eight children: Henry Louis (Hermina Arkema) born Nov. 20, 1927, of Grinnell, Ia.; Janet Marie (Guy Jansen) born Dec. 15, 1929, of Newton, Ia.; Cornelia (Wilbur D. Vos) born May 10, 1931, of Sully, Ia.; John Richard (Shirley Rooy) born May 20, 1934, of Willmar, Minn.; Dorothy Arlene (Marion L. Vos) born May 6, 1936, of Oskaloosa, Ia.; Mildred Ann (Louis Lanser) born Aug. 29, 1937, of Newton, Ia.; Marvin Duane (Janice (Wichhart) born Aug. 7, 1939, of Oskaloosa, Ia.; and Dale Eugene born Apr. 7, 1945 (deceased).

In 1958 Dick and Minnie retired from the farm and moved to 1214 E Ave. East in Oskaloosa. In 1963 they built a new home at 1609-9th Ave. East. Dick worked in a gas station for a year, and then began driving a school bus for the Oskaloosa Community School District. He drove a bus for 12 years, taking many students on extra-curricular activities and sports trips. In 1971 they moved to Pella, Ia., and made their home in the Pella Manor. Minnie died on Apr. 17, 1977. She is buried in the Sully, (Jasper Co.) Ia. Cemetery.

Dick married Henrietta Van Kooten Nieuwsma on Dec. 27, 1977. They are currently making their home in the Pella Manor.

by Dick Rolffs

ROOK, CASE AND ELLA

F410

Case Rook was born Jan. 10, 1899, in The Netherlands, son of Jockem and Gerrigie Kroese Rook. Case came to America with his parents and nine brothers and sisters. He was the seventh child. They docked at New York May 26, 1909. From there they went to Hull, Ia. and settled there May 29, 1909. He had most of his schooling in The Netherlands. He was baptized in The Netherlands.

Case later moved to the Leighton and Pella area where he farmed a few years. Then Case moved to Grand Rapids, Mich. about 1926, where he was employed in a furniture factory. On Apr. 27, 1929, he married Ella Stehr at Cutlerville, Mich. In 1930 Ella and Case moved to a farm near Indianola, Ia. where Herman Cornelius was born on Apr. 20, 1930, and Laurence Harold was born Sept. 19, 1931. In 1934 they moved to Sandridge, north of Pella, where Shirley Ann was born Feb. 28, 1936. The winter of 1936, there was a lot of snow. Snow was over the fence rows.

Case farmed with his sons till Sept. 29, 1956

Case Rook Family. Front, Ella Rook; Back, L-R: Shirley, Laurence, Herman, Case

when he retired and moved to Pella. Case died Dec. 31, 1981 at the age of 82 years. Laurence died Mar. 15, 1964 at the age of 32 years.

Herman married Marcella Goemaat Jan. 17, 1956. They have four children: Carol; Laureen, Keith, and Larry. Carol married Verlan Van Dyke and they have two sons — Michael and Kevin, and live near Pella. Laureen married Marlin Van Wyk, and they have two sons, Lance and Cody, and live near Sully. Keith married Lynn Tyrrel and Larry married Sharon Meeks. Both live in Pella. Herman farms with his sons on the same farm that we farmed.

Shirley married Harlan Nieuwsma July 27, 1956. Shirley and Harlan live near Marion, Ia. They have three children: Steve, Julie, and David. Steve married Patricia Ford and lives near Marion and they have three children: a son Benjamin, a daughter Alison, and a son Nick Ford. Julie is a nurse presently living in Colorado Springs. David is in California, having graduated from the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. in 1986.

When Case and I farmed near Indianola, corn was 10 to 12 cents a bushel, wheat 30 cents a bushel, and eggs 7 to 10 cents a dozen. Cream was 16 cents, and hogs $2.15 to $3.10 per cwt.(hundred weight) delivered to town. Some even burned corn for fuel. Farming was very hard, you bought only what you needed and couldn't raise yourself. Those were very hard times.

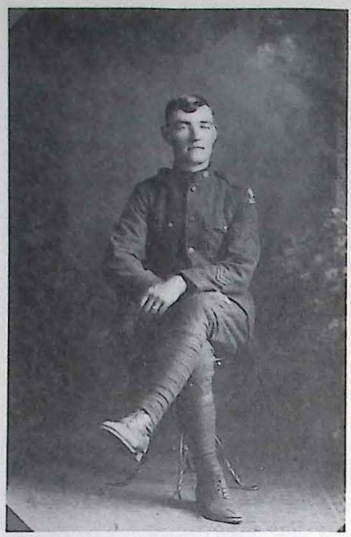
by Mrs. Case Rook

ROOK, HENRY

F411

Henry Rook, son of Jockem and Gerrigie Kroese Rook was born at Vollenhove in the Province of Overijssel of The Netherlands on Apr. 27, 1889.

He came to America in 1909, settling first at Hull, Ia. with his parents on the 29th of May of that year. Henry spent seven years in



Henry Rook – W.W.I

Osceola Co. of Northwest Iowa where he was engaged in farming before entering service during World War I, from which service he was discharged on May 18, 1919. After his discharge he came to Pella where he lived until the time of his death. He died Aug. 30, 1970, at the age of 81 years.

by Mrs. Case Rook

ROORDA, AGNES (LANGSTRAAT)

F412

Agnes and Marion Roorda; June 14, 1950; Methodist Church; Taintor, Ia.

Agnes, fourth child of Pete and Minnie Kool Langstraat, was born near Peoria, Ia., in 1929. She attended Peoria Public and Warren Grade Schools. The family moved to a farm near Taintor, Ia., in 1943. She graduated from New Sharon High School in 1948 and began employment as secretary to the City Clerk in Pella.

In June of 1950 she married Marion L. Roorda at the Methodist Church in Taintor. Marion was born in 1919.

Three daughters were born to the couple: Linda J. (now Mrs. Loren J. Blom), Marlyce A. and Karyl K.

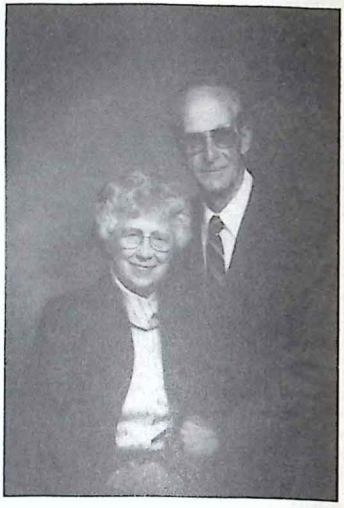
Agnes has had some part-time employment but mostly enjoyed being a homemaker, mother and grandmother.

Marion is employed at Vermeer Mfg. and they are members of First Reformed Church in Pella.

by Agnes Roorda

ROORDA, EDGAR AND MINNIE

F413



Minnie (Den Besten) and Edgar Roorda.

Edgar John Roorda was born on a farm in the Bethel neighborhood in Marion Co. on Apr. 26, 1917, the third child born to Epke G. and Emma Marie Boot Roorda. He received his education in the former Bell School four miles north of Pella. Soon after graduation he moved with his parents to a farm northwest of Pella in the Bunker Hill School District. Members of his family are: Melvin, Springfield, Ore.; Erma Helen (Mrs. Henry De Vries), Otley; and Forrest of Pella. Edgar helped in the farming with his father.

On Feb. 26, 1944, Edgar married Minnie Den Besten, daughter of Ed and Jennie Den Besten, in the First Christian Reformed Church in Pella. She received her education in the rural Clark Christian School near New Holland, S. Dak., later moving with her parents to this area in 1937. She worked some

outside the home doing housework and at the Pella Overall Factory. After marriage she was a homemaker and worked in the family business.

They moved to a farm five miles south of Pella where Don Boertje now lives, and which at that time took on the name of "Honeymoon Cottage" since several young couples started married life on this farm. After a wet spring and later dried-up crops, the next spring they moved to a farm northeast of Otley in the Skunk River bottom. After three years of drowning out, due to river water over the land and Edgar dealing with a back and leg problem it was decided to sell out and move to Pella and pursue another type of work. Needing a house to live in, the fall of 1947 they purchased a quarter of a block, used as a cow pasture, from Simon Douwstra in the 1000 block of West Second St. After some grading Edgar built his first house with help from his father Epke and his father-in-law Ed. The family was able to move into the home the Spring of 1948. During the building process Edgar continued to have more pain with leg-back problems, and the result was hospitalization in University Hospitals, Iowa City, for a spinal fusion and approximately five months recovery. After work was resumed he completed the home they were living in plus taking on some other remodeling jobs. The next spring the house was sold and another one built on the same 1000 block. The family moved eight times in the first years of married life until they moved into their present home in the same block at 909 West Lincoln St., in the Fall of 1954. Edgar continued to operate the general construction business now known as Pella Building and Supply Inc. for approximately 35 years until retirement, when the management was passed on to their son Bruce. Edgar remains active in part-time construction work and land development, also enjoying some fishing and golfing.

Five children were born to Edgar and Minnie. Eunice Lavonne was born Mar. 19, 1946. Twin Roy Duane was stillborn Mar. 20, 1946. Eunice graduated from Central College with a major in music where she met her husband Thomas Bollen, son of Elmer and Margaret Bollen of Fort Plain, N.Y. Eunice taught music for one year in the Bloomfield school system while her husband served in the Vietnam War. They are parents of three children: Jolene Marie, Jennifer Lynne, and Jeffrey Thomas. Eunice continued teaching music in the Fort Plain, N.Y., area. Tom is employed by the Niagara Mohawk Power Company as a lineman.

Sandra Kay was born Feb. 23, 1947. Following graduation from the Pella Community High School, she enrolled in the Iowa Methodist Hospital College of Nursing in Des Moines for one year when she married Daryl Dean Van Steenis, son of Clarence and Florence Van Steenis Van Gorp, and moved to a farm in the Peoria area later moving to a farm they bought from Simon and Elizabeth Ter Louw in the Sandridge School District. Three children were born to them: Brian Dean, Jana Dee, and Teresa Kay. Daryl is engaged in farming and Sandy is employed as an aid in the Pella Community Nursing Home.

Edwin Gene, born July 7, 1952, graduated from Central College in business. He married Gloria Jean Kruis, daughter of Mel and Joan Kruis of Mahwah, N.J. She was a primary school teacher in the Pella Christian School. They are the parents of two children: Michael Edwin and Sarah Olwyn. Edwin is an accountant and computer consultant with the family business and De Waard and Van Maanen C.P.A. firm in Pella.

Bruce Allan was born Jan. 11, 1956. After graduating from the Pella Community High School he went to work with his father in the construction business, later taking over the business. Bruce married Mary Ann Pol, daughter of Leonard and Betty Pol. She is employed with Precision Pulley.

Edgar and Minnie are charter members of the Trinity Reformed Church in Pella where they remain active and interested in the spiritual needs of the congregation and happy to have had the privilege of being a part of a growing community.

by Minnie Roorda

ROORDA, EPKA A.

F414

Epka A. Roorda 1798 – 1884; Froukje Vander Lune Roorda 1800 – 1877.

The first record of this very old Friesian family dates back to 778 when Refridus (Ruurt) Roorda was given the fleur-de-lis to use on his coat of arms when he fought with Charlemagne, King of the Franks in the battle against the Saxon Chieftan, Wittekind. The fleur-de-lis was then the emblem of the French royal coat of arms. Refridus, son Godefridus (Goffe), received the half-double eagle of Charlemagne (who was by then emperor) in 809. This honor was given to those Friesians who helped subdue Rome. Six generations later they called themselves Roorda of Tjummarum in honor of one of their most important possessions. In the year 1224, the brothers, Ruurt and Johann Roorda, went with the duke of Brabant on a crusade to take Palestine from the Turks. Ruurt returned but Johann was killed in action in 1224. Ruurt took the Moor's head emblem along with the half-double eagle and the rose as his coat of arms. This is the story of the Moor's head emblem as told in *Genealogy of the Friesian Royalty*. "A Moorish prince of prodigious size (ongemeen grootte afmetingen) full of pride and defiance, challenged the most valient Christian Knight to a duel (tweestryd). The courageous Friesche, Roorda of Genum accepted the challenge and managed to kill the Moor. With the hewn-off head of the dead prince on the point of his sword, he returned to the watching Christian army." Because of this brave deed, he was knighted. The Roordas were at that time called Roorda of Genum after the chief seat of the parliament. Several Roordas served in parliament.

Izaak Roorda, born 1729, "presented a daughter" Hinke Izaaks for baptism in Apr., 1754. In 1778 Hinke married Albert Egbert or Epkes (no surname). They had eight children. The youngest Epka was baptized when his mother was a widow in 1798. In 1812 when Napoleon decreed that all families must take a surname, Hinke declared that she wished to keep her maiden surname of Roorda for herself and her children. Her son Epke Alberts Roorda, 1798 – 1884, married Froukje Vander Lune in 1882. He was a painter and glassmaker and later an innkeeper. They and four younger children joined

Anna (Oenna) and Doetje Roorda family taken at their home northwest of Pella in 1907. Front, l-r: John Buwalda, Josie Bogaards, Abraham Bogaards, Gertie Bogaards with Dora, Andrew Bogaards, Andrew Buwalda, Andrew Roorda (standing behind their grandfather), Anna Roorda, grandmother Doetje Roorda, Theodora Roorda, Tena Kuiper with Dora, Ralph J. Kuiper, Maria Roorda, and Georgianna Roorda; Back, l-r: Peiter Bogaards, Wieger Roorda, Abraham Roorda, Froukje or Flora Roorda, Allie Roorda Brunia, Neal Brunia, John Kuiper, Epka Roorda, and Johanna Roorda. Later family members, Epka: Roy Henry; Gertie: Leslie, Bessie, Florence, Gertrude, Peter; Tena: Gerrit; Abraham married Dena Van Houweling: Leona; Wieger married Reino E. Borgman: Paul, Walter, Clara, Erma, and Carl.

three sons who had already come to Pella in 1857. All the Roordas here are descended from them. Their children were: Albert Epka (married Doetje Brower) remained in Holland; Wieger E. (married Trinjtje Buwalda); Izaak E. (married Boukje Buwalda); Anne (Oenne) E. (married Doetje Buwalda); Antje (married Hessel Buisma) and remained in Holland; Hendrik E. died of sickness while serving in the Civil War and is buried in National Cemetery, Corinth, Miss; Gerrit E. (married Adrianna Van De Meer); Hinke E. (married Adriann Rietveld); John (Ruurt) E. (married Andrianna Van Maren).

The Roordas and Van Der Lunes were avid gardeners. Epka and Frouke brought many plants with them to this country. Included were plum trees, rhubarb, and roses.

Epka's sons were painters and decoraters of homes and business houses. He and son Wieger E. followed the trade when they came to Pella. Epka painted landscapes on glass as a pastime. There are many artists in the Roorda background. The other sons farmed: Isaak in the Porterville area; Anne northwest of Pella; Gerrit in the Bethel neighborhood; Hinke and her husband southwest of Pella near the Des Moines River; and John near Durham. John drove the Huckster wagon many years. Gerrit traveled by wagon train to Oregon as a young man. Isaak was shipwrecked on his first trip to America and wrote a book of the experience to finance his next trip to this country.

Oenne Roordas name was spelled Anne by immigration officials and he kept that spelling. He and Doetje Buwalda Roorda were the parents of: Froukje; Epka A. (married Johanna Ver Hey); Allie (married Jan Buwalda and later Neal Brunia); Gertie (married Pieter Bogaards); Tena (married John Kuiper); Abraham (married Dena Van Houweling); and Wieger (married Reino Borgman).

Epka and Johanna Roorda were the parents of: Andrew E. (died at 3 months); Andrew V. (died at 18 yrs.); Marie (married Charles Toom); Theodora (married B.P. Groenendyk); Georgia (married Gerrit Tysseling); and Roy Henry (married Marie De Boef).

by Pauline Tysseling

ROORDA, EPKE ALBERTS

F415

Epke Alberts Roorda was the eighth and youngest child of Albert Egberts Vanden Akker and Hinke Izaaks Roorda, whose marriage proclamations were made Oct., 1778, in Rinsumageest. Epke's mother had been baptized in Rinsumageest Apr. 21, 1754, and died at Dantamawouda, Friesland, May 14, 1837. Epke's father's genealogical data has not been found, but it is known that he died before Hinke gave birth to their son Epke, July 6, 1798.

Before 1812 many families had no surnames. When Epke's mother Hinke had been widowed 14 years and Napoleon's decree for surnames was issued, her late husband's family took the name Vanden Akker. Hinke, however, and her sister decided to give their children the ancient family name Roorda, used since Refridus (Ruurt) Roorda in 778.

Epke Alberts Roorda and his wife Froukje Wijgers Vander Lune, who came to America in 1857.

This declaration of retaining the maiden name of Roorda is recorded in Rinsumageest. Epke was 13 at the time. His older brothers and sisters were Janke (1779), Janke (1781), Izaak (1783), Johannes (1786), Jitske (1788), Ruurt (1791) and Jan (1793).

Epke married Froukje Wijgers Vander Lune May 30, 1822, at Ferwerd. She was born Sept. 7, 1800, to Wijger and Antje Kooi Vander Lune whose marriage was recorded in Hallum, June 25, 1797. Epke and Froukje had 11 children before coming to America in 1857. Three of their sons had come to America before them: Izaak, Wieger, and Anne. Their eldest son, Albert Epke, chose to stay in Friesland as did his sister Antje. Another son, Hendrik, enlisted in the Civil War and died in 1862 of sickness. He is buried in the National Cemetery at Corinth, Miss. The other children were Gerrit, Hinke, and John.

Epke died Dec. 19, 1884, and Froukje died Apr., 1879, both in Pella. This couple was the 11 generation recorded in the very old and distinguished family of Roorda.

by Eva Mae Roorda

ROORDA, HENRY

F416

Henry Roorda, eldest son of John (Ruurt) and Adrianna Van Maaren Roorda, was born in Pella Aug. 24, 1869. He was married to Mary Vos in Pella, Nov. 25, 1895. They moved to Almyra, Ark. After four years they returned to Iowa with their infant son John, where they resumed farming in the vicinity of Prairie City and Leighton Ia. In 1940 they retired and moved to Pella. Henry regaled the young folks with stories of the mules in Arkansas. In 1948 Henry suffered a stroke and was an invalid until he died June 15, 1954. Mary died May 31, 1953. Henry and Mary, their children and grandchildren were believers in the Lord Jesus, and were most all Gathered to His Name.

John Roorda, eldest son of Henry and Mary Vos Roorda, was born in Almyra, Ark. on Nov. 30, 1896. He was married to Iva Giles in Osceola, Ia. Nov. 20, 1918. Until his health failed, he was an agent for Prudential Insurance Co. He was the witty one of the family, though they all shared in this trait, and was always ready for a good time. Iva was honored as a press woman for the local papers. She died July 4, 1980. John died Jan. 21, 1966. Their children: Betty married to Arthur Stittsworth of Knoxville, and their four children; Molly and Ron Betterton and four children; Jim and Nancy Stittsworth and their four children; John and Sharon and their two children; David and Chris Stittsworth; John (Jack) and Louise Denny Roorda and four children; Douglas and wife, and two children; Debra and Rick Manly and two children; Denise and Paul Kelly and one child; Dawn Roorda; Marjorie Grace and Parke Larson and their two children; Susan, who died in infancy; and Chris Anders Larson. Marjorie died June 4, 1978.

Charles Roorda was born in Pella Mar. 6, 1900. He helped his father on the farm until he moved to St. Louis where he was employed as a shoe salesman. He was married to Hilda Till in St. Louis. The burden of his heart was to get the gospel out. They had three children. The eldest died in infancy. Mary Helen married Roger Alberts of Sheboygen Wis. and they had four children: Barbara and Tom Day and their two children, Jonathan & Joshua; David Alberts, engaged to Sue Van Dyck of Ont. Can.; Gary; and Paul Alberts all residing in Minneapolis, Minn.; Raymond and Linda Toombs Roorda, had two children, Jeff and Tim of St. Louis. Charles was killed when his car was hit by another auto, Feb. 17, 1958. Hilda died June 22, 1978.

Jeanette Nellie Roorda was born in Pella Mar. 6, 1900, the twin of Charles Roorda. She remained in the home, enjoying growing a garden and flowers, quilting, baking, and keeping her four brothers happy. When the family moved to Pella she was employed at the Overall Factory and other places of employment until she joined the hospital staff in 1963. She worked in the hospital and Nursing Home for 13 years until she retired. On Sept, 1, 1979 she became a patient at the Pella Nursing Home where she still resides.

Paul Roorda was born in Pella, Ia. Sept, 17, 1902, arriving on a morning when all was black from an early killing frost. He also helped his father on the farm until he moved to St. Louis and later to Denver, Colo. He was married to Cornelia Hartendorp of Denver. Paul was employed with McMurtrey Paint Company. He not only painted outdoors and indoors but also scenic drawings. He painted a mural of a flag for the schoolroom where he attended, the Black Oak School. They had three children, Paul Jr. married Ruth Rupp of St. Louis and their three children: Paul III, (two children, Benjamin and Caleb Roorda); Bonnie and Jim Jacobsen (two children, James and Peter); and Ted Roorda of Jupiter, Fla. Patricia Lee married Mark Renaud of Otley, Ia. Their two children: Bryce and Barbara Kenny Renaud, (and two children Ben and Jason); Gail Renae and Steven Seekamp and children, (Troy and Amber). Paul died Feb. 14, 1965. Cornelia later was married to Louis Brand. She died Mar. 5, 1976.

Marion Roorda was born in Pella, Ia. Nov. 4, 1908. He helped his father on the farm until

Picture taken at the 50th wedding anniversary of Henry and Mary Roorda – 1945. Front, L-R: Patricia, Paul Jr., Mary Helen and Raymond (Charles' children). Second row, L-R: Paul H., Marion, Henry, Mary, John H., Charles. Back, L-R: Mrs. Paul, Jack and Marjorie (John's children), Jeanette, Iva, Hilda.

they retired and moved to Pella. Marion was called to serve 'Uncle Sam' for nearly three years, in the States, England, and Belgium. On returning he was employed at a temporary job with Boat Furniture, which lasted for 25 years. Marion was striken with a heart attack, and was an invalid for the last 14 years of his life. He was married to Hilda Miller in North Hollywood, Calif. He loved going on trips around the country including Hawaii. Marion died Feb. 18, 1981. Hilda resides in the home.

by Hilda Roorda

ROORDA, ISAAC EPKA

F417

Isaac Roorda was born Oct. 25, 1832, at Dontumawonda, Friesland, son of Epka Albert Roorda. He started to America on the sailship *Williem and Mary*. It struck a rock near the Bermuda Islands. Grandpa sailed back to England, then later tried again and got to America. He married Baukje A. Buwalda July 31, 1857. She was also from Friesland. Her parents were Abraham Paules Buwalda and Aaltje Jans Havenga. She came to America in 1847, under the leadership of Rev. Henry Peter Scholte, on the ship *Peter Floris*, which took four months.

Baukje and Isaac had several children: Epke (1858-1926) born in Pella, married Bertha Vander Meulen; Allie (1860-1944) born in Otley, Ia. married Frank William Brunia; Flora (1862-1948) born in Otley, Iowa, married Art Van Houweling; Tena (1864-1912) born in Otley, Ia. married Jacobus Antone Herny; Abraham (1866-1946) born in Oregon City, Ore. married Elizabeth Van Houweling; Henriette (1869-1927) born in Ore. City, Oregon, married William Vander Kraan; Gerrit (1871-1940) born on the home place seven miles southeast of Pella, married Angeline De Cook; Anna (1874-1953) was born on the home place. She married Henry Vander Kraan; Pauline (1876-1957) was born on the home place. She married my father, Charles Van Zante.

In 1864, Isaac and Baukje with four children went by train to New York, then by boat and across Panama and then on a sailship to Oregon. They came back in six years with six children. At that time the trans-continental railroad had been built.

Grandpa walked to Des Moiies from Pella and bought land, the farm we live on, paying for it in gold. Three more children were born on this place, making nine children. Baukje Roorda enjoyed fancy work, making table covers, and bed spreads. One of the table covers was awarded first prize at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. Isaac Roorda died in 1905 and Baukje in 1893. Both are buried in the Porterville Cemetery.

by Earl Van Zante

ROORDA, JOHANNA WILMA (DE HAAN)

F418

Johanna Wilma De Haan, the oldest of two children born to Teunis and Sarah Van Steenis De Haan, was born in Mahaska County. Her father was the only child of John Adrianus and Johanna Wilhemina Van Engelenhoven De Haan. Her mother was Sarah Van Steenis, the tenth child of William and Aaltje Ver Ploegh Van Steenis. The other children in the family were Maggie (Mrs. Martin Klien), Pauline (Mrs. Jacob Van Zante), Ida (Mrs. Arthur Gaass), Arie, Hubert, Henry, David, Clara (Mrs. Gary Van Zee), Sarah (Mrs. Teunis De Haan) and Ruth Van Steenis. They lived south of Pella in what was known as the "Herwijnensche Buurt" (neighborhood).

Wilma was born on Apr. 3, 1921, and her brother, Adrian Paul, was born on July 10, 1922. Wilma grew up on a farm in Mahaska Co. She went to school at Black Oak Center which was on the highway #63 (now 163). She and her brother walked the three-quarters of a mile to school and carried lunches. Water for the school had to be carried from a nearby farm. Children took turns doing this chore.

Front, l-r: Epke, Anna, Isaac E. Roorda (my grandfather), Pauline, Bertha A. Buwalda (my grandmother), and Allie; Back, l-r: Henriette, Abraham, Flora, Tena, and Gerrit.

Robert Walter Roorda Family. Front, l-r: Lois Van Heukelom, Joshua Van Heukelom, Wilma Roorda, Walter Roorda, Rebecka Roorda, Bryan Roorda, and Dixie Roorda; Back, l-r: Eric Van Heukelom,. Matthew Van Heukelom, Lawrence Van Heukelom, Bradley Roorda, and Donald Roorda. Taken at the 40th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Roorda, 1985.

Each child had his own drinking cup to be used in school. Other chores, such as sweeping the floor and cleaning erasers, were done by the children. The teacher had to fire the heating stove in winter. Wilma graduated from eighth grade in 1934. There were only two pupils in her class that year.

After graduating she did domestic work for several different families. During the war she worked in the Rolscreen factory. She was engaged to Walter Roorda who was in the Army at that time. When he was discharged, after four years in the service, they were married Nov. 7, 1945. They were married in the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Theo P. VerHulst, assisted by Rev. A. Haverkamp. The couple traveled to Lancaster, N.Y., to visit friends on their honeymoon trip. While there they also visited Niagara Falls.

The couple moved to the farm where Walter was born and started farming with his brother Paul. Two children were born to them while they lived on the farm. Lois Eileen was born on Feb. 8, 1947, at Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa. It was a very stormy night and they had to stay in town because the roads were drifting shut. They had to borrow a car to go to the hospital as the one they had was not reliable enough to go on such a stormy night. Donald Wayne was born on May 24, 1948, at Mahaska Hospital.

Lois and Donald started school at Webster in Pella. There was bus service by this time. Lois graduated from Pella Community High in 1965 and worked at Employers Mutual Insurance and Casualty Company in Des Moines. She was married to Lawrence G. Van Heukelom on Sept. 1, 1966. They have three sons, Eric, Matthew, and Joshua. They live on an acreage near Bondurant, Ia., and Lawrence has a Medicap Store in Des Moines. Donald graduated from Pella Community High in 1967 and Centerville Community College in 1969 with a degree in Automotive Technology. He is self-employed as an auto mechanic. He also serves in the National Guard and holds the rank of Warrant Officer. He was married to Dixie K. Lanphier on Sept. 17, 1971. They live in Pella and have three children, Bradley, Bryan, and Rebecka. Dixie works at Enduro Manufacturing Company in Pella.

The family moved to a new house they were building in Pella in 1954. Walter started to work in town for a building contractor. They lived in the basement for a year and a half while the house was completed.

Wilma worked as a homemaker and did domestic work in the Stu Kuyper home for twenty years. She is a member of the First Reformed Church in Pella and is active in Circle and Guild meetings. She also is involved in other church activities. They are now retired and enjoying family and friends.

by Johanna Wilma Roorda

ROORDA, LOREN

F419

Loren E.Roorda, the fourth child of John J. and Anna Mae DeWinter Roorda, was born at Taintor, Ia. on May 16, 1931. During Loren's early childhood years his family lived south of Pella. Loren graduated in 1948 from Lynnville High School. From 1950 to 1954 he served in the U.S. Air Force, then returned home to a farm at Montezuma.

On Aug. 21, 1959 Loren married Arlene Ver Ploeg who was a third grade teacher at Montezuma. Born on Dec. 3, 1935, Arlene is the daughter of Gradus H. and Fannetta VanWyk VerPloeg of Pella.

Arlene, a 1953 graduate of Pella High School, attended Central College two years for an elementary teaching certificate. She taught at Valley View School near Otley, Ia., for one year and at Montezuma for four years. In Aug., 1960, Arlene graduated from Drake University with a B.S. in education degree.

Loren and Arleen are the parents of four children. Their names and birthdates are: Brenda Kay, Dec. 24, 1960; Beth Ann, Jan. 7, 1962; Brian Lee, Mar. 4, 1964; and Benae Lynn, Aug. 22, 1973.

Brenda married Keith VanderLinden of Pella on Aug. 10, 1985. Both are 1983 graduates of Central College, received M.S. degrees in computer science from the University of Iowa, and are currently employed as software engineers at Rockwell-International in Cedar Rapids, Ia., their home.

Beth, a 1984 graduate of Central College, married James Cole of Wichita, Kan., on Nov. 16, 1985. Beth is employed as an accountant at Builders Commercials, Inc. and Jim, a University of Kansas graduate, as marketing director for Home Oil Company in Wichita, where they live.

Brian, a 1982 graduate of Montezuma High School, farms with his parents near Montezuma, and being mechanically inclined, spends much of his free time working in the farm shop.

Benae is an eighth grade student at the Montezuma school where she participates in junior high band and vocal music. She is an avid reader and enjoys babysitting.

Loren enjoys cattle feeding along with farming. Reading, golfing, and bowling occupy much of his spare time.

Arlene participates in various activities of the church and the family attends and volunteers time for a weekly Bible study at the local nursing home. Playing the piano is a relaxing leisure-time activity for her.

The Roordas lived on a rented farm south of Montezuma until Mar., 1975, when the family moved just north of Montezuma to a farm they had purchased.

by Mrs. Loren Roorda

ROORDA, LUKE J.

F420

Luke J. Roorda, the fifth oldest child of John and Adrianna Van Maren Roorda, was born in 1876. His childhood days were spent on a farm in the Harvey area, south of Pella.

In 1906 Luke married Marie Vander Linden, daughter of Lukas and Grada Boland Vander Linden. Marie was born in 1877 and died in 1966.

Four sons were born to this couple: Robert, Reuben, Vernon, and Marion. Reuben passed away at the early age of five years. His sickness was diagnosed as diabetes. The other three sons remained living in the Pella area.

Luke and Marie were farmers at heart. Their first married years were spent in the

Luke J. and Marie Roorda.

Prairie City area. Later they moved to a farm north of Pella in the European school district, living there for 22 years. Following that they lived for a short period in the Harvey area.

After retiring from the farm in 1940 and moving to Pella, Luke was employed at the Rolscreen Company for two years and later served as janitor at the Carnegie-Viersen Library and the City Office.

His greatest enjoyments were gardening and yard work for himself as well as his many friends and neighbors.

Both Luke and Marie faithfully attended the First Reformed Church in Pella. Luke passed away of a sudden heart attack in 1953.

by Vernon W. Roorda

ROORDA, MARION L.

F421

Marion L. and Agnes W. Roorda.

Marion L. Roorda, youngest child of Luke J. and Marie Vander Linden Roorda, was born in 1919 in rural Pella. He attended European III and Iola Schools. He helped on the farm until his family moved to Pella in 1940. He then was employed by farmers in the surrounding area. He also worked at Mc Cabe Rock Quarry north of Pella and T. Plette and Company Grocery Store which was located in the 600 block of Franklin St. He served in the air force from 1942 to 1946, being stationed at Herrington, Kan. most of the time. After returning from the service he worked at Vanden Berg Meat Market which was located in the 700 block of Main St. He worked for the City of Pella, reading all electric and water meters and collecting money from parking meters. He also worked for Thomassen Wholesale Drug Sundries, located in the 400 block of Liberty St., and ran a route for Hiland Potato Chip Company. He is presently employed at Vermeer Manufacturing Company.

He married Agnes W. Langstraat, the fourth child of Pete and Minnie Kool Langstraat, in 1950. She was born in 1929. She attended Peoria Public and Warren Schools and graduated from New Sharon High School in 1948. They are the parents of three daughters: Linda J., Marlyce A., and Karyl K. They are members of the First Reformed Church in Pella.

Linda J. Roorda, oldest child of Marion L. and Agnes W. Langstraat Roorda, was born in 1953. She attended the Pella schools, graduating from Pella Community High School in 1971. She graduated from Des Moines Area Community College in 1972, as a surgical technologist, and is presently employed at Pella Community Hosptial. In 1972 she married Loren J. Blom, the eldest child of G. James and Elizabeth Kole Blom. Loren was born in 1952. He attended Pella Christian schools graduating from Pella Christian High School in 1969. He is presently employed as a products service specialist at Pella Rolscreen Company. In addition to a full time job, family, church and community resonibilities, he has been attending classes at Central College and will graduate in 1987. They are the parents of Kristopher James, born in 1976 and Lesley Diann, born in 1978. They are members of Second Reformed Church in Pella.

Marlyce A. Roorda, second child of Marion L. and Agnes W. Langstraat Roorda, was born in 1957. She attended Pella schools and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1976. She graduated from Des Moines Area Community College in 1978 and is presently employed at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Des Moines, Ia., as a laboratory technologist. She is a member of the First Reformed Church in Pella, Ia.

Karyl K. Roorda, youngest child of Marion L. and Agnes W. Langstraat Roorda, was born in 1963. She attended the Pella schools, graduating from Pella Community High School in 1982. She graduated from Des Moines Area Community College in 1984 and is presently employed as a medical assistant for Drs. Cavallin in Des Moines, Ia. She is a member of the First Reformed Church in Pella, Iowa.

by Marion L. Roorda

ROORDA, PAUL AND EVA MAE

F422

Paul Wm. Roorda was born to Wigert Roorda and Reino Borgman on July 18, 1915. The house where he was born was located on the Roorda family farm which his grandfather Anne Roorda had purchased in 1870. It continued as his home for 69 years. He was baptized and made his confession of faith in the First Reformed Church in Pella. Paul attended Pella Public School.

He was married to Eva Mae De Kock on Oct. 5, 1938. Eva Mae was the daughter of Stephen S. De Kock and Wilhelmina Tysseling De Kock of Leighton. She was born Dec. 26, 1918. She was baptized and made confession at the Ebenezer Reformed Church in Leighton. She attended Black Oak Center School and Pella High School. She taught school at Liberty Corner south of Monroe.

After their marriage they moved to the small house on the Roorda family farm where Paul had been born. In 1944 they moved to the larger house on the farm where they lived until 1983 where Paul was engaged in farming.

Four sons were born to them: James in 1939, Herbert in 1943, Howard in 1949, and Alan in 1953. All four attended Pella Public Schools and High School.

James enlisted in the U.S. Navy after high school graduation and served for 21 years. He received his Boot Camp Training at San Diego, Calif. and also spent time at Memphis, Tenn., McGuire Air Force Base in N.J. Most of his service was at Lemoore Naval Air Station in California and in the South China Sea aboard the aircraft carrier *The Oriskany*. He retired in 1979 as Chief Petty Officer and lives in Lemoore, Calif. with his wife the former Sandra Lee of Sloan, Ia., to whom he was married in 1960. They have two children, Debra and David and his wife, Renae.

Herbert attended Universal Trade School in Omaha and worked at various jobs and with Vermeers in Canada and Minnesota. He now owns a family business, Roorda Sales and Service, in Savage, Minn. He and his wife, the former Karen Knowles of Pella, were married in 1963, and they and their three children, Herbert, Jr., Lenore, and Tracy live in Bloomington, Minn.

Howard graduated from Central College then enlisted in the U.S. Air Force for four years. He served in Texas and at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha in the Military Pay Section.

He was married to Nancy Deal of Pella in 1971. They now live in Bellevue, Neb. with their two sons Timothy and Benjamin. Howard is employed at Epsen Hillmer Graphics as a Manager of Information Systems. He has earned his Masters Degree in Accounting from the University of Neb. at Omaha and a Certified Data Processor Degree. Nancy teaches second grade at Plattsmouth, Neb.

Alan was married to Cynthia Butler of Pella in 1973 and moved to the same house where his parents and grandparents had lived as newlyweds.

Alan became very ill with a blood vessel disease which caused kidney failure. He was on Renal Dialysis for one and one-half years. At that time his brother James donated a

Front, l-r: Howard, Eva Mae and Paul Roorda; Back, l-r: Alan, James, Herbert.

kidney which was transplanted in Alan. It was very successful and Alan lives a full and busy life. He is a Certified Locksmith and he and Cynthia are both active members of the First Reformed Church.

He has worked at Vermeers for 13 years. He and Cynthia have two sons Adam and Daniel. Cynthia is employed as a Pharmacy Technician at Vander Linden's Rexall Drug Store.

After Paul's retirement from farming, they moved to Pella and live at 1015 East First St. They love to travel and spend time camping and going to Texas in the winter.

by Paul Roorda

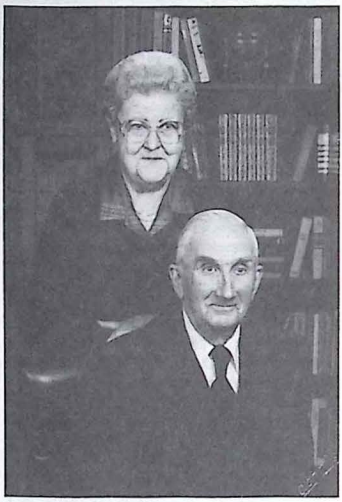
ROORDA, ROBERT L.
F423

Robert L. Roorda, the oldest son of Luke J. and Marie Vander Linden Roorda, was born in 1908. He attended European III School north of Pella. Upon graduation from eighth grade he helped his father with the farm work, later working as a hired man for his cousin John Roorda and his wife Anna Mae. Robert received $45.00 a month for his work which did include his room and board.

He soon found it was time to leave his farm work, and for 11 years he was employed by T. Plette and Co. grocery store. In 1941 he was employed by Ver Ploeg Grinding Service. This work took him to various farms to grind oats, corn, and hay for the farmers to feed to their livestock. In 1946 he became employed at the Farmers Co-op in Pella and worked faithfully until his retirement in 1978.

In 1939 he was married to Winifred Hesselink, daughter of Jay and Bess Beintema Hesselink. Winifred was born in 1911 and passed away suddenly after surgery in 1986. To this couple three children were born.

Kadell was born in 1939. He attended the Pella Public Schools. In 1959 he was married to Barbara Hall, daughter of Glen and Elsie Pennington Hall. To them two daughters were born, Daphine in 1959, and Darla in 1964.



Robert and Winifred Roorda.

Dwight, the second oldest son, was born in 1940 and attended the public schools in Pella. In 1962 he was united in marriage to Georgia Ten Hagen, daughter of Virgil and Freida Gezel Ten Hagen. To them two sons were born, Todd in 1963, and Tyler in 1968.

In 1944 their only daughter, Karen, was born. She, too, attended the public schools and is presently living in Tempe, Ariz.

Robert and Winifred enjoyed life to the fullest after Robert's retirement, visiting with friends and relatives, "gadding," and eating in various restaurants. They attended the Church of the Nazarene in Oskaloosa, Ia.

by Vernon W. Roorda

ROORDA, ROBERT WALTER
F424

Wedding picture of R. Walter Roorda and J. Wilma DeHaan, 1945.

Robert Walter Roorda, better known as Walter, was the third child of six born to Wigert and Reino Borgman Roorda. He was born on a farm two miles northwest of Pella on Aug. 2, 1919. His family consisted of two brothers and three sisters: Esther, who died at the age of seven, Paul, Clara, Erma, and Carl.

Since this area did not have a country school then, Walter had to go to Pella for his schooling. There were no school busses in those days so he walked, rode horseback or a bicycle the two miles to school. He attended Lincoln, Webster, and Pella High School, graduating in 1937.

After graduation, he worked on the farm at home and for other farmers. On Nov. 12, 1941, he was drafted into the U.S. Army for a year of training. With the bombing of Pearl Harbor and declaration of war he was in for the duration. He was inducted into the Army at Fort Des Moines, Ia., then sent to Camp Polk, La., for basic training. In July of 1942, his division, The Third Armored Division, was sent to the Mojave Desert in California for training and maneuvers. In Oct. of that same year they were moved by troop train to Camp Pickett, Va., then in Jan., 1943, to Indiantown Gap Military Res., Penn. October of that same year saw them on their way to England. The time there was spent in getting ready for the invasion of France. The Division was loaded on L.S.T.'s and started out for Omaha Beach in France about ten days after D Day. The water was so rough that the ships had to return to England. It took about four days for the sea to be calm enough for the ships to land at Omaha Beach. On June 29, the Division saw its first action. The Third Armored was in five campaigns: Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. The Division

was deactivated and those with enough service points were sent back to the States and discharged. Walter came home in Sept., 1945. He spent most of his time in the service as a driver. For about two years he was the driver for Brigadier General D.O. Hickey who was Commander of Combat Command 'A', of the Third Armored Division.

After his discharge from the Army, Walter was married to Johanna Wilma DeHaan on Nov. 7, 1945. They moved to the farm where Walter was born and started to farm with his brother, Paul. The house in which they lived was the house where he was born. This house was the old Oak Grove School which had been closed in the 1890's. This was the school that Walter's father attended. When Wigert was married, the building was moved a short distance and made into a house. It has been remodeled again and now is the home of Wigert's grandson, Alan Roorda.

A daughter, Lois E., was born to Walter and Wilma on Feb. 8, 1947, and a son, Donald W., on May 24, 1948. In 1954, Walter started to work for Pella Building and Supply as a plumber and electrician. They built a new house on North Broadway and still live there today. In Feb. 1962, Walter started to work at the Rolscreen Company as a maintenance man and later as a machine builder. He worked at Rolscreen for 22 years before retiring.

Lois married Lawrence Van Heukelom who is a pharmacist in Des Moines. They have three boys, Eric, Matthew, and Joshua. Donald married Dixie Lanphier and they have two boys and one girl, Bradley, Bryan, and Rebecka. Donald is a mechanic.

Walter is a member of the First Reformed Church in Pella and has served as a Deacon and Elder.

He is now retired and enjoying his hobbies of photography, woodworking, metalworking, and traveling.

by Robert Walter Roorda

ROORDA, VERNON W.

F425

Vernon W. Roorda, the third oldest son of Luke J. and Marie Vander Linden Roorda, was born in 1915. He attended the European III School located north of Pella. After graduating from the eighth grade, he spent several years working on his father's farm and also working for farmers in the Sully and Prairie City areas.

In 1939 he became employed as a clerk and delivery boy for the T. Plette & Co. grocery store, which was located in what is now known as Boat's Home furnishings. Later he became manager of the Benteco grocery store, which was located on the east side of the park.

On Oct. 7, 1942, Vernon was united in marriage to Beulah Grandia, daughter of Will and Eva Dena Vander Linden Grandia. Ten days after their marriage Vernon left for the armed services. After basic training he served with the Quartermaster Department on the Alaska Highway. After a serious lung illness, Vernon was given a medical discharge in 1943. In 1945 he became employed at the Marion County State Bank and remained working in the bank until his retirement in June of 1986.

Vernon and Beulah Roorda.

Three children were born to this couple. Stanley, the oldest, was born in 1944. He attended the public schools in Pella and in 1964 was married to Judy Van Essen, daughter of Henry and Jennie De Zwarte Van Essen. Stanley and Judy have two children: Lesa, born in 1969, and David, born in 1972.

Keith was born in 1947. He, too, spent his school years in the Pella area. In August of 1968 Keith was united in marriage to Linda Van Wyk, daughter of Dale and Edna Goematt Van Wyk. Amy, their daughter, was born in 1970, and Alexander, in 1973.

Gayle, Vernon and Beulah's youngest child, was born in 1955. She, too, attended schools in the Pella area. In October of 1977 she was married to Charles Stotts, son of George and Marianne Gardner Stotts, from Boone, Ia. Gayle and Charles have two children: Matthew, born in 1980, and Julie, born in 1982.

Vernon and Beulah have enjoyed thier retirement to the fullest. Vernon enjoys gardening, yard work, golfing, and vacationing. In 1986 it was their pleasure to take a month's vacation touring Alaska and visiting the area where Vernon served while in the army. Both of them are active members of the First Reformed Church.

by Vernon W. Roorda

ROORDA, WIGERT A. AND REINO (BORGMAN)

F426

Wigert A. Roorda was born Nov. 17, 1883 in Pella, the youngest child of Anne E. and Doertje Buwalda Roorda. After his parents were married one year they moved to Oregon where Froukje was born. After five years they returned to Pella where they bought 52 A. of land two and one-half miles northwest of Pella, and later bought approximately 500 A. more which included what is now Big Rock Park.

Wigert's brothers and sisters were Froukje, Allie, Epke, Geertje, Tryntje, and Abraham. They all lived on the farm and helped with the work. All the field work was done with horses, from plowing to cultivating, mowing hay, stacking it, cutting oats, and shocking the oat bundles. This was all very time-consuming as well as hard work for the men. Then in the fall, harvesting the corn, which meant picking it by hand, was perhaps one of the hardest tasks on the farm. At oat harvest time Billie Butts came with a steam engine to run the threshing machine, while the men hauled the oat bundles on a hay rack and pitched them into the threshing machine. Others stacked the straw and some hauled the oats to the bin. The women cooked the meals and took the coffeetime out to the field. This meant good times together as well as hard work.

Wigert attended Oak Grove School through the fourth grade. Then the school was closed for lack of enough children in the neighborhood. Later in life he met Reino Borgman who lived four miles northeast of Pella on a farm. Her parents were Evert R. and Jozena De Geus Borgman. She was born June 23, 1888. Her sister, Nellie, and brothers, Worp and Neal, all attended Flint Ridge School.

As a young girl Reino loved to sew, and she took some sewing lessons to help her in various projects. For transportation Wigert had a buggy, but one night as he was walking Reino home, he trusted the horse too much. Wigert fell asleep at the reins and they all landed in the ditch. Wigert and Reino chose Feb. 14, 1912, as their wedding day. The day before, it had snowed all day so the guests had to drive through fields and over fences to get to the Borgman home. The next day they started for their new home with a buggy top fixed on sled runners and loaded with food and supplies. When they arrived at their home, the new heating stove had not come so they had to stay at his parents' home. This was all very strange to Reino, because then they didn't meet their in-laws beforehand as they do today. The home they did move into was originally the school house where Wigert had attended. They bought it for $60.00 and moved it around the west end of the creek to the south edge of the farmstead just across the yard from Wigert's parents, where it still stands today. To make the school more livable they did add a couple of rooms and porches to it. This was their home for the next 25 years, and many fond memories still remain. Reino soon found out she had married into a very busy farm family and, since they lived on the same farm, she also helped with the chores. They had a large garden so there was much canning to be done. The first year they were married Aunt Tryntje Roorda died on July 4, 1912, and Wigert's sister, Tryntje Kuiper passed away on Aug. 1, 1912. This meant Wigert's mother was caring for the sick, and Reino was helping Froukje who was not married but lived with her parents.

In the winter the men cut down trees in the timber and hauled them home. Then they would have a wood-sawing day to cut and split the wood for fuel for the cook stove and the living room heaters. This wood was stacked in the yard for later use. The men also

Front, l-r: Reino and Wigert Roorda; Middle, l-r: Clara, Erma, and Walter; Back, l-r: Paul and Carl.

went to the pond to cut blocks of ice which they loaded on a sled and hauled it home to store in an icehouse where it was packed in oats to keep it cold for summer use. The second year they were married each family had a hired hand because brother Abe had also married and moved out in 1912. Wigert's dad did sell some land to Epke, Abe, and Peter Bogoards. That did help cut down on some of the work, since then they were farming 276 A.

In the fall came molasses-making time. The men cut and hauled the cane stalks home and ran them through an iron press which was powered by a horse going around in a circle all day. Then the cane juice was cooked all day in a long ten by three-foot pan over a wood fire. The women kept stirring and skimming till it was golden brown in color. They ladled it into gallon buckets and sold it in town. Wigert took his mother to town in the "spring wagon" so she could sell eggs, dressed chickens, molasses, and butter at 12½ cents per pound to her 20 customers. The "Old Peoples Home" bought 20 pounds per week and on Wednesday and Saturday they delivered this produce.

Reino and Wigert had six children. Esther Leona was born Apr. 4, 1914. She died of pneumonia at the age of seven years on Aug. 2, 1921. Paul William was born July 18, 1915. Robert Walter was born Aug. 2, 1919. Clara Ruth was born Oct. 27, 1923. Erma May was born Apr. 27, 1925. Carl Wilmer was born Aug. 8, 1931. All the Roorda children had to help with the chores on the farm. While they were growing up Wigert bought a 1916 Dodge car, a great improvement over the buggy. It had side curtains with isinglass windows. About 1926 Wigert had a Delco plant put in the basement of the house to make electricity for use all over the farm and in the home as well. This was put in by Casey Vanden Berg. As things became more modernized, Wigert bought a 1929 Farmall tractor which Paul and Walter really appreciated. On Apr. 26, 1927, Wigert's father passed away. Anne E. Roorda was 92 years old.

There were many good times on the farm, too, such as the Roorda picnic which was held in the houseyard or in the timber near the Big Rock. There were many good times spent out in the timber gathering hickory nuts, wild flowers, and gooseberries. Then in the winter the Roorda children went coasting down the long hills an also enjoyed playing with their cousins who often came over to visit their Grandma Roorda and Aunt Flora. Since there was no school out in the country, the Roorda children attended the town schools. Their dad had to take them by car or wagon and horses if it was very muddy or by sled in the winter. They would walk home if the weather was nice.

On Dec. 11, 1937, Wigert's mother, Doertje, passed away. This meant his sister, Flora, had to move to Pella She moved to West Washington St. Then Reino and Wigert and the five children moved to the larger home. On Oct. 5, 1938, Paul was married to Eva Mae De Kock, and they moved into the smaller home. On Nov. 11, 1941, Walter was inducted into the army, since on Dec. 7, 1941, World War II broke out. In 1942 Reino and Wigert moved to Pella to 905 Franklin St. Wigert worked for the Oak Grove Nursery for several years. Walter returned from the army in 1945 and married Wilma De Haan on Nov. 7. They moved to the small house on the farm. Paul and Eva Mae had already moved to the larger house. Clara married Ray Newendorp on Aug. 15, 1946, and Erma married Adrian De Haan on Sept. 19, 1946. Carl was inducted into the navy in 1951 and returned in 1954. He then went to work for the railroad at Rock Falls, Ill. where he still lives today. Wigert passed away on Nov. 15, 1957. Reino moved to West First St. and in 1980 to Fair Haven East. She continued to make quilts and other items on the sewing machine, even though she was in her 90's. The Roorda family attended First Reformed Church regularly and were all members there. Reino passed away Oct. 17, 1982, at the age of 94 years. She had 15 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

by Erma (Roorda) De Haan

Harriet Rose with her two oldest children, Leonora and Willie.

Leonora (Keables) Scholte with her little great-granddaughter, Bess Alayne Van Dellen. Although born in Cedar Rapids, Alayne grew up in the Scholte House where this photo was taken.

Leonora Scholte's Mother

[The story of the Scholte family is well-known. Less well-known is the story of the family of a Scholte daughter-in-law.]

Harriet Rose was the mother of Leonora Keables Scholte, wife of the Dominie's son, Henry. The Rose family came from England in 1804 from a large Atwood Estate which dated back to at least the 1200's. Because of economic conditions, some of the Rose family came to the United States and settled in Granville, Mass.

The Roses soon heard that land was cheaper in Ohio and as a result traveled there

Leonora (Gaass) Hettinga, the great-granddaughter of Dominie and Mareah Scholte.

to help establish a town they named Granville. Among the group was Levi Rose who had married Polly Stow. Polly had many beautiful things for her home but she so cherished a flaxen spinning wheel from England and a lovely mirror that she carried them all the way to Ohio. The spinning wheel is now in the Pella Historical Village and the mirror is in the Scholte House.

Another Atwood family came from New Hampshire and became dear friends of the Rose family. Their third child married a Rose and to this union was born Harriet, a precocious child who studied in Ohio. One morning in 1856, her professor read a letter at the school in Ohio from Pella, Ia., wanting a teacher who could speak without a Dutch accent. Immediately Hattie Rose was on her feet offering to go, as her sister Emma was married to Professor Chapin who was teaching at Central College. She would go and live with them.

Hattie Rose introduced art and music to the schools in Pella, loving her work. During her teaching career, she met Dr. E.H. Keables whose wife had died, leaving him with two small children, Louella and George. The children had been taken to Michigan to live with relatives as the doctor was very busy. (Louella later became Mrs. J.M. Cox and was well-known in Pella.)

Eventually, Harriet Rose and Dr. E.H. (Henry) Keables were married. Their first child died in infancy but in 1860 a baby girl was born to them whom they called Leonora.

In 1864 her brother Willie was born. Willie was never able to walk and was always moved about in a wagon. Later arrivals in the family of Dr. E.H. Keables were sons Charlie and Alonzo (Lonnie).

Harriet Rose Keables was called East because of the death of her mother when Willie became gravely ill. She returned as fast as possible but it was too late. Willie had died and Hattie felt deep sorrow as she had taken such special care of him.

Harriet's daughter, Leonora, learned a great deal from the suffering and hardship she observed and formed a philosophy that she kept through her long life, happiness of loving and living by sharing others' joys and sorrows. Leonora always appreciated the plain things in life as the greatest blessings.

Leonora met young Henry Scholte, the Dominie's son. Although very much in love, she wanted to finish the Academy. Henry prevailed on her to marry; the wedding was Oct. 31, 1878. Leonora continued painting and enjoying her music and was very happy. The first child was born to them and named Elizabeth. Later a son Paul was born and when Bess was sixteen, she was surprised to be told that she had another brother who had just been born. He was named Robert. Bess was somewhat embarrassed to think she had not realized her mother was pregnant and she would not attend her Academy classes that day.

Bess grew up and married George Gaass. They had two children, Leonora Gerarda and Peter George. Leonora Gaass could remember Grandpa Henry Scholte although she was only three and a half when he died.

Hattie Rose's daughter Leonora Scholte, nicknamed "Nora", decorated the Scholte House every Christmas Eve and opened it to all who had nowhere to go to celebrate. College professors and their families came as did many others. There was a beautifully-decorated tree and when the candles were lit and the program started, Leonora's son Paul stood with a wet cloth in case of fire. (Finally they had electric lights for the trees.)

On those Christmas Eve celebrations, jingle bells would be heard and Santa Claus joined them, distributing gifts from under the tree. When he left, hot chocolate was served with fruit cake and cookies they called "dunkers". There was much visiting, and playing the hostess was Leonora Scholte.

Leonora Keables Scholte died in 1943, mourned by many as the gracious hostess of the Scholte House. Soon after, her granddaughter and namesake, Leonora, moved into the house and was a resident of the place until her death in 1987. For 140 years the Scholte House has been inhabited by members of the family. The adventuresome young teacher who had come to Pella in 1856, Harriet Rose, lived in the house until her death on Sept. 11, 1921. Hattie Rose had attained the age of 84. She left many wonderful legacies cherished by the Scholte family.

by Leonora (Gaass) Hettinga

ROWE, GERALD AND CONNIE

F428

Gerald Lee Rowe was born in Corydon, Ia., on July 16, 1940, and grew up in Chariton, Ia. His father, Wayne G. Rowe, was born on July 23, 1901, in Guyman, Okla. In 1924 he married Ethel Duble, who was born in Corydon, Ia. on Jan. 8, 1903. Wayne worked for the Rock Island Railroad in Iowa for 23 years before he retired and moved his family to southern Missouri. He died of a heart attack in 1955 and was buried in Niangua, Mo. Ethel Rowe was a homemaker and died of a heart disease in 1961. She is buried in New York Cemetery near Millerton, Ia.

"Jerry" has four sisters: Bertha Lockman of Chariton, Ia.; Thelma Chapman of Vienna, Ga.; Mary Monoghan of Des Moines, Ia.; Roxie Wilson of Henderson, Nev.; and also a brother Carl of Derby, Ia. He also had a sister Rose, who died in infancy, and a brother Elmer, who was killed in the Korean Conflict in 1951. Jerry graduated from Chariton High School and came to Pella in 1959, being employed at Pella Canning Company and later at Rolscreen Company. He served with the U.S. Air Force from 1960-1964, being stationed at Beale A.F.B. in California, DaNang, South Vietnam, and Sewart A.F.B. in Tennessee.

Front, l-r: Connie and Gerald Rowe; Back, l-r: Eric, Doug, and Kevin Rowe.

On July 17, 1961, Jerry married Connie K. De Zwarte at Beale A.F.B., California. She is the daughter of Abraham, born 1913, and Jacoba, born 1914, De Zwarte of Pella and was born on Nov. 24, 1944, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Connie, along with her two sisters, Marilyn, Mrs. Gerald Van Sant, and Linda, Mrs. Patrick Brown, and a brother Marvin grew up on a farm south of Pella before moving to Pella in 1954.

After his military duty Jerry and Connie returned to Pella where Jerry is employed at Rolscreen Campany. Their three sons, Kevin, born 1964, Douglas, born 1965, and Eric, born 1972, were born in Pella. Kevin and Doug graduated from Pella Christian High School. Kevin is employed at Boat Furniture in Pella, and Doug attends Dordt College in Sioux Center, Ia. Eric attends Pella Christian Grade School. The family attends the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

by Connie Rowe

ROZENBOOM, ADRIAN P. AND SHERYL LYNN (WOUDA)

F429

Adrian was born Aug. 12, 1939, and spoke the Dutch language when he started school at Pleasant View south of Pella. When his parents moved he was six years old and attended one-room country schools. The names of these schools are Chester, south of Sully; and Brown, Rosehill, and Richland near Galesburg. He took eighth grade at Sully Christian School and from there went to Pella High School. In June, 1956, Adrian joined the Navy and served in Great Lakes, Ill., Kingsville, and on the aircraft carrier *Bon Homme Richard*. His job on the carrier was manning the hooks for catching the jet planes. Adrian's father, John, had an extreme dislike for travel

Front, l-r: Brenda Rozenboom, Laura Van Zee, Jodi Van Zee, and Jessica Van Zee; Back, l-r: Jason Rozenboom, John Rozenboom, Adrian Rozenboom, Sheryl Rozenboom, and Myron Van Zee.

because he was so sick on the ship coming to the United States. The only time he did travel again was when he and Dora went to Great Lakes to see Adrian in Basic Training.

Adrian came home on Aug. 11, 1959, and returned to his job at Clover Leaf Dairy. He worked for Virgil Kooistra picking up cream and milk from farmers for the Sully Coop.

On Nov. 2, 1961, Adrian married Sheryl Lynn Wouda (1943), daughter of John Wouda and Henrietta (Budding) Wouda. They were married at the Sully Reformed Church. Sheryl and her younger brother, John (1944-1962), went to Dairy Grove and Lynnville-Sully schools.

Adrian and Sheryl lived in Sully in the house owned by Uncle Jake Rozenboom for 18 months, then moved to Pella and lived in a house where the APCO station is now located on Washington St. In 1966 they built a house on one and one-half acres of Delwin Vander Linden's land and still live there. The reason for moving to Pella was because Adrian started selling Hiland potato chips and Pella bologna for Harold Den Besten. In 1974 Adrian bought the route form Harold to start selling Pella bologna for his own business and still distributes in the western half of the state.

Sheryl and Adrian have four children: Laura Lynn (1962); Brenda Kay (1964); John Adrian (1969); and Jason Alan (1972). Like their mother when she was young, Laura and Brenda were active in 4-H from the ages of ten through high school. Brenda went on the Citizenship Tour of Washington, D.C. with various 4-H members from Iowa in 1981. All of the children attended the Pella Christian Schools. John and Jason were active in Cadets for five years, and John went to the Black Hills and California with his Cadet group. Laura and Brenda were involved with young people's groups and both went to Carrie, Miss. to help at the Christian Reformed Mission there.

Laura was very active in choir and band while in school and participated in three All-State Festivals. She went to Europe with the All-State choir and toured the country while giving concerts there. During Laura's senior year she was selected as an attendant for homecoming and also for the Tulip Time Court. She worked at Ideal Pharmacy during high school and at the Medical Center after graduation in 1981. In April, 1982, Laura married Myron Van Zee, youngest son of John and Geneva Van Zee of Newton. They have two daughters, Jessica Jo (1983) and Jodi Lynn (1985) and live in Newton where Myron works at Ambassador Steel. They are very active in the Newton Christian Reformed Church.

Brenda was a cheerleader during her school years and enjoyed choir, band, and forensics. She was also a baton majorette for the marching band. After graduation in 1982 Brenda attended AIB in Des Moines and graduated from AIC in Davenport. She then moved to San Diego to work as an executive secretary for a year. Brenda now lives in Newton and works at the Vernon Company. She is active in the Newton Community Theatre and has been in several productions since moving to Newton in 1985.

John previously worked at Strawtown and now works for Andy Lubbers' Dairy. Jason enjoys and is very active in all kinds of sports. Adrian, Sheryl and family have attended the Gospel Chapel since moving to Pella.

by Adrian Rozenboom

ROZENBOOM, HENDRIK AND WEIMPJE (HEYVELD) FAMILY

F430

In the City of Ede, Gelderland, in a house to which the barn was attached lived the family of Hendriirk Rozenboom (1852-1931). He and his wife Weimpje (Heyveld) Rozenboom (?-1907); were the parents of Maas (1883-1958); William (1885-1966); Gertrude (1888-1957); Jennie (1890-1959); John (1892-1975); Jake (1896-1975); and Wilma (1898-1983).

The two oldest sons, Maas and Bill, came to the United States in 1908 and farmed near Kilduff. Then, in 1910 Hendrik and the rest of his children arrived. They attended church in Kilduff.

Maas married Alida Ver Steeg (1893-1979) in 1933 and owned a service station in Sully for 20 years. They moved to Pella in 1951 where he worked at Van Wyngarden Greenhouse and was also a custodian at Webster School and Trinity Church. They left no children.

Bill never married and he and father Hendrik lived with Jake until they passed away.

Gertrude married Gerrit Jansen and their seven children are: Everett; Wilma; twins —

Left to right: Wilma, Jennie, Maas, John, Jake, Will, Gerrit Jansen and son.

Henry and Minnie; Cornie; Jake; and Gertrude.

Jennie married Jake Nikel and their three children are: Jake; Wilma; and Kate.

John married Dora Bogaards and their two sons are Henry and Adrian.

Jake married Minnie DeKruyff and their son is Henry.

Wilma married Frank Terlow and their three children are: Raymond; Arlene; and Frieda. They moved to Pella in 1969 after they sold their farm north of Lynnville.

Hendrik and three of his sons, Bill, Jake, and John, bought a farm near Kilduff but lost it in the depression.

by Adrian Rozenboom

ROZENBOOM, JOHN AND DORA (BOGAARDS)

F431

Front, l-r: Laura, Judy, and Brenda; Middle, l-r: Lila, Dora, and John; Back, l-r : Sheryl, Adrian, Henry, and Mary Lou.

When John was nearly 40 years old, after having spent many years being a hired man for farmers, he really wanted a home of his own. Another hired man named Kenning had worked for Dora's Grandpa Roorda and told John about Dora. Dora's father was Pieter Adrian Bogaards (1877-1945), one of seven children of Abraham and Johanna Bogaards. Dora's mother was Gertie Roorda Bogaards (1875-1964), one of seven children of Anne Epke Roorda and Doetje Abraham Buwalda, who came to the United States with Scholte's group. Pieter and Gertie Bogaards had nine children: Josie, Andrew, Abraham, Dora, Leslie, Bessie, Florence, Gertrude, and Peter.

John and Dora were married Feb. 26, 1932, and rented a farm south of Pella owned by Delis Van Zee. This farm is where their two sons, Henry and Adrian, were born. The Dutch language was spoken in their home and their boys had to learn English when they started school. John and Dora became interested in the tent meetings which were held at Washington and W. 4th Streets and, in the winter, at the Holland Theatre. In 1940 John helped erect the building at 510 Union Street which is called Pella Gospel Chapel. In 1949 John bought a farm south of Sully and they lived there for three years until it was sold to Jim Vander Leest, because it had too many hills for John. They then rented a farm from Pete Rozendaal near Galesburg for seven years.

In Feb. 1954, an auction was held on the farm, and they bought a house at 1011 E. 1st in Pella. John worked at Buerkens Wagon Factory until it burned down, and Dora worked at Central Park Restaurant for two years. Dora is now 80 years old and, in November of 1986, moved to Fair Haven East.

John and Dora's oldest son Henry married Mary Lou Hoekstra, youngest daughter of Henry and Jennie Hoekstra, on Nov. 5, 1954, and they moved to Des Moines. Henry has been employed at Meridith Publishing Company since that time. They have three children: Lila, Judy, and Mark. John lived to see all seven of his grandchildren, four girls and three boys. He died July 11, 1975, in Pella. John was very happy when the grandsons were born, because they would carry on the Rozenboom name. The picture was taken on John and Dora's 40th wedding anniversary.

by Adrian Rozenboom

ROZENDAAL, BEN AND MARIE

F432

The Ben Rozendaal family. L to R – Marie (Mrs. Ben Rozendaal), Pearl (Mrs. Charlie Riemersma), Jacob Rozendaal, Elizabeth (Mrs. Doris Franje), Pauline (Mrs. Harold Mathes), Ben Rozendaal, Stella, Mrs. Lane Meulpolder. Front, Bertha, (Mrs. Lawrence Bogaards), deceased.

Ben Rozendaal born Apr. 8, 1877, was the second child of Pieter and Jacoba De Hoop in Willege Langerak in The Netherlands.

In 1902 he came to America with his sister Jennie. He purchased a farm four miles north of Sully, Iowa, which he farmed until 1943. In 1912 he returned to Holland this time bringing his sister Marie home with him to be his housekeeper. After two years she was unhappy living in America so Ben and sister Marie returned in 1914. He stayed in Holland working on the farm for Jacob Schep one year. He married Schep's daughter, Marie on Nov. 12, 1915. World War I was a threat and Germans reported war was to be on the ocean by Feb. 1916, so the newlyweds decided to leave Holland Dec. 31, 1915. It was an uneventful trip taking nine days by boat.

They set up housekeeping in a small old house where two children were born: Elizabeth (Feb. 5, 1917) and Jacob (May 13, 1918). The house was too small for a growing family. Ben's brother Peter, a carpenter who had by then arrived from Holland, built a large square house. Peter also built the farm buildings on the homestead.

After the house was built Stella Jacoba (Dec. 10, 1922), followed by twins Pearl and Pauline (June 26, 1924), followed by Bertha Jane (June 5, 1930). All the children were born at home. Bertha Jane died Oct. 24, 1975, at age 45. Money was scarce in the early days because of the depression and drought, but the garden, milk from cows milked by hand, meat butchered from self-raised beef and pork, fruit trees, carried the family of eight through quite well. All six children grew up and married. Elizabeth married Doris Franje, Jacob to Bertha Rouwenhorst, Stella to Lane Meulpolder, who died May 1, 1984, Pearl to Charlie Riemersma, Pauline to Harold Mathes, Bertha to Lawrence Bogaards.

Rozendaal's ancestors number 62 souls.

The two oldest were married when they moved to Pella in early 1944 and the parents with four daughters moved to 228 Oskaloosa St. where Ben died Dec. 5, 1953. Marie passed away at Pella Nursing Home Feb. 9, 1976.

by Stella J. Meulpolder

ROZENDAAL, CORLENA VAN HEMERT

F433

Corlena Van Hemert, the ninth child in a family of four sisters and four brothers, was born southwest of Pella in the Fifield neigh-

Cornelius and Ella (De Heer) Van Hemert.

borhood in 1904. At age eleven her family moved to the Sandridge area. Her grandfather Marselius came to America as a young man in 1854 from the village of Broekum, in the Province of Gelderland, Holland. One year later, in 1855, Corlena's great-grandfather, Cornelius Van Hemert, along with Marselius's brother, Pietje, and sisters, Jan and Grietje, came to Pella and first lived at 812 East Second. Corlena's great-grandmother Mrs. Cornelius died six weeks after coming to Pella. Marselius, Corlena's grandfather, married Lyntje Simmons on Feb. 2, 1859, and had a family of 16 living children. A number of this family emigrated to other parts of the United States, primarily Nebraska and the Dakotas. But Cornelius, Corlena's father, the third child in a family of 16, married Ella De Heer on Nov. 7, 1887, and remained in the Fifield area until 1915 when the family moved to the Sandridge area. Thirteen years later the daughter of Cornelius and Ella Van Hemert was joined in union with the son of William and Jane Rozendaal.

After Fred and Corlena retired from the farm in 1952, Fred was employed at Pella Produce a short time before moving on to Ver Meer Manufacturing from 1955 to 1967.

He very lovingly and tenderly cared for his wife until her death Nov. 19, 1983, at 910 East Second. Corlena's extended period of gradually declining health demonstrated a quality of enduring patience. Fred now resides at 209 E. Fairhaven in Pella, Ia.

by Fred Rozendaal

ROZENDAAL, FRED

F434

Fred and Corlena (Van Hemert) Rozendaal.

Fred Willis Rozendaal (Oct. 7, 1901 —); Corlena Van Hemert (Dec. 25, 1904-Nov. 19, 1983).

Fred Rozendaal, the seventh child in a family of 12 spent his boyhood and young

William and Jane (Ter Louw) Rozendaal.

adulthood on a farm seven miles northwest of Lynnville, Ia. On Aug. 21, 1928, he married Corlena Van Hemert in a ceremony performed by Luke A. Brunsting at the First Reformed Parsonage in Sully, Ia. They moved to a farm eight miles northwest of Pella. This was the only residence in Jasper County whith a Pella address. Three children were born at this residence: Alma Jane, born May 19, 1929, now Mrs. Henry Veldhuizen, presently residing in Lynnville, Ia.; a still-born daughter, born Sept. 7, 1930; and William Clarence, born Dec. 31, 1931, presently residing near Barnes City, Ia. The children both attended the Sandridge Grade School.

In March of 1942 the family moved to a farm three and one-half miles north of Sully known as the Younkin Estate Farm. On Dec. 18, 1943, Luella June came to join the happy family.

Education was received by attending Richland No. 8 and Richland No. 4 schools.

In 1952, Fred, Corlena, and Luella moved to Pella, while Clarence was drafted into military service for the Korean Conflict. Luella attended and graduated from the Pella school system in 1962. Luella, her husband Jerry Berglund, and son Ron now reside at 411 Sunrise in Pella. She is employed at the Rolscreen Company in Pella.

Fred served as a elder and a deacon in the First Reformed Church of Sully and served the same positions in the Third Reformed Church of Pella. He also served on the Jasper County Farm Bureau Board and held the position of local school director for Richland No. 8 school of Richland Twp. of Jasper County.

Fred's great-grand-parents were Willem Rozendaal, Nov. 14, 1787-June 21, 1848, and Baastiaanje Demper, Feb. 4, 1789-Apr. 2, 1870, from Langerek, South Holland.

His grandparents were Pieter Rozendaal, Nov. 1831-Jan., 1909, and Pieterge Goet Hart, who died on Oct. 8, 1871.

His parent's were William, Jan. 3, 1863-Aug. 15, 1939, born in Langerek, South Holland, and Jane Terlouw, July 1, 1867-Nov. 5, 1959, born in Pella, Ia. Fred's maternal grandfather was Henry Terlouw, Feb. 17, 1824-Oct. 9, 1971, who settled in an area south of Pella.

by Fred Rozendaal

RUS FAMILY

F435

Just how the Rus name originated is not known for sure but it is thought possible that Russian blood was introduced into the family line.

Pieter Rus.

Pieterje Rus.

Peter the Great, who later became Czar of Russia, did come to Zaandam, Holland, in disguise in 1697 to learn the shipbuilding trade. Later, Peter and a large group of retainers built a large ship at the India docks. Years later, as Emperor of Russia, he returned to Zaandam for a visit with the Empress and a party of servants and assistants. The present line of the Rus family may have started with some contact, through marriage or other, with these Russian visitors.

We trace our ancestors to the town of Oudkarspel not far from Zaandam. It is one of a group of villages built on the Langedyk

about half way between Alkmaar and Schagen in the Province of North Holland. Pieter Rus (1806-1882) was the son of Cornelis Rus and Tryntje De Smit. He married Pieterye Palenstein (1808-1881). They had seven children, four boys and three girls.

As a farmer, Pieter moved with his family to the Haarlemermeer area to take advantage of the new farm land there in the newly drained polder in 1855. Two daughters married and stayed in the Oudkarspel area. Tryntje married Andreas Wink and Grietje married Arien Mosk. A son Jacob died in a farm accident in 1864. The youngest son Pieter (1844-1913) married Alletta Johanna Vanden Heuvel (1844-1919) in 1872. In 1893, they emigrated to America and settled in the Pella area with their seven children. A daughter, Guertje Kager and a son Cornelis lived in the Haarlemermeer area but a son of Cornelis, Hark Jan Rus, came to America for some years and returned to Holland.

The eldest son of Pieter Rus, Leendert (1832-1907), married Tryntje Boot (1839-1919). They and seven of their children later emigrated to America. The youngest daughter Petronella Spruit (1884-1902) died in childbirth.

The oldest daughter Tryntje (1864-1952) married Bert Van Beynam after the death of his first wife. They had a son Bert who died at birth. Bert's oldest daughter Bertha (1896-) married Otto Colsman (1892-1970). They moved to Denver, Colo. in 1938, where Bertha and their family still live. Cora (1898-1977) married Andrew Ver Ploeg (1895-1966). They had three sons Stanley, Warren, and Donald.

Pieter Rus (1865-1946) married Krina Kuis (1862-1937). They came to America in 1905 and settled in Corsica, S.Dak. with their five children.

Jacob Rus (1867-1946) married Cornelia Lughtigheid on Mar. 2, 1893, and shortly after came to America. They lived in New York for a short time and then came to Pella. They farmed near the Des Moines River for six years but didn't like the floods, so they moved to Armour, S. Dak. They had eight children that reached maturity and many live in that area.

Germent Rus (1869-1961) returned to the Oudkarspel area. There he married Grietje Mosk (1868-1945). In Mar., 1904 they came to America with their nine-year-old son Leonard and purchased a farm near Taintor, Ia. Their son Leonard (1895-1981) married Elizabeth Van Steenwyk. They had four sons and four daughters.

Kees Rus (1878-1936) married Sientje Van Beek (1883-1923). They had three daughters. Catherine (1902-1962) who married Herman Notting (1893-1966) had one daughter, Betty Van Weelden. Leona (1910-1981) married William Stursma. They had two sons, Norman and Donald; two daughters, Marilyn De Vries and Patrica Kamerick. Dorothy married Henry Pothoven and had two sons, Robert and Duane.

Nellie Rus (1881-1944) came to America when she was 17 years old. She married Johannes Kempenaar (1884-1936). They had a son William M. (Rius) and a daughter Bernice who married E. Rex Jenkins. They live in Oskaloosa.

Leendert Rus married Anna Van Tongeren. They lived in Pella for awhile and then moved to South Dakota. Then they moved to California where they both died shortly after their arrival. They had no children.

So the Ruses not only live in Pella, but have spread throughout the U.S. doing their best to help out in community and church life.

by Jacob Rus

RUS, PETER DAVID AND DORA (DE RONDE)

F436

Peter David Rus and Dora (De Ronde) Rus.

Peter David was the eldest child of Cornelius and Jennie Van Ryswyk Rus. Peter was born Dec. 28, 1913. Dora was the fourth child of Arie and Hendrikje Menninga De Ronde born on Jan. 7, 1916. Peter's sisters and borthers are: Evalena, Aletta, Dick, and Alma. Dora's brothers and sisters are: Jacob, Nick, Johanna, Neal, John, Jennie, and Bob.

Pete and Dora had two children, Kenneth Wayne, born Apr. 30, 1939, and Janice Faye, born Apr. 17, 1942. Kenneth died in Apr. 1962. Janice married Duane Van Maanen. They have five children: Darla, Debra, David, Darcy, and Danece. Peter was raised on the farm near Otley and attended Liberty Corner School. Dora was raised on a farm north of Pella, near Galesburg, and attended Rose Hill School. Pete and Dora farmed in the Pella area. While he farmed, Pete also drove a Pella Christian school bus and served on the ASC Committee and served as township trustee for several years. He was also a 4-H leader for a few years. Dora worked in the Pella Hospital as a nurse's aid for 15 years. Their children were both members of the County Line 4-H Club. Kenneth and Janice also attended Liberty Corner School and Pella Christian Grade and High School.

Pete and Dora are members of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella as were their parents and grandparents. Grandpa and Grandma Rus, whose names were Pieter and Aletta, came from The Netherlands in 1893 and settled on a farm ten miles east of Pella in the Lower Grove neighborhood. They had six boys and one girl. They were: Peter, John, Jacob, Tenis, Cornelius, Chris, and Cornelia. The Rus clan has a reunion every three years in Pella on Saturday, and on Sunday they worship together at the Central College Chapel. They come from all over the United States. Dora's grandparents came from The Netherlands and also settled in the Pella area. Her grandparents were Jacob and Johanna De Ronde. Her father Arie's brothrs and sisters were Cornelius, Minnie, Jennie, and Gertrude. Cornelius and Jennie lived in the Oskaloosa area. Minnie lived in Pella and owned the Jellsma Insurance Agency. Gertrude settled in Canada, and her family still lives there.

by Peter De. Rus

SABIN, DUANE ELLIS AND KATHLEEN GAY (REINERTSON)

F437

Duane Ellis Sabin was born Nov. 14, 1951, in Estherville, Ia., the second son of Luverne and Louise Sabin.

Duane went to kindergarden at Maple Hill School in Maple Hill, Ia., before moving to Pella and completing school and graduating in 1971.

Kathleen "Kathie" Gay Reinertson, born Sept. 15, 1953, and Duane were married Feb. 14, 1976, and lived in Pella.

Kathie went to school in Pella, also Des Moines Area Community College, and worked in Des Moines.

Duane worked as a painter and as an electrician and liked both jobs.

Jacqulyn Kay De Kock was born in Pella, Oct. 28, 1970. Duane adopted her Nov. 6, 1978. Jennifer Lynn Sabin was born in Pella, Ia., Mar. 4, 1979.

by Louise (Gezel) Sabin

SABIN, LUVERNE ELLIS AND LOUISE (GEZEL)

F438

Louise Gezel was born Feb. 16, 1921, in Pella, Ia., to George Gezel (1885-1952) and Edith Lillian Porter (1885-1974). George and Edith were married in 1912. Louise had four sisters and two brothers; her oldest sister Mildred passed away as a baby in 1912. In 1929 an epidemic of typhoid fever took the next oldest sister Bernice who was 16 years old and a talented musician. She played clarinet in the High School Band, violin in the orchestra, and piano and organ at churches for all occasions. Emeline (Oct. 6, 1915); George (Sept. 24, 1917); Frieda (Apr. 1, 1919); and Ivan (May 30, 1922) were all born, raised and schooled in Pella, Ia.

After high school Louise worked in Western Springs, Ill. several years then went to Des Moines, Ia., where she met and married Luverne Ellis Sabin.

Sabin family in May, 1957. Front, l-r: Miles, Duane, and Vesta; Back: Louise and Luverne.

Luverne was born and raised in Emmet Co., Ia., June 16, 1916. He worked for his father as a welder when he was called to service. He was in the Army from Mar. 19, 1942, to Jan. 1, 1946. Luverne was an automobile mechanic and on foreign ground about one and one-half years and discharged as a T-5.

Luverne and Louise were married Feb. 23, 1950, in Nashua, Ia., at the "Little Brown Church." They lived near Dolliver, Ia., and had three children: Miles Eugene, Aug. 10, 1950; Duane Ellis, Nov. 14, 1951; Vesta Louise, Nov. 27, 1952. The three children were all born in Estherville, Ia.

After Luverne passed away on Dec. 15, 1957, of cancer in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Louise and the children moved back to Pella in 1958. She did housework, washing, and ironing for people when the children were growing up; she thought it was best to be home before and after school. When the children were older she started to work at the Rolscreen Company. She worked there 18 years before she retired.

Making doll clothes, giving and selling some, was one of her hobbies. She sewed clothing for herself and children when they were younger. Swimming, dancing, and walking are things to be enjoyed also.

by Louise (Gezel) Sabin

SABIN, MILES EUGENE

F439

Miles Eugene Sabin was the first child born Aug. 10, 1950, to Luverne and Louise Sabin in Estherville, Ia.

Miles went to Kindergarten and first grades in Maple Hill School at Maple Hill, Ia. After moving to Pella, Ia. in 1958 he attended Pella Public School.

Donna Kay Brown was born June 8, 1950, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Miles and Donna were married Aug. 14, 1970, and lived in Pella.

Matthew Eugene was born Jan. 5, 1975, in Pella to Donna and Miles.

Donna moved to Oskaloosa with Matthew; she went to Penn College and worked at the medical center in Oskaloosa, Ia.

Miles stayed in Pella. In 1967 he started working at the Rolscreen Company.

Miles has always enjoyed hunting and fishing. He likes to cook the fish and wild game for his friends.

by Louise (Gezel) Sabin

SAMSON, ADRIANUS (ANDREW)

F440

Adrianus (Andrew) Samson was born July 15, 1840, in Spikerdorn, The Netherlands, into a wealthy publisher's family. When his father died at an early age, he had to bear the responsibilities of the family consisting of his widowed mother and a younger brother, as well as the family business. Members of his family still publish documents for their government.

Adrian married Klazina Van Diejen, also from a well-to-do family, accustomed to the better things in life. She was born Oct. 31, 1847, at Rietveld, The Netherlands. She was a very religious woman who didn't believe in taking pictures. Consequently, her descendants don't know what she looked like. Another of her beliefs was that insurance was sinful.

Adrian chose to be a dairy farmer and had a fine herd of cows. Their farm was on the Old Rhine River near Hazerswoude, The Netherlands. Their first child Cornelia (Clara) was born Dec. 25, 1871. Bernice was born in 1872. Johanna was born May 8, 1874. In December of 1877 Adrian fired up the stove early one morning, and unknown to him, sparks caught the thatch roof on fire. When he realized their house was on fire, he was able to save his family, but their house burned to the ground, destroying their expensive furnishings and possessions. They found shelter in Koudekerk, a town across the river where the church they attended was located. While living there they had another daughter, Dierjke (Dorothy), who was born Jan. 5, 1878. Adrian built a beautiful red brick house which was larger and finer than their first house. He named it "Pool Zicht", as the old Rhine river flows beside the house. The house still stands today with a plaque with its name on the front. The present owners have been restoring the house since World War II and have preserved its charm and modernized the home. There are high ceilings and a cozy fireplace in the front room. The front windows have beautiful stained glass in the upper part which are original with the house. There are steep narrow steps leading to the upstairs room which have clear leaded windows in front. The house has a cow barn attached to the back by a breezeway. There is a cheese cellar with deep troughs running along each side through which spring water cooled the cheeses. Also there is a summer kitchen attached. There are also two separate barns, all made of red brick. Across the river there is a tower, the remains of an ancient castle. Small vessels pass by on the clear water and go through the drawbridge which is on the road from Hazerswoude to Koudekerk, where the 13th century church is located. Their son Arie was born Aug. 12, 1880. Because there was no insurance, it was very costly to rebuild. Then they had the misfortune that their herd of cattle, following a leader, drowned in the river and a herd of swine died of cholera. They lost their farm and the family moved to Amstelveen. There another son, Gerbrandus (Gerrit) was born Nov. 18, 1886. The saddest tragedy was when Klazina became very ill and died May 26, 1894, at age 46. Gerrit was only eight years old. As the four girls were the oldest, they managed, but eventually they married and moved to their own homes. Only Dierjke was left, and she was engaged to Mr. Ver Berg.

Adrian decided to come to America first, followed by his two sons who sailed on the steamship *Rhysdam*, arriving Apr. 22, 1903, after 11 days on the ocean. They came to Marion Co., Ia. Two of the daughters, Bernice and Johanna, married brothers, Cornelius and Charlie Molenaar. They came to this country later. Cornelia and Dierjke remained in Holland. Cornelia (Mrs. Scheene) had two daughters: Clasien (Mrs. Jan Plet), and Marie who lived in Amsterdam. Dierjke had one son piet Ver Berg, who is a retired professor from the University of Groningen in northern Holland. He and his wife Corrie live in Baarn, near Amsterdam.

Arie married Annie Zylstra, daughter of Paul & Wilhemina Zylstra, and had five children: Andrew, Paul, Gerrit, Charlie, and Minnie (Mrs. Gerrit Bruxvoort). All five and their spouses are living and have all celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. Arie died Dec. 3, 1952.

Gerrit married Johanna Van Der Veer (daughter of Jacob & Maria Van Der Veer) Feb. 16, 1910. Their children were: Andrew (died at age 2); Christine Marie (Mrs. Oliver Nettlow); Jacob; Conrad; and Joan (Mrs. Dennis LaFavre). They lived in Newton in later years.

About 1914 Adrian, Arie, Gerrit, and their families, and later the Molenaar families and others from Harvey, Ia., moved to Grand Forks Co., N.D. The couples purchased farms. There was no Dutch church so Gerrit donated a corner of his farm, and a frame church was built. When there wasn't a "dominee," Cornelius Molenaar would read from the Bible.

The winters were severe. Johanna's husband, Charlie Molenaar, froze to death one evening when he lost his way coming home from Gilby during a blizzard. Johanna was left on the farm with six children: Klazina (Mrs. R. Trosen); Marie (Mrs. John Van Gilst); Cora (Mrs. John Zegers); Pauline (Mrs. Tim Zegers); Andrew; and a baby, Bernice (Mrs. McMain). A few years later, Johanna married Chris Albright. Adrian (Andrew) Samson died Jan. 8, 1916. He is buried near Honeyford, N.D. Charlie Molenaar is buried there, and also an infant son of Arie and Annie Samson. After World War I the local bank failed. Most of our relatives returned to Ia. except Bernice and Cornelius Molenaar who moved to Crookston, Minn. They had: Andrew; Joe; Kalzina (Mrs. Alger Longstreet); Marie (Mrs. Gerrit Uitermaarkt, later Mrs. John Van Gilst); Arie;

and Minnie (Mrs. George Hodgson). Marie lived in Pella.

by Joanne Pennock

SAMSON, CONRAD
F441

Conrad Samson was born May 28, 1918, to Gerrit and Johanna Van Der Veer Samson near Honeyford, N.D. He was a big baby (about 12 pounds) at birth. He was a cute little boy and did cute things. He liked to get his mother's silverware out and pretend they were livestock. Knives were horses; forks were cows; teaspoons were pigs. He was very fond of horses and high-top boots. He also preferred farm life. The Samson family left North Dakota and returned to Iowa about 1921. The family went to North Dakota in the summers so Mr. Samson could raise potatoes in the Red River Valley. He shipped carloads to Iowa in the fall to sell. Conrad's mother was in poor health while he was little. The family spent the winters near her parents, Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer, in Pella.

Con attended school at Pella Christian School, Tracy, Harvey and Newton. At Newton he was double promoted. All summer he carried home armloads of books from the library, as he loved to read. At the end of summer he learned he had won the contest for reading the most books.

Although an exceptional student, Con craved farm life and dropped out before graduation in order to farm. He has lived nearly all his life on his father's farm and his own which is near Prairie City, Ia. He purchased his father's farm after his father had a stroke and retired. Also, he worked seven years at the *Newton Daily News*, going to work an hour early every day so he could learn linotype. He then worked at the *Des Moines Register and Tribune* until he retired. His first accomplishment after retiring was to obtain his GED Diploma. He was rated first in his class.

Con married Gretchen Harper in Jan. 1939. They had three daughters: Sonja, Glenda, and Connie. Sonja married Bob Miller Sept. 1, 1956. They lived in Colfax for nine years. Since 1965 they have lived in Greenfield, Ia. She is an elementary school teacher, teaching 1st grade. Bob is a state trooper. They have a daughter, Julie (Mrs. Steve Heckenbach), who lives in Atlantic. Her husband is also a state trooper. Julie works in an office in Walnut Grove. Julie and Steve have two daughters, Amy and Sara.

Glenda is married to Bill Robson and lives in Ottawa, Ill. She also was an elementary school teacher. Recently she opened a learning center. Bill is a pharmacist. They have a son Scott and a daughter Kristin.

Connie's husband is in the air force, stationed in England where she works in civil service. They are very musical and entertained at military social functions while stationed in Germany. Connie has a son Ty and a daughter Tammy.

Con and Gretchin separated in 1961. In February 1967 Conrad married Virginia "Jenny" Stone Harbill in Colfax. That marriage ended in 1985.

Conrad's interest in the farm situation has prompted him to write numerous articles which were published and are filed in the library at Iowa State University at Ames, Ia. When his brother Jake was left alone when their mother died, he took him on a vacation to The Netherlands and eight other countries. They traveled to nine countries in Europe by a Eurorail pass. Conrad has enjoyed traveling since his retirement. He has been to Mexico, Egypt, Tel Aviv, England, Ireland, Scotland, etc. He has also traveled to Alaska and many of the states.

Conrad has recently been building a large house with an attached garage on his farm near Prairie City. He now has a comfortable home with all rooms on one floor with no steps to enter the house.

Con is spending his winters in Arizona where his sister Marie and her husband Oliver Nettlow live during the winter. He enjoys the warm winter climate of the region. He also enjoys the Senior Citizen social life, particularly the ballroom dances held in the various trailer courts. Conrad is very sociable and has many friends.

by C. Marie Samson Nettlow

SAMSON, GERRIT AND JOHANNA
F442

Gerrit (Gerbrandus) Samson was born Nov. 18, 1886, near Amstelveen, in The Netherlands. He was the youngest of six children born to Adrianus and Klazina Van Diejen Samson. He had four sisters: Cornelia (Clara), Bernice, Johanna, Dierjke (Dorothy), and one brother Arie, who were born on a farm the family owned near Hazerswoude. Gerrit's father had built a red brick house on their farm in 1879 after a fire had destroyed their house in December of 1877. He named it "Pool Zicht" as the old Rhine River flows nearby. There was no insurance, so it was very costly to rebuild. When his herd of dairy cows drowned and his herd of swine died from cholera, Adrian lost the farm. So the family lived at Amstelveen when Gerrit was born. Gerrit was only eight years old when his mother became very ill and died May 26, 1894, when she was only 46 years old. Gerrit had just completed his education when the three men decided to go to America. Adrianus went first, followed by his two sons, who sailed on the steamship *Rhysdam*, arriving Apr. 22, 1903, after 11 days on the ocean. Cornelia and Dierjke married and stayed in The Netherlands. Bernice and Johanna married Cornelius and Charlie Molenaar respectively, who also came over. All settled in Marion Co., Ia., at first. Arie married Annie Zylstra.

Gerrit married Johanna Van Der Veer, the daughter of Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer, who had emigrated to America from Ooltgensplaat, The Netherlands. She was born Dec. 15, 1890, near Olivet, the first child they had after coming to this country. She had four older brothers: Simon Corneles; John; and Conrad; an older sister, Lena (Mrs. Dirk Goemaat); and a younger sister, Maggie (Mrs. Henry Visser). Gerrit and Johanna were married Feb. 16, 1910, at her parents' home on the Island near Harvey, Ia. They had four children. Their first child Adrian ("Little Andrew") was an invalid from spinal meningitis and died Aug. 17, 1913, age two when he became ill with infantile paralysis. He is buried at Bellefountaine Cemetery near Tracy, Ia. Christine Marie was born Apr. 23, 1912, when they lived near Tracy. In 1914, Gerrit and his father and the rest of the family, together with friends from their Dutch Reformed Church in Harvey, moved to Grand Forks County, N.D. My parents purchased a farm near Honeyford, N.D. My brother Jacob was born Sept. 1, 1914. Farming was done with horses. Father raised wheat, oats, barley, and flax. He also pioneered the raising of sweet clover in the area. My father and a neighbor owned a steam threshing rig and did custom threshing. The winters were severe, but life was good. At Christmas time we had a candle-lit tree which towered

Front, l-r: Gerrit, Joan, and Johanna; Back, l-r: Christine Marie, Jacob, and Conrad.

to the ceiling with lots of presents around it. My parents loved to entertain, and our home was the center of many neighborhood festivities. Our house was heated by hard coal space heaters with isinglass fronts. The country school had a huge furnace, big Christmas programs, and box suppers. There were bobsled and sleigh rides. My brother Conrad was born May 28, 1918. After World War I, the local bank failed. Most of the families returned to Iowa. Mother's health was failing, so we spent our winters in Iowa, near my grandparents. After surgery, she regained her health. Dad would work at various jobs in Harvey, Tracy, Monroe, and Pella. While in Pella, we children attended Pella Christian School. My father would return to the Red River Valley in the spring and raise potatoes. They called him the "Potato King." The last year he had six carloads shipped to Iowa selling them at $1 per 100 pounds. About 1928, our family moved to Newton, Ia., when father got a job running the cupola at the foundry. My parents raised another girl, Joan, whose father had died in an automobile accident before she was born. Her mother, who had six other children, had no means of support, so gave her daughter up when she was small. Joan married Dennis LaFavre of Newton. They have lived in Colorado for years.

About 1933, my parents bought an 80-acre farm eight miles northeast of Newton. The farm is located over a mile off the gravel road by the river, which sometimes flooded. Father built a six-room house. He farmed with horses. They didn't have running water. They didn't have electricity for many years. They moved to a house they owned at 217 E. 2nd St. S. in Newton after father suffered a serious stroke in December of 1955. He could never walk or talk again, but continued to be mentally alert. My mother was able to care for him at home.

When my husband Charles LaFavre retired in 1956, we moved to Colorado. My parents enjoyed visiting us and my sister Joan and her family in the winter. He enjoyed the trips, even went to Yellowstone Park and Salt Lake City to see relatives who had left Rotterdam after World War II. Jacob lived with them in later years and was able to help them. Conrad lived on his farm near Prairie City, so was nearby. Conrad bought their farm. My daughter and her husband, Joanne and Wayne Pennock, lived on a farm near Newton, and were able to do things for them. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in their home in 1960. They were married 55 years when Father died in Colorado, Dec. 7, 1965. Mother's eyesight failed in later years and she had a heart pacemaker. My brother Jacob lived with her until she died in her home Oct. 22, 1975. Jacob lives in Clear View Manor in Prairie City. After my husband died in 1977, I purchased their house and returned to Iowa. My parents are buried at Graceland Cemetery in Pella near her parents.

by Marie Samson Nettlow

SAMSON, JACOB

F443

Jacob Samson was born to Gerrit and Johanna Van Der Veer Samson Sept. 1, 1914, near Honeyford, N.D. He was born on the birthdate of an older brother Adrian who died when almost three of spinal meningitis and polio while the family lived near Tracy, Ia. When Jake was born, the family was living on a large wheat farm in North Dakota. He and his older sister Marie enjoyed a happy childhood, except for concern for their mother which ended when she had a tumor removed in the University Hospital at Iowa City. They made mud pies in the grove their father had planted as a wind break north of the farm buildings. In the winter they would pull their sleds to the top of the chicken house and slide down in the huge snow drifts. Sometimes Jacob would climb high up in a tall willow tree and was fortunate not to fall.

In 1918, in addition to the ending of WW I, two great events occurred. Another boy, Conrad, was born May 28. Also, Dad bought a new Model T Ford car. He would crank it up in the morning, let it run until Jacob and his sister Marie could get ready to ride to Gilby with him for an ice cream cone breakfast.

About 1921, his parents and several relatives, who had once lived in Iowa, decided to move back to Iowa. Mrs. Samson's health was poor and Jacob helped his older sister sometimes. The family spent the winters in Iowa, near their grandparents, Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer, and went to Pella Christian School. They lived in Harvey one winter. Later they returned to Pella and then moved to a farm near Tracy where all three children rode the consolidated school bus, called a kidwagon, pulled by horses. The family returned to Harvey until Father got a job in Newton, operating the cupola at the foundry.

Jacob worked at night, carrying the *Des Moines Register and Tribune* and then in a bowling alley, yet graduated from Newton High School with state honors, a member of Delta Mu Delta, and was offered a scholarship. Reluctantly, it was necessary to decline this great opportunity, as his family could not afford his extra expenses. The Great Depression was very real. There was serious unemployment. Jake decided to go into the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and sent home as much as he could spare of his earnings. He later enrolled at American Institute of Business in Des Moines, where his sister Marie had attended. In July 1940, both Jake and his sister Marie took civil service appointments in Washington, D.C. Jacob started at the Civil Service Commission. They went to school in their spare time. They had street car passes and spent many Sunday afternoons sightseeing.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Jacob heard the shocking news about the attack at Pearl Harbor. Soon there were blackouts and guns mounted on public buildings. It was no longer the peaceful place to live it had been, but very depressing. Jacob finally went home to Iowa, lived on the farm which his father had bought five miles from Newton, but disliked farming. He returned to Washington and worked at the Geological Survey. Again he was alone, the war situation continued, and he again gave up and never returned. He was happy to be near his family. He worked at the Maytag Company for awhile, but there were many occupational hazards and his health finally broke down. He returned to the farm, living at home until 1956 when his father had a stroke and his parents moved into Newton. He lived alone on the farm one winter, looking after the stock, then went to live with his younger brother Conrad near Prairie City. After his father died in 1965, Jacob lived in Newton with his mother. In spite of her frail health in earlier years, she had been taking care of her husband for ten years, was 75 years old, and also alone. They were able to help each other and be company for each other in their loneliness. Their home was walking distance from downtown Newton, so they could walk to church, senior citizen's functions, to the store, etc., together. Jacob learned he was a diabetic and his mother's eyesight began to fail. She had crocheted in all her spare time and was a borderline diabetic. Jacob gradually took over the cooking as well as other household chores. After his mother died in 1975, Jacob was alone again. He and Conrad took a trip to Europe, visiting nine countries by European trains. Jacob, who speaks two languages, and has studied five more to a lesser degree, could understand people everywhere, until they got to Norway. That language was much different, but it was a beautiful trip and they saw some of the relatives still living in The Netherlands.

Without his mother and no other family near the next winter, Jacob neglected his diet and became very ill with a staphylococcus infection and diabetes. He had to go on insulin and go to a nursing home. He now lives at Clearview Manor near Prairie City where he participated in dramas, did painting and worked with ceramics. He has the duty of raising and lowering the flag each day. He has made friends with people of his own generation, many from Prairie City and Pella. He has relatives who come to see him. Although he has had major surgery twice in the past three years, he has good care and seems quite content. Jacob is a gentle, kind man who is well liked and respected by those who know him.

by Marie Samson Nettlow

SAVERY, RICHARD AND MARI

F444

Mari Savery was born on Oct. 19, 1936, in Pella, Ia., to Marion and Wilma A. (Vande Voort) Vanden Oever.

Mari attended the Pella Community Schools and graduated from Central College in 1958. After graduation, she taught school for two years in Britt, Ia., and for two years in Denison, Ia.

On June 15, 1961, she married Richard G. Savery of Denison, Ia. Rich is the son of Arthur E. and Pearl (Baer) Savery of Denison, Ia.

Rich graduated from Denison High School and served a tour in the U.S. Air Force.

In 1962 they moved to Pella. Rich was employed at Vander Hart Transfer, Van's Food Market and, since 1968, has worked at Vermeer Mfg. Co. He has been a factory superintendent since 1974.

Richard Savery family. Left to right: Scott, Mari, Rich, and Joe.

Richard Scott Savery was born on Oct. 5, 1962, in Oskaloosa, Ia. In 1983, Scott married Darlys Kay Van Gorp of rural Leighton.

Joseph Blair Savery was born on Oct. 12, 1966, in Oskaloosa, Ia. He attended the Pella Community Schools and, at this writing, is a student at Iowa State University majoring in Computer Science.

Joe is a drummer in a professional band called OASIS. During the summer he is employed as a lifeguard at the Pella swimming pools.

by Mari Savery

SAVERY, SCOTT AND DARLYS

F445

R. Scott Savery was born on Oct. 5, 1962, in Oskaloosa, Ia. His parents are Richard and Mari (Vanden Oever) Savery.

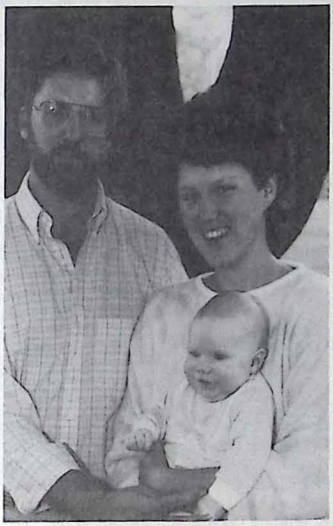
Scott attended the Pella Community Schools and graduated from Ankeny Community College in 1982.

Scott is employed at Precision Pulley, Inc. in Pella as an "inside" sales person.

On Oct. 21, 1983, Scott married Darlys Kay Van Gorp. She is the daughter of Verlan and Marilyn (Sopher) Van Gorp of rural Leighton. Darlys was born on Mar. 8, 1964, in Oskaloosa, Ia. She attended the Pella Christian Schools and Dordt College. She is self-employed, doing baby sitting in her home.

Their first child, Erin Beth was born on Feb. 22, 1987.

by Mari Savery



Scott, Darlys and Erin Savery.

SCHILDER, ARIE

F446

Arie Schilder was born in Kampen, Overijssel, The Netherlands, on May 3, 1892, to Roelof and Fenna Gunnink Schilder. As a young boy he delivered meat for a meat shop in Apeldoorn, and after completing his apprenticeship as butcher, he was advanced to the position of butcher. On July 12, 1913, he set sail for America, leaving his parents, a brother and a sister behind, and arrived in Pella, Ia. on July 24. He had been offered a partnership in a meat market and accepted the challenge. He continued in the meat business, becoming sole owner of Ulrich's Meat Market until he retired because of ill health in 1947. Arie died on June 17, 1948.

On Feb. 24, 1916, he married Johanna Van Der Beek (Apr. 15, 1895-Jan. 1956) and they had three daughters and one son.

Helen Faye was born Feb. 12, 1918, and died at the age of 17 on Nov. 7, 1935, after a long illness.

Leona Mae was born Mar. 27, 1920, and married Chester Duco Zylstra (Jan. 22, 1919) on Jan. 24, 1952. They have three children: Helen Jo, James Duco, and Susan Lee; also seven grandchildren.

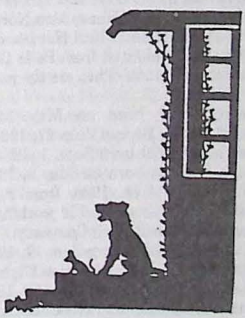
Harriet Lucille was born Oct. 6, 1922, and married John D. Geurts (Oct. 29, 1920-Oct. 8, 1981) on June 17, 1947. Their oldest son John Dirk (J.D.) died at the age of 26 on July 11, 1974. They also have Annette, and twins Mark and Mary.

Rudolph John was born Feb. 20, 1925, and lost his life in a plane crash in Arizona while in the service of his country in the Navy Air Force during World War II on Apr. 28, 1944.

Arie was well known because of his great interest in sports. He was the donor of the "Schilder Blanket", a trophy given each year to the man judged the best player on the Central College football team. The trophy continues to be given in his name. He was also active in the Pella Historical Society and served many years on the finance committee for promoting Tulip Time.

by Mrs. C.D. Zylstra

(See photo next page.)



The Arie Schilder family. Front, l to r: Arie and Johanna Schilder, Back, l to r: Rudolph, Helen, Leona, and Harriet.

SCHIMMEL, DAVID FAMILY

F447

Wedding of Sharon Schimmel and Calvin Fopma, July 27, 1984. Left to right: Marcie, Zelda, and Melinda Schimmel, Sharon and Calvin Fopma, David and Carla Schimmel.

David Schimmel, son of Cornelius Schimmel and Cora (Van Roekel) Schimmel was born May 28, 1939. He graduated from Pella High School in 1957. He married Zelda Van Norden, daughter of Henry Van Norden and Gertie (Vande Geest) Van Norden on Sept. 6, 1960. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1959. They are the parents of four daughters.

Sharon Kay, born on May 24, 1963, married Calvin Fopma July 27, 1984. They have a son Daniel born Sept. 1, 1985.

Carla Sue was born on May 9, 1967. She graduated Sept. 14, 1986, from American Institute of Business and is working in the office at Schiebout Tire Company.

Marcie Lynn was born Jan. 17, 1972. She is a freshman at Pella Christian High School.

Melinda Beth was born June 26, 1977. She is in the fourth grade at Pella Christian Grade School.

David and Zelda live on a farm northeast of Pella. They are members of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

by David Schimmel

SCHIPPERS FAMILY

F448

It is believed that the Schippers are descendants of the Huguenots who were members of the Reformed or Calvinistic Communion of the 16th century. They are from South Holland. Johannes Schippers was born in Noordyk, South Holland, July 26, 1801. His parents were Hermanus Schippers, born Feb. 3, 1760, and Margaretha Gaillard, born May 11, 1766. Johannes Schippers married Maria Louisa Timmermans, born Oct. 10, 1803, from Meerkerk, South Holland. They had nine children. They arrived in Pella in 1855. The children were all born in Leksmond. He was a farmer. His son, Adrian Anthoon was born May 15, 1842, in Leksmond, South Holland. He married Eva DeGues who was born Feb. 9, 1848, daughter of William DeGues and Jozina Dekker. They were married July 3, 1867. They had fifteen children: Mary Louise, 1868; Jozena, 1870; John, 1872; Cornelia, 1874; Jennie, 1875; Wilhemina, 1876; William, 1878; Arnold, 1879; Sarah, 1880; Jacob, 1883; Cornelius, 1884; Arnold, 1885; Phonia, 1887; Nellie, 1890, and Tony, 1892. They adopted Marion Den Burger. Mr. and Mrs. Schippers celebrated their 60th wedding in their home at 501 Franklin Street, where the Scholte Church is now. They built the house that was torn down for the Scholte Church. They lived there the rest of their lives. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery.

When Anthony Schippers was a farmer, they lived east of Pella. When Anthony worked at the Stacker factory, they lived in Pella across the street from the factory. Louie can remember when he took his Grandpa a cup of coffee and a cookie at coffee time.

William (Anthony's son) was born Mar. 1, 1878, in Mahaska County. He married Mae Raymie who was born in Denain, France, on Apr. 21, 1884. She came to America when she was four years old. They were married Oct. 15, 1902, in Oskaloosa. William was a farmer and lived south of Pella and also north of Pella. They retired to 501 Franklin Street where his folks had lived in 1941. They had five children: Andrew, 1903-1982; Eva, 1906-1980 (Mrs. Henry Van Halen); Louie, 1908; Jennie, 1916 and Wilma, 1918 (Mrs. Wm. Swank). Louie was born south of Pella and married Annie De Penning, also a descendant of Leendert De Penning who came from South Holland in 1854, to Pella. Louie was a farmer until 1961, when they moved to Pella. He then worked at Vermeers until he retired. They have two children, David and Phyllis, and four grandchildren.

Schippers means Bargeman – Boatman – Skippers.

The following poem was written for Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Schippers on their 60th wedding anniversary on July 3, 1928:

Just sixty years together,
Through rain and shine of weather.
with their sorrows and their joys,
With their fifteen girls and boys.
The land across the water,
Lost little son and daughter.
To the country in the west,
Where their parents came on quest.
In the old Dutch town Pella
She wed this happy fella.
And through all the sixty years
They have loved mid joy and tears.
Hand in hand adown the way
You have come to this glad day.
May we younger ones than you
Prove to be as ever true.
For the good God up above
Gives his blessings to true love,
Makes a long life well worth while
We face Heaven with a smile.

by Louie and Annie DePenning Schippers

SCHIPPERS FAMILY

F449

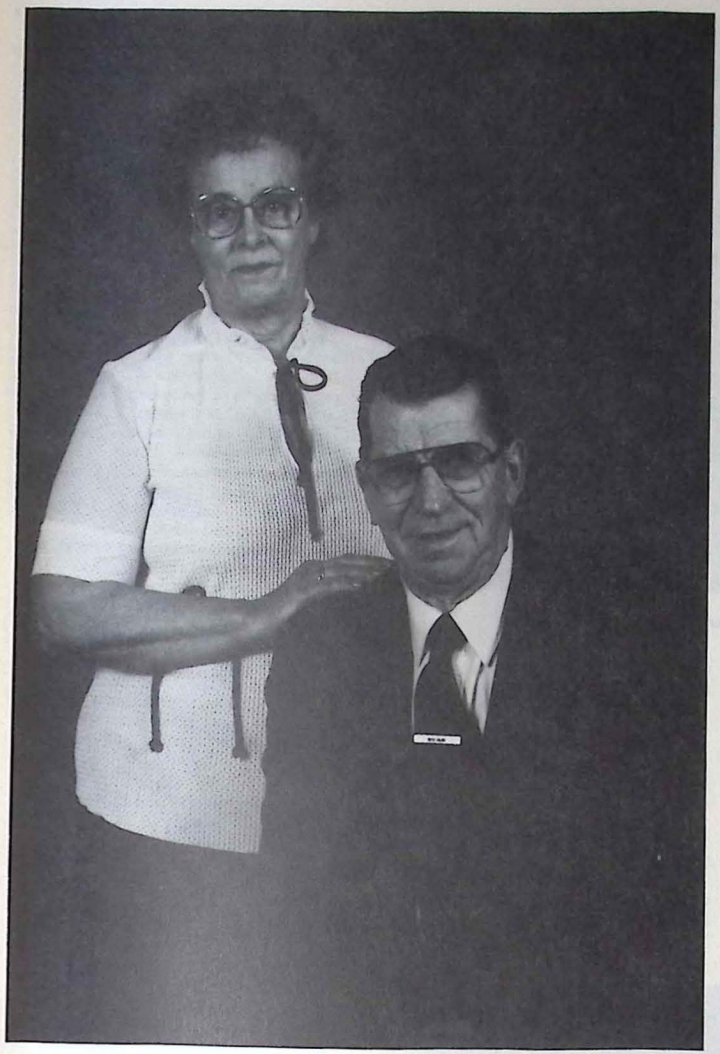
Louie James Schippers was born on a farm northeast of Monroe, Ia. He was the son of John A.J. Schippers and Anna Burggraaf Schippers.

Louie accepted the Lord at an early age and joined the Presbyterian Church in Monroe, Ia. When the family moved to a farm north of Otley, Ia., they attended the Reformed Church of Otley.

Louie graduated from Summit Township School in May of 1928. He wanted to go to high school, but there was no way for him to get back and forth. He stayed home and helped his parents farm.

In the spring of 1928 his folks moved to the Kryn VerHeul farm, east and south of Otley. Mrs. VerHuel was Dad Schippers' sister Sarah. On Oct. 30, 1939, Louie James Schippers and Lois Mayola Davenport were united in marriage at the home of her parents in Oskaloosa, Ia., by Rev. Nicholas Roozenboom of the Otley Reformed Church. Both sets of parents were able to attend.

Mayola was born Jan. 24, 1918, at her Grandmother Gray's home in Albia, Ia. At the age of two weeks, her parents took her to their home in Des Moines. Her parents were Leonard L. and Lois M. Gray Davenport. She



Louie & Mayola October 30, 1984. 45th Anniversary.

Louie J. & Mayola Schippers' Wedding Picture, October 30, 1939.

graduated from East High School in Des Moines in June of 1937 and the Iowa School of Beauty Culture in May, 1938.

In the spring of 1938, her folks moved to Oskaloosa, where they had the Davenport Tailor Shop for over 40 years. After having worked in Des Moines for a time, Mayola moved in the spring of 1939 to work in a beauty shop in Oskaloosa. She met Louie through one of her customers from Pella, Ia. Mayola was a member of the First Baptist Church, and Louie joined after they were married.

After Louie and Mayola were married, they stayed with Louie's parents til Feb., 1940, when they moved to the other house on the same farm. Charles was born Dec. 9, 1940, while they lived there. Louie helped his parents farm until they retired in the fall of 1941. He and his brother farmed together for one year.

Then Louie, Mayola, and Charles moved to a farm near Red Rock. Keith Michael was born Aug. 16, 1943, while living there. From there, Louie and Mayola moved to a farm west of Pella. In Mar. 1948 they moved to a farm near Bussey. On Apr. 4, 1948, they welcomed another son, Curtis Wayne. In Mar. 1952 they moved to a farm near Truax. While there, Steven Craig was born on Feb. 27, 1955. It was a hard decision to make to move to town, because Louie loved farming. Louie worked at Rolscreen from Apr. 1958 to Nov. 1979. Mayola worked at Rolscreen, June 1973 until Jan. 1983.

In Feb. 1956 Louie and Mayola held a closing-out sale and moved to Oskaloosa in July and purchased a home. On Jan. 10, 1960. they; were blessed with a daughter Lois Ann named after her grandmothers. In Feb. 1966 they purchased a larger home for their growing family. In Nov. of 1977 they purchased an acreage south and east of Oskaloosa and in May of 1978 moved to it.

On their 40th wedding anniversary on Oct. 30, 1979, their children hosted an open house at the First Baptist Church in Oskaloosa, Ia.

With plans to visit their son Charles and two of Mayola's brothers in the West during the winter of 1985, Louie and Mayola purchased a new car, but that was not to be, as on Mar. 8, 1985, Mayola found Louie lying in the garage. He had a massive coronary and had gone home to be with his Lord. He was buried in Forest Cemetery at Oskaloosa.

Mayola moved back to Oskaloosa in Sept., 1985 to the house they had purchased in 1966. All of their children were born at the Mahaska Hospital and graduated from Oskaloosa High School.

Charles Louis was born Dec. 9, 1940, and graduated form Linfield College at McMinnville, Ore., in May, 1969. He served four years in the Air Force, part of this time in Pakistan. He married Marthanna Jane McFetridge on Dec. 28, 1964. Marthanna's birthday is Feb. 20, 1942. She is the daughter of Irene and the late Robert McFetridge of Oak Ridge, Ore. She is a graduate of Oregon State. They have two children: Theresa Marie, Feb. 19, 1970; and Craig Charles, Oct. 6, 1972. Charles is an accountant, and they reside in Seaside, Ore.

Keith Michael was born Aug. 16, 1943. He married Valerie Jean Dorn on Oct. 26, 1963. She was born July 5, 1941, and is the daughter of Wesley and Marjorie Dorn of Jessup, Ia. They were later divorced. He is self-employed and lives in Moline, Ill. Their children are: Michael Gene, born Oct. 13, 1963; Michelle Lee, born Dec. 28, 1964; Mitchell Joe, born Sept. 28, 1966; and Keith Michael, Jr., born Oct. 10, 1967.

Curtis Wayne was born Apr. 4, 1948. He married Esther Marie Harris, born July 11, 1951, of Rochester, Minn. They were married in Rochester on Dec. 27, 1975. She is the daughter of Leona and the late Ralph Harris of Rochester. She is a nurse, and Curtis is self-employed. He served four years in the Air Force, part of this time in Korea. They reside in Rochelle, Ill.

Steven Craig was born Feb. 27, 1955. He married Judy Alice Ingold, born Nov. 19, 1955, of Rockford, Ill., on Oct. 10, 1981. She

Mayola, Lois Ann, Charles, Keith, Curtis, Steven. March 12, 1985.

is the daughter of Pat Ingold of Rockford and Bruce Ingold of DelRay Beach, Fla. Steven and Judy both graduated from Iowa State College at Ames. He is a mechanical engineer and is employed at John Deere, and she received a degree in clothing and textiles. They reside in Moline, Ill.

Lois Ann, born Jan. 10, 1960, married Craig VanEngelhoven on Aug. 2 1980, at the First Baptist Church, Oskaloosa, Ia. Craig is the son of Jerry VanEngelhoven and Shirley Holub Masterson. Craig was born Apr. 26, 1958. Lois Ann is a graduate of Kansas State (May, 1983), with a degree in textiles and fashion. Craig graduated from Indian Hills in Ottumwa, Ia. He is a computer analyst. They reside in Tulsa, Okla.

John and Anna's children were: Arnold Joshua (July 20, 1896-Apr., 1937); Tunis (Jan. 1898- Feb. 1948); Henrietta May 1, 1899-Apr. 8, 1968); Alice (Apr. 11, 1900); Milton (July 13, 1902-Sept. 8, 1974); Sarah (Apr. 14, 1904-Oct. 6, 1966); Marion (Dec. 1, 1912-Aug. 18, 1985); Louie (Sept. 23, 1915-Mar. 8, 1985); and Lester (Dec. 30, 1916-Feb. 28, 1977.)

Louie's grandparents on his father's side were Arnold Joshua (1833-1903) and Hendrika Bruinma Schippers (1838 -July 4, 1878). I understand they were both born in The Netherlands and came over here in 1855. They were married Mar. 12, 1860. Arnold Joshua is buried in Graceland Cemetery at Pella, Ia. They had seven children.

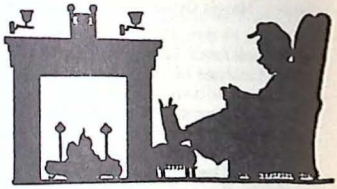
Marie Louise married Jacob Heimstra on Feb. 6, 1881, and passed away July 4, 1921. Ellen was born Oct. 31, 1862. Sietska or Sarah married Kryn VerHuel. Johanna married John Van-Waardhuizen. Nellie passed away at the age of six of diptheria. John A. J. (born July 17, 1871 – died Mar. 3, 1949) married Anna Burggraaf (born Dec. 25, 1804 – died Jan. 28, 1949), on Mar. 3, 1896. Mella married Jo Burggraaf, Anna's sister. After Arnold Joshua's first wife passed away in 1878, he married Marie E. VanderLune in 1880. They had two children: Dina, who married a Mr. Mindersma; and Henry, who never married.

John A. J.'s father was Arnold Joshua, whose parents were Johannes (born Dec. 29, 1800) and Marie L. Schippers. They came to America in 1855, as did Johannes' parents (a Mr. Schippers and Tuentje (Pater) Schippers). Johannes and Marie's children were: Jan, William, Marie Louise, Tuentje, Arnold Joshua, Aartje, Louise, Alberta, Adrian Antonio, and Jacob Neiltje.

Louie's grandparents on his mother's side were: Tunis Burggraaf (Feb. 23, 1842 – Dec. 19, 1904) who came from Leerdam, Holland; and Altje or Ellen VanGorp Burggraaf (May 16, 1856 – Aug. 26, 1935). Their children were: Jannetje (1872-1873); Corneila (1873-1878); Anna (Dec. 25, 1874 – Jan. 28, 1944); Pete (born 1878); John (1880); Elizabeth (1883); Cornelia (1884); Neal (1887); Bernice (1888); Sam (1890); and Minthia (1891). Tunis' parents were Peter B. and Andriana DeRecht VanGorp.

by Mrs. Louie J. (Mayola) Schippers

Louie & Mayola October 30, 1964. 25th Anniversary.



Front, l-r: Louie & Mayola's family in 1960: Back, l-r: Mayola, Lois Ann, Steve, Louie Charles, Curtis, Keith.

Schippers Family Picture. Front l-r: Henrietta, Arnold, John A.J., Anna, Tunis. Back l-r: Lester, Marion, Louie, Sarah, Milton, Alice. Taken before 1937.

SCHURING, JACOB AND ARVENA

F450

Jacob L. Schuring (Jake), son of Louis and Elizabeth (Van Dyke) Schuring, was born Feb. 15, 1924, in Pella. He attended Fifield and Otley grade schools and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1941. Jake served in the army during World War II in the South Pacific area.

On June 26, 1947, Jake married Arvena B. Rietveld, daughter of Clarence and Bernice (Dabb) Rietveld of Knoxville, Ia. They were blessed with five children all of whom live in Pella at the present time. Stanley Jacob, was born Aug. 8, 1948. In 1969, he married Diane Van Weelden, daughter of Arie and Tressie Van Weelden. They have three daughters, Heather, Heidi, and Hilary Schuring. Michael Dean, was born Sept. 21, 1949. In 1983 he married Cindy Van Hemert, daughter of Robert and Arvonne Van Hemert. They have four children, Stacey and Troy Schuring and Marc and Alison Van Gorp. Sandra Elaine was born Mar. 19, 1952, and married Charles Keuning in 1970. They have two sons, Kevin and David Keuning. Paul Kevin, was born Sept. 12, 1957. He married Jeana Weyers, daughter of Harry and Norma Weyers in 1977. They have two sons, Bret and Todd Schuring. Janine Beth, was born on her parents' anniversary, June 26, 1965. She married Christopher Fontana in 1985, and they have one daughter, Charli Fontana.

Jake started painting while in high school, working for Bill Van Dyke, and, with the exception of one year at the Maytag Company in Newton, has painted ever since. He has been self-employed as a painter since 1952. Arvena is employed by the Pella Community Nursing Home as a part-time nurses' aide.

by Jacob Schuring

Front, l-r: Janine, Jake, Arvena, Sandra; Back, l-r: Stanley, Michael, Paul.

SCHURING, LOUIS
F451

Louis Schuring, son of Nicholas and Jane (Vander Post) Schuring, was born on a farm near Otley, Ia., on June 27, 1898. In 1920 Louis was united in marriage with Elizabeth Van Dyke, daughter of Jacob and Pietje (Kelderman) Van Dyke. To this union two children were born, Jennie and Jacob. Mr. and Mrs. Schuring lived on a farm near Pella where Elizabeth died in 1924.

In 1926 Louis was married to Henrietta Kelderman, whose parents were Ryk and Antonia (Meinders) Kelderman. Louis and Henrietta had six children: Henrietta, Robert, Henry, Beatrice, Kenneth and Mary Lou. Mary Lou was hit by a car in 1954 and died at the age of 12 years. The couple farmed in the Fifield area. Later Louis went into the trucking business in the Pella area. In later years Louis drove a school bus for Pella Christian and Pella Community Schools. Louis died on Nov. 6, 1970. Henrietta is a resident of Fair Haven in Pella.

by Sandra Keuning

Picture taken of Dr. J.E. Schultz when he began his practice in Pella.

SHULTZ, JOHN E.
F452

John E. Shultz was born on Mar. 1, 1902, in Lu Verne, Ia. the son of Joseph S. and Mary Block Shultz. He looked so much like his father that the townspeople always said, "Here comes Joe Shultz and little Joe," so throughout his life he was known as, and called, Joe.

At the age of two he had a severe case of scarlet fever which caused a lesion in his heart, and would give him trouble throughout his entire life.

He graduated from Lu Verne High School in 1920. He enrolled as a dental student at the University of Iowa in Iowa City.

In December of his freshman year, he was in the hospital for over a month with kidney stones and complications. He was dismissed if he would go home to convalesce. When he returned in the fall of the next year, dentistry had a new requirement. They had added a pre-dental year, so his illness cost him two extra years of college. He graduated from the dental college in 1926.

Dr. Shultz came to Pella where, on Aug. 10, 1926, he began his dental practice. He chose Pella in spite of the fact he would be the seventh dentist in a town of only 3,330.

Two years later, on Aug. 10, 1928, he was united in marriage with Olive Fox, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C.I. Fox of Pella.

When Joe was president of the Pella Rotary Club, Governor Robert Blue came to Pella at Tulip Time. At the Rotary meeting he was asked to help the street scrubbers. He said he would have been glad to but he didn't have a Dutch costume. Joe said, "We're about the same height and build. You can wear my Dutch costume and I'll wear your suit." So Governor Blue helped scrub our streets.

In Oct., 1942, the Shultzes adopted a baby girl only five days old and called her Sally Jo. When she was 14 and a freshman in high school, she was killed when the car she was riding in with young friends overturned on a gravel road.

Sally Jo was a happy, friendly, lovable child, so the Shultzes found the void in their home almost unbearable. They decided they would spend the month of October of each year, Sally Jo's birthday month, giving free dental service to the 170 mountain children at the Annville Institute in Jackson Co., Ky. in memory of her.

Before he could practice in Kentucky the Iowa dentist, who had graduated 30 years earlier, had the go to Louisville, Ky. and take state dental examinations, written and practical, along with 50 graduating students.

He then equipped a dental office at Annville Institute and continued yearly to take care of the mountain children's dental needs until the severe heart problems prevented him from continuing.

He always said the dental work he did for the mountain children at Annville was the most rewarding work he ever did during his entire practice.

In appreciation of his missionary work, Governor Chandler made him a Kentucky Colonel, and the Kentucky Dental Association made him an honorary member.

The Board of North American Missions of the Reformed Church in America sent him a plaque of the praying hands, to express their appreciation.

He passed away at the Pella Community Hospital May 31, 1976.

His hobby was collecting, buying, and classifying sea shells that were from Padre Island and buying from shops that had shells from many waters all around the world. He gave his collection to, and installed it in, the Pella Public Library.

He was a charter member of the Rotary Club, a life member of the National Dental Association, a member of the Second Reformed Church where he served as a deacon, and a member of the Pella Community School Board for eight years.

by Olive Shultz

SJAARDEMA, DOUWE AND CATHARINA
F453

Douwe Sjaardema was born on Oct. 10, 1863, in Oppenhuizen, Friesland, The Netherlands. His heritage originated in Oppenhuizen centuries before him. A Pier Foppes Sjaardastins was settled in Oppenhizen as early as 1491. Pier's home, the Sjaardema Castle, as many Sjaardema children recall, was invaded by the Hottingas and burnt down. Many generations of Sjaardemas passed down from Pier Foppes to Douwe Sjaardema: Aukes Obbes, Pier Aukes, Auke Piers, Douwe Piers, Pier Douwes, Jouke Piers, Pier, then Douwe Sjaardema. Few facts exist about young Douwe's life in Oppenhuizen but we know he attended school there. On

Douwe and Catharina Sjaardema Family: Front, l-r: Douwe, Freda, William, Catharina; Middle, l-r: Sadie, Agnes, Bertha, Emma; Back, l-r: Dick, Mike, Jake.

Oct. 12, 1885, he married Catharina Van Dijk, who was born in Sloten on June 3, 1865. Douwe and Catharina moved to Amsterdam in 1887 and took residence at 123 Czaar Straat. Douwe left Amsterdam in Nov. of 1892, taking with him his family which now included three small children—Jouke (Jacob), Akke (Agnes), and Sibbelina Catharina (Sadie)—and one large trunk of meager possessions. In just a few months Douwe surely regretted his decision to leave. Douwe fell into a grandiose colonization scheme of a Mr. Albertus Zoutman who ran the "Holland-American Land and Emigration Society of Utrecht." Mr. Zoutman claimed to own fifteen thousand acres of land in the San Luis Valley near Alamosa, Colo. Considering the propaganda in praise of this region that was distributed in The Netherlands, it is not surprising that Douwe fell prey to Mr. Zoutman. Later this devised swindle would be called by *The Denver Republican*, "the boldest of land swindles" in history. Douwe, with his wife and three children, boarded the steamship *Dubbledam* and left Amsterdam on Nov. 12, 1892, arriving in New Jersey on Nov. 26. The second class passengers were permitted to go to a hotel but the third class passengers were required to go to Ellis Island to be examined. Those immigrants were literally abandoned in their "new country" from Saturday until Sunday noon. Many stayed in cold rooms and slept on benches or on the floor. That Sunday, after examination, Douwe and family boarded a train and left for Colorado, arriving in Alamosa, Colo. on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 1892. Douwe was promised by the land company an "Italy in North America," but the rugged terrain surrounding them soon awakened Douwe to reality. He beheld a land that looked like dry, unfertile fields, and soon the temperature plummented to 30 below zero. Later the immigrants discovered that the land company didn't even own clear title to the land. Furthermore, they learned that the company had purchased the land for $11.25 and acre, and had sold it to the immigrants for $26.00 per acre. During all this time, Douwe and family lived in an "Immigrant House" using their only trunk as a table. Douwe managed to find work as a horse-tender at a near-by stable. The Immigrant houses were cold and drafty, therefore, scarlet fever and diphtheria broke out. No doubt the Sjaardema's were concerned about their three small children, however, they all survived, and another child, Gerben (George) was born. One of the children still living today recalls "there wasn't even water in Colorado where we were forced to live . . . and we lived in a barn. Mevrouw Sjaardema slept on her small purse which contained all the family's money." On Jan. 31, 1893, the family moved out of Immigrant Housing, to Crook, Colo., where Douwe worked tending horses. Months of hardship followed. The immigrant children were becoming increasingly sick and many died. The settlers decided not to fall victim to this grossly misrepresented scheme but to band together and stop Zoutman. A five-member committee was formed, which included Douwe as its treasurer. This committee regulated the affairs of the colony and sent word back to The Netherlands as to what had happened. Soon Douwe grasped hold of his situation and realized he must move on. With the assistance of the Christian Reformed and Reformed Churches of America, the colonists were resettled in Iowa. The Ver Ploeg family of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella sponsored the Douwe Sjaardema family. Soon they were settled in Pella and during the years in Pella became the parents of another child, Emma (Mrs. Rev. R.A. De Jong). Douwe moved once again, to Wright Co., Ia. where land was plentiful and farming was profitable. There they quickly felt at home, and helped the Christian Reformed Church build its sanctuary and parsonage. More children were born here: Douwe (Dick); Piet (Peter, who died at the age of nine months); Betje (Bertha Nikkel Hugen); and Frederika (Freda Steenhoek). After seven years in Northwest Iowa Douwe moved back and settled on a farm between Sully and Pella in 1904. Two more children were born: Meiron (Mike); and Willem (William, deceased). Douwe had acquired enough money through farming and by raising tomatoes and cucumbers, to purchase the Reerink Van Spanckeren Lumberyard in Sully. With the help of his sons Jake, George, and Dick, Douwe turned the lumberyard into a very lucrative business. Douwe then sold the lumberyard and moved to Pella and took up residence in what is now the Van Dyk-Duven Funeral Home. In later years Douwe and Catharina spent winters in California where they visited with other "Oppenhuizers" and people from the Alamosa group. They also returned to The Netherlands on two occasions. After retiring to a small home in Sully, Douwe passed away in 1944, Catharina in 1953. At this writing, six children still survive: Sadie Kaldenberg, Pella; Emma (Mrs. Rev. Richard) De Jong, Pella; Dick (and Sophia Bolt) Sjaardema, of Grand Rapids; Bertha (Nikkel) Hugen of Pella; Freda Steenhoek, Denver, Colo.; and Meiron Sjaardema, Denver, Colo.

All the descendants of Douwe met in the summers of 1976 and 1982, and plan to meet again in the summer of 1987, in Colorado, close to the place where Douwe first came nearly 100 years ago. The Douwe Sjaardema "family" today, now in the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations, has spread far and near from the Sully-Pella homeland,and numbers one thousand strong.

by Jean Engle

SLYCORD FAMILY
F454

Michael and Kendra (Van Hulzen) Slycord

Walter "Michael" Slycord was born July 14, 1959, to Walter and Dorothy Newell Slycord. During my high school years, I was

Walter Michael Slycord and Kendra Kay Van Hulzen Slycord, December, 1986.

a member of the Future Farmers of America club, and enjoyed auto mechanics, welding, and woodworking. I graduated from Oskaloosa High School in 1978.

I attended Ellsworth Community College for two years, majoring in Agricultural Business. I was an active member of the Agricultural Science Club. I graduated with an associate degree in May, 1980.

Kendra Kay Van Hulzen was born Jan. 7, 1961, the first child of Kenneth and Virjean Lund Van Hulzen She graduated from Oskaloosa High School in 1979. She attended Iowa State University for two years after her graduation. She married Walter Michael Slycord Aug. 8, 1981. She continued her education at Central College in Pella, Ia., and graduated May 21, 1983, cum laude with a bachelor's degree in business management. She is presently employed at the Farmers Savings Bank in Leighton, Ia., as assistant cashier.

In Dec., 1985 we purchased my parents' farm east of Oskaloosa. I am presently manager of the Oskaloora Feed Center, a division of Supersweet Feeds, Sales Agent for Asgrow O's Gold Seed and raise feeder pigs.

We are both members of the First Christian Church in Oskaloosa, Ia.

by Walter Michael Slycord

SLYCORD FAMILY
F455

1982 – 40th Wedding Anniversary Dorothy Newell Slycord and Walter Slycord.

Walter and Dorothy (Newell) Slycord

Walter Slycord the fourth child of Leonard and Elizabeth DeKoning Slycord) at a young age worked in coal mines for the Carbon Hill Coal Company (now the Hull area west of Oskaloosa) and farmed with his father, Leonard. Walter attended county schools at Brush Creek, Red Rock, Buckeye, in Marian Co. and Rochester School in Mahaska Co.

Walter Slycord married Jan. 4, 1942, Lancaster, Mo., to Dorothy Evelyn Newell. They celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Jan. 4, 1987.

He owned two trucks and hauled lime and coal until the Oct. 17, 1942, when he entered the Army. He was in the American theater during World War II. He spent one year in Canada and Alaska, building the Alkan Highway. Since he was an experienced trucker his duties included, truck driver, heavy, and also an instructor. He was in Co. M 477th Quarter Master Regiment and attained the rank of Staff Sgt. One fond memory of the Alkan Highway was a pet black bear cub. Next he was stationed at Fort Warren, Cheyenne, Wy., where Dorothy joined him until he was honorable discharged Feb. 4, 1946.

In 1957, Walter purchased 34 ½ acres south of the Edmundson Gold Course Oskaloosa, Ia. They made this their home until 1965. During these eight years he milked ten cows, raised hogs, farmed and worked for Newton Foundry, Newton, Ia., as a molder. He bought his first new truck, a 1959 Ford and hauled castings form Newton Foundry to Iowa Valve in Oskaloosa. The reason he can remember the date he got his truck was because he bought it the 13th of July and after four daughters, Michael was born July 14, 1959.

In 1965 they moved east of Oskaloosa, on Highway 92, and purchased eighty acres. After expanding his hog operation, by building a 40-pen farrowing house, he raised feeder pigs. After Michael and Kendra married in 1981, they went 50-50 partnership with Michael's father. It was at this time my parents decided to move to town and let Kendra and Michael move onto the farm. They now live on South Second St. in Oskaloosa.

Walter Slycord and Dorothy Evelyn Newell Slycord have five children all born in Oskaloosa, Ia., Mahaska Co. and delivered by Dr. Kenneth Lemon; Cheryl Ann, born July 3, 1946; Deborah Kay, born May 3, 1949; Rae Lynn, born and died Sept. 16, 1954, three hours old, buried Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa; Sandra Elaine, born Sept. 25, 1955; and Walter "Michael", born July 14, 1959.

Cheryl Ann Slycord married first to John Dale Van Hermert (son of Marion Lloyd Van Hemert and Johanna Van Kalkeren) on Aug. 8, 1964, and had two sons: Gary Edwin Van Hemert, born Jan. 30, 1965, and Curtis John Van Hemert, born Sept. 14, 1967. Gary Van Hemert was married in 1983 to Lori Vander Beek. Gary and Lori have two sons: Randall Charles, born Nov. 14, 1983, and Nicholas John Van Hemert, born Apr. 11, 1985. After John's death on May 17, 1979, Cheryl remarried on Feb. 14, 1980, to Wayne Glen Hasselman (son of Gerritt A. Hasselman and Wilma Van Haaften). Cheryl and Wayne farm east of Evans, Ia.

Deborah Kay Slycord married Edward William Terpstra (son of Frank Terpstra, Sr. and Pearle Memmelaar on June 2, 1967. Four children: Brenda Renee Terpstra, born Mar. 12, 1970; Russell Stuart Terpstra, born Sept. 27, 1971; Jared William Terpstra, born Mar. 11, 1979; and Amanda Joy Terpstra, born Aug. 25, 1981. Deborah and Edward farm west of the Mahaska County Farm, Route 3, Oskaloosa.

Sandra Elaine Slycord married second to Lawrence Edward Haywood (son of William Carson Haywood and Ruth Eugene Wilder) on Aug. 21, 1977, Talledega, Ala. Two children: Matthew Lawrence Haywood, born Sept. 29, 1978, Talladega, Ala. and Alisha Dawn Haywood born Nov. 15, 1982, Oskaloosa, Ia. Sandra and Lawrence live on Eighth Ave. West, Oskaloosa.

by Walter Michael Slycord

SLYCORD FAMILY
F456

March 25, 1963, 50th Wedding Anniversary Elizabeth (DeKoning) Slycord and Leonard Slycord.

Leonard and Elizabeth De Koning Slycord

My father, Leonard (Leendert) Slycord, (the tenth child of Cornelis and Cornelia Slykoord) married Mar. 25, 1913, at his mother's home, Pella, Ia., Marion Co. to Elizabeth De Koning (daughter of Walter De Koning and Anna Maria (Geenen). Elizabeth was born at Pella, Ia., Dec. 18, 1893, and died May 1, 1970, Oskaloosa, Ia., buried Forest Cemetery. Leonard passed away Dec. 1, 1983, at the age of 93 years. He is buried at Forest Cemetery.

As a teenager living in Pella, Leonard enjoyed ice skating at the Sunken Garden Pond. Their first child, Katie was born at Lynnville, Ia., and Anna was born at Floris, Ia. They moved back to Marion Co. to Gerrit Slycord farm and here Cornie and I were born. Through the years Leonard had many occupations. He worked for Betsy Bruinekool at Otley, Ia., in a blacksmith shop, a hired hand for John La Grand Ranch, and farmed. Here I can remember stealing a ride to Monroe with my Dad. I was hiding in the back of the spring wagon, but seeing a snake I said, "Dad did you see that big snake going across the road?" My Dad turned and said, "Boy, are you in there?" I had been discovered, but we were too far from home to go back, so my Dad put me beside him on the wagon seat and to town we went. My father also worked for Bill Murphy for $1.00 a day and the use of a horse to ride to work each day and back home. The corn was shucked by hand, sometimes taking all winter to pick.

We next moved to the Andy Geer farm by Knoxville, coming to Mahaska Co. in 1932. We moved with three teams of horses to the Walter Stroud farm in Scott Twp. on the river bottom. Here we walked to Rochester School. They then moved to the Dick Vander Wilt farm, and then to Olivet where they just lived in the house and farmed other places. They farmed last on the Andy Kool farm by

Olivet.

Leonard and ELizabeth Slycord moved to Oskaloosa about 1948. They lived on South H, Sixth Ave. West, and their last home was on First Ave. West. During these years Leonard worked for Forest Cemetery, Eddie Prothero doing construction work and went into the moving business working for Shipman Furniture. He then retired but is known in later life as working at Sparks Used Furniture (a second hand store) for Hubert Sparks.

Leonard and Elizabeth had nine children: Cornelia (Katie), Anna, Cornie, Walter, Peter James, Andrew Harrison, Johanna Josephine, Magolena, Mary Jane.

Cornelia (Katie) Slycord, born Apr. 6, 1914, married Oct. 27, 1932, to John Petersma (Pietersma). Twelve children: Margaret, Leonard, Harold, Dorothy, Mary, Charles, Evelyn, Richard, Betty, John Jr., Robert, Norman.

Anna Slycord born June 23, 1916. married Apr. 24, 1936, to Bert Hol. Six children: Marilyn, Delbert, Janet, Richard (1942-1947), Joan, Kenneth.

Cornie Slycord, born May 10, 1918, married first to Laverna Bennett, one son Larry. Cornie married second on Feb. 20, 1944, to Dorothy May Hall. Six children: Jerry, Connie, Pamela, Roger, David, Dennis.

Walter Slycord (author of this story) born Nov. 14, 1920, Pella, Marion Co., Ia., married Dorothy Evelyn Newell on Jan. 4, 1942. Five children: Cheryl, Deborah, Rae Lynn, Sandra, and Walter "Michael".

Peter James Slycord, born Sept. 25, 1924, married Sept. 2, 1948, to Anna Mae Vink. Four children: John, Bill, Ronnie, Donald.

Andrew Harrison Slycord, born Jan. 4, 1928, married Apr. 14, 1946, to Lillian Oda Stewart. Three children: Larry, Carol, Wanda.

Johanna Josephine Slycord, born Oct. 9, 1930, and died Jan. 26, 1943. Buried Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Ia.

Magolena Slycord, born Oct. 6, 1934, married Apr. 2, 1950, to Richard Langstraat. Three children: Daniel, Terry, Timothy. Magolena and Richard are divorced.

Mary Jane Slycord, born Mar. 29, 1937, and died Apr. 9, 1937. Buried Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Ia.

For more information consult the Mahaska County History 1984 or the author of this story.

Walter Slycord

SLYCORD FAMILY

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Deborah Kay Slycord

Deborah Kay Slycord was born May 3, 1949, at Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia., the second child of Walter Slycord and Dorothy Evelyn Newell Slycord. My parents were then living at 915 South H. Oskaloosa. I met Edward William Terpstra in 1965 (the eighth child of Frank and Pearle Terpstra). I graduated from Oskaloosa Senior High School in May, 1967. Edward Terpstra and I were married June 2, 1967. Leighton Christian Reformed Church, by Rev. Leonard Van Stallduinen. Our honeymoon was

June 2, 1967, Leighton Christian Reformed Church, Leighton, Iowa; Deborah Kay Slycord and her husband Edward William Terpstra.

spent at Montreal, Canada at the World's Fair. Our first home was at Pella, Ia., in my Uncle Bert Hol's basement. Ed worked for Renaud's Farm Service just a few blocks away and I worked at Pella Hospital.

We then moved to Art Mepplelink's farm. Ed worked for Peoria Feed and Grain and I worked for the Dutch Buffet until Oct. of 1968 when we bought Ed's parents' farm in Scott Twp., Mahaska Co. Since 1968 I have been content to be a housewife and care for our four children: Brenda, Russell, Jared and Amanda.

I am very interested in geneology and am a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Daughters of the American Colonists (DAC), Huguenot Society of Iowa, active in our church, the Oskaloosa Christian Grade School, Pella Christian High School, and I am at present T.O.P.S. Area Captain for Marion and Mahaska Counties.

For more information consult the Edward and Deborah Terpstra Story this book and the Slycord-Bassinger Story in Mahaska County History Book 1984.

by Deborah Kay Terpstra

SLYCORD FAMILY

F458

Cornelis and Cornelia (Van Genderen) Slycord

My parents, Walter and Dorothy Slycord are told about in Slycord Story No. 2. My grandparents Leonard and Elizabeth Slycord are told about in Slycord Story No. My story is Slycord No. 4.

My great-grandparents were Cornelis and Cornelia Van Genderen Slykoord and they farmed in Mahaska, Marion, and Jasper counties, owning a home in Pella, Ia., at the end of their lives. To this union thirteen children were born, all in Iowa: Joseph,

Seated: Cornelis Slykoord. Standing: Cornelia (Van Genderen) Slykoord. Born The Netherlands and died Pella, Iowa. Date of picture unknown.

Gerrit, Tillie, Maggie, William, Peter, John, Harry, Ella, Leonard, Jim, Marion, Cornie.

Joseph Slycord born Apr. 24, 1870, married (Marion Co.) Feb. 24, 1898, to Etta Swank. Children: Cornelius (1899), Henrietta, Katie, Nealie (1922). Joe died Dec. 2, 1948, buried Sandridge, Marion Co.

Gerrit Slycord, born Oct. 4, 1872, married Jan. 10, 1899, (Marion Co.) to Nellie Verdugt. Children: Gertie, and Katie. Gerrit died May 15, 1953, and is buried Graceland, Pella, Ia.

Teuntje (Tillie) Slycord, born Jan. 29, 1874, married Mar. 10, 1897, (Marion Co.) to Teunis (Tom) Swank. Children: Cora, Etta, Nealie (1901-1902), Hermon, Emma, Gertie, Jeanetta (1910-1911), Jakie, Verlan. Tillie died Mar. 1, 1934, and is buried at Graceland, Pella, Ia.

Maggie Slycord, born Aug. 29, 1876, married Nov. 22, 1898, (Marion Co.) to Peter Verdugt. Children: Neal, Katie, Joe, James, Minnie, Leonard, Vern. Maggie died Sept. 23, 1968, buried Miller, S. Dak.

William Slycord, born Aug. 29, 1879, married first on Mar. 2, 1904, (Marion Co.) to Minnie Verdugt. Children: Harry, Carrie, Gertie. Married second to Maude Potts. Children: Dorothy, Harold, Georgie, Jackie, Robert, Betty. William died Oct. 4, 1960, and is buried Graceland, Pella, Ia.

Peter Slycord, born Aug. 27, 1880, married Sept. 24, 1902, (Marion Co.) to Maggie Verdugt. Children: Cornie, James, Carrie. Peter died Jan. 22, 1947, and is buried at Graceland, Pella, Ia.

John Slycord, born Feb. 14, 1882, married at Montezuma, Ia., Mar., 1909, to Vida Wasson. Children: Lily (1910-1913), Dorothy, Lois, Paul, Carl, Letha. John died Apr. 19, 1974, buried Montezuma, Ia.

Arie (Harry) Slycord, born Mar. 21, 1884, married Julia Shook. Children: Charles, Tillie, Billie, and another child Floyd was born to Harry. Harry died circa Feb. 5, 1944, burial place unknown.

Lijntje (Ella) Slycord, born June 23, 1889, married first to Alva Fleming. Children: Lester, Tracy, Albert. Ella marred second (Long Beach, Calif.) Dec. 29, 1945, to Earl W.

Davis. Ella Slycord Davids died May 12, 1976, Mahaska Co. and is buried Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Ia.

Leenert (Leonard) Slycord, my grandfather, was born Oct. 9, 1890. Listed in Slycord Story No. 3.

Teunis (James or Jim) Slycord, born Oct. 23, 1891, married May 16, 1911 (Mahaska Co.) to Lela Fern Almond. Children: Myrtle, Pauline, Willard, Mildred, James (1918-1919), Francine, Robert, "Albert", Darrell, Patricia, Kathryn, Gerald, Larry, Dannie, infant (1938). Jim died Mar. 5, 1980, buried, Friends Cemetery, Oskaloosa.

Marion Slycord, born July 8, 1894, married first Oct. 1913, (Marion Co.) to Lela Beason. Children: Arthur, Lester. married second, Dec. 1948, to Mabel Fisher Beason. Marion died Mar. 2, 1972. Burial unknown.

Cornelis (Cornie) Slycord, born Oct. 1, 1900, married May 13, 1921, Ottumwa, Ia., to Ruth Irene Adams. Children: Paul, Merle, Donald, Wayne, and Ruth Ann. Cornie died Mar. 31, 1965, buried Forest Cemetery.

The Slycord family originates form the town of Vuren, province of Gelderland, Netherlands. The spelling of the name has charged from SLijkoort, Slykoord, to Slycord. My great-great- grandfather, Joost Slijkoort, born Nov. 16, 1803, Vuren (son of Willem Slijkoort and Lijntje van der Wal) married Aug. 7, 1834, Vuren to Teuntje Willemsteijn born May 29, 1810, Vuren, (daughter of Kornelis Willemsteijn and Adriana Dubbeldam.) Joost and Teuntje had two known children, Cornelis (spelled Kornelis in Holland) and Teunis who came to America in 1867. Both became citizens Mar. 7, 1877, Knoxville, Ia.

Cornelius, my great-grandfather, was born Jan. 10, 1844, Vuren, died May 9, 1910, Marion Co. and is buried at Graceland, north of Pella, Ia. There is a stone. He married Nov. 15, 1871, (Marion Co.) to Cornelia Van Genderen, born Jan. 12, 1856, Leerbroek, Zuid Holland (daughter of Gerrit Van Genderen and Maaike de Jong who came to Pella in 1856). My great-grandmother, Cornelia Slykoord, died Mar. 4, 1915, Pella, Marion Co. and is buried at Graceland also.

My great-grandfather's brother Teunis Slykoord married Dec. 15, 1881, (Marion Co.) to Gertie Zrrast (question the spelling). Known children: Tilla, Mindreal, Joseph, Rebecca, Jenny, Mary and Willa. Nothing more is known of the Teunis Slykoord family. If any information is found please contact the author of this story.

For more information consult Mahaska County History 1984.

by Deborah Kay Terpstra

SMITH, LOIS (DE HAAN)

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Lois De Haan Smith, daughter of Jacob J. and Elva De Haan, graduated from Pella High School, received a degree in history from Central College in 1968, and an M.A. degree in library science from the University of Iowa in 1983. She married David Smith of Lansing, Ill., in 1966. They have two children, Justin and Elinor. Lois is a librarian at Central College while David is a buyer at Rolscreen Company.

by Elva De Haan

SPOELSTRA, CHARLES H. AND NELA J.

F460

Picture of Charles and Nela Spoelstra, Cristin and Carter.

Charles (Charlie) Henry Spoelstra was born June 12, 1946, in their farm home near Taintor, Ia. Charlie was the fifth child of Charles (1908-1983) and Ada Bandstra (1913) Spoelstra. He has two sisters and five brothers. The family moved several times as Charlie grew. He started school in Tracy, then went to Pella Christian grade school, and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1964. He worked at Rolscreen Company until he was drafted in 1965 for military service in the army during the Vietnam conflict. After training, Charlie spent his entire two-year term as a cook at Fort Benning, Ga. He was discharged on Oct. 13, 1967.

Charlie and Nela Jean Vande Wall were married on Nov. 17, 1967, at the First Reformed Church of Pella, Ia., with the Rev. Henry Vermeer officiating. They made their home in Pella.

Nela is the daughter of Gilbert (1919) and Freda Van Wyk (1923) Vande Wall. She was born at the Knoxville Hospital on June 28, 1948, while her parents were living in the Otley neighborhood. Nela spent her growing years with her younger sister Carol and brother Wayne, on a farm in Jasper Co. in the Galesburg-Sully area, which her family had purchased. They attended Bible School in Sully and she and Carol were charter members of the Jolly Jasperettes 4-H Club. Nela attended Lincoln Grade School at Pella and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1966. She worked for Bakker & Rus Seed and Feed of Pella. Charlie went back to Rolscreen after his discharge from the army and they both continued their jobs after they were married.

On Aug. 24, 1971, their first child, Corwin (Corey) John, was born at the Pella Hospital. His sister Cristin Dawn was born on Apr. 15, 1974. As the family traveled to Nela's parents' farm home north of Pella, on June 28, 1974, to celebrate her 26th birthday, they were involved in a car-truck accident on the Thunder Creek bridge of the Galesburg road a few miles north of Pella. Corey was fatally injured. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery north of Pella. Carter John joined the family on June 1, 1976.

Nela is employed at Enduro Corporation and Charlie is presently unemployed because of health problems. Nela enjoys the garden and flower beds, playing bridge, and most kinds of handiwork. Charlie likes woodworking projects and did much remodeling in their home. Cristin is a seventh grader at Pella Middle School. Her hobbies include playing the flute, babysitting, Calvinettes, doll collecting, and gymnastics. Carter is a fifth grader at Lincoln School of Pella. He likes roller skating, riding bike, and playing all kinds of ball games. The family participates in the Tulip Time activities – street scrubbing. They are all members of First Reformed Church of Pella and are active in many of its programs.

by Nela Spoelstra

SQUIBB, DARWIN

F461

Darwin and Ruth (Heerema) Squibb spent all of their married life, except two years of military service, in Pella. Darwin was born in Scranton, Ia. on June 4, 1918, to William and Mary Ann Squibb. Ruth's parents were Peter and Jennie (Vander Beek) Heerema, and she was born Dec. 31, 1918.

They were married Dec. 25, 1940, having met while attending Central College. Their marriage was blessed with three children. Dennis graduated from Central College and now teaches and coaches in Grand Junction, Colo. David attended Central College and served four years in the Navy. He now lives in Sanford, Fla. and works for Amtrak. The Squibb's daughter, Janice, lives on a farm near Leighton and is married to Larry B. Van Maanen. There are several grandchildren.

After serving in World War II, Darwin became a meat cutter. He worked for Van's Super Market and later became co-owner of Pella's Super Valu where he was in business with a brother-in-law, Fred Heerema, and Virgil Vander Linden.

Darwin passed away on July 8, 1974, and services were held at the First Reformed Church where the family has been active for years and where Darwin had served as a deacon.

Ruth is active in her church's various activities and taught school for the Pella Community School District for many years. She retired in May 1984.

by Ruth Squibb

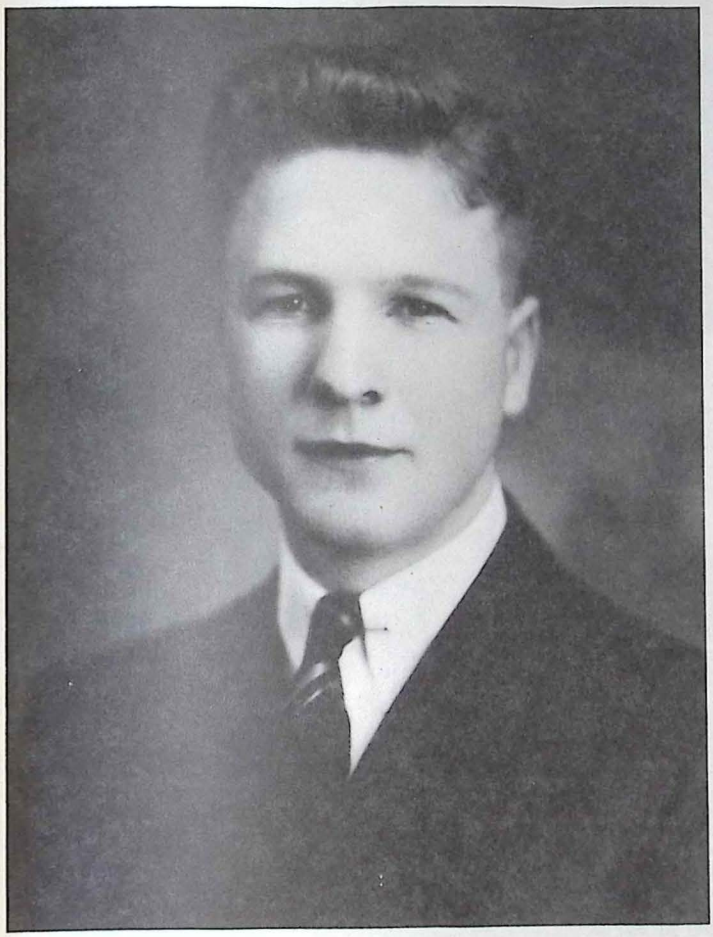
STAM, ALBERT AND WILMA (KELDERMAN)

F462

Albert Stam was born on Oct. 29, 1921, to Johanna VandeKieft Stam and Cornelius Stam in Marion County, Iowa, two miles southwest of Bussey, Iowa. Dr. McClure was the doctor. Albert was baptized in the Tracy Christian Reformed Church. He attended school at Tracy, Iowa, and graduated from grade school at Beacon, Iowa. He worked for a while as a farm hand, then went to work in Grand Rapids, Mich. at National Brass Co. He came back to Iowa for a visit with intentions of returning to Michigan. In the meantime he met a young lady by the name of Wilma Kelderman. He decided to stay around and get his high school education. But that didn't last long since Uncle Sam said, "I need you". Albert went to serve his country on Feb. 15, 1943. He went to Fort Sill, Okla., Camp Stoneman, Cal., and then on to the South Pacific. Little did he know that when he told his sweetheart "goodbye", it would be three years before they would see each other again. So for three years they wrote a letter each day, passing censors and all. Albert proposed by letter from Guadalcanal. After serving on many islands in the South Pacific, he was discharged on Jan. 7th, 1946, at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. Albert and Wilma chose Jan. 18, 1946, for their wedding date. They were married in the Oskaloosa Christian Reformed Church by the late Rev. Theo. Ver Hulst of the Pella II CRC. After working at Hackert's Locker Plant in Oskaloosa for three years, they started farming near Tracy, Iowa, in Marion County, and then later farmed in Mahaska County.

Wilma is the daughter of Susan Menninga Kelderman and John Kelderman. She was born south of Pella on March 22, 1925. Wilma received her education in Marion and Mahaska Counties. She worked at Rolscreen in Pella, Iowa, the Overall Factory in Oskaloosa, and Shurts Jack Sprat Store in Oskaloosa before her marriage.

Albert and Wilma had no honeymoon until after 17 years of marriage and five sons! Then to St. Louis, Mark Twain Cave and the Ozarks, Missouri. They recommend to become well acquainted before the honeymoon!



Albert Stam

Five sons were born to Albert and Wilma, all at Oskaloosa, Iowa:

1. Calvin Lee Stam, born July 21, 1947. Calvin was married on June 5, 1971, in Hull, Iowa, to Diane Jo VanSchepen, born March 13, 1949, in Hull, Iowa. Four children were born to Calvin and Diane: 1. Jennifer Gail, born Sept. 6, 1973, Beaver Dam, Wis. 2. Nathaniel Aric, born July 4, 1976, Oskaloosa, Iowa. 3. Erin Leigh, born Aug. 1, 1979, Oskaloosa, Iowa. 4. Caleb Daniel, born Oct. 5, 1984, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

2. John Alan Stam, born July 3, 1950. John was married on Aug. 25, 1973, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Joyce Solleveld, born Dec. 4, 1954, in the Netherlands. Four children were born to John and Joyce, all in Oskaloosa, Iowa: 1. Sylvia Corrine, born Nov. 21, 1974. 2. Laura Irene, born Oct. 15, 1976. 3. Ryan John, born Feb. 12, 1979. 4. Mark Alan, born July 19, 1980.

3. Dennis Wayne Stam, born Apr. 14, 1953. Dennis was married on Aug. 13, 1976, in Kalamazoo, Mich. to Kathy Ann Slager, born Feb. 1, 1956, in Kalamazoo, Mich. Three children were born to Dennis and Kathy, all in Oskaloosa, Iowa: 1. Eric Wayne, born Nov. 4, 1978. 2. Hollie Kay, born Apr. 10, 1981. 3. Apr. Jean, born Apr. 3, 1985.

4. Stephen James Stam, born Jan. 11, 1955. Stephen was married on March 24, 1984, in Oskaloosa, Iowa to Sheryl Ruth Galema, born Apr. 20, 1956, in Lafayette, Ind. Stephen and Sheryl have one child: 1. Philip Daniel, born Nov. 7, 1985.

5. Brent Arther Stam, born Sept. 6, 1961. Brent was married on July 1, 1983, in Peoria, Iowa, to Phyllis Jean Fynaardt, born Mar. 9, 1961, in Oskaloosa, Iowa.

The two oldest sons served in the U.S. Army. Although there was a difference of three years in their ages, Calvin and John were drafted the same day. This came about in a combination of the lottery system being used at that time and Calvin being given an extension to finish out his teaching year at Sibley, Iowa, and the fact that both had July birthdays. They left together in June 1970, and remained together for advanced army training when they were assigned to Ford Ord, Cal. following basic, and then again assigned to Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) School at Fort Benning, Ga. While stationed at Fort Benning, Ga., the Stam brothers received rigorous airborne training and were both assigned to the 43rd company of the 4th Student Battalion. In June 1971, they received their overseas assignments. They both went to Vietnam.

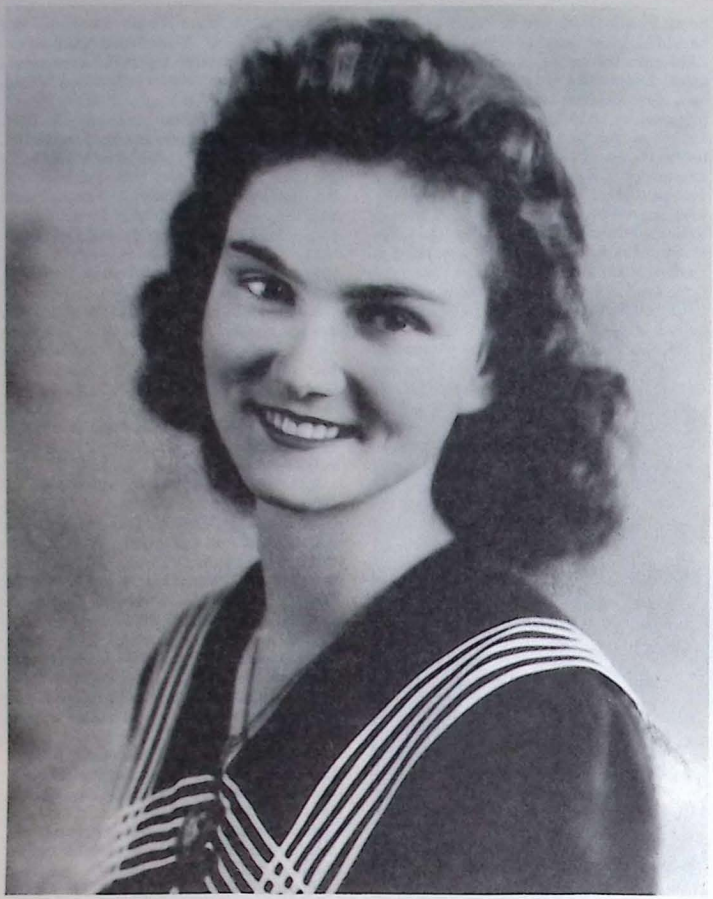
Sgt. Calvin L. Stam 482-642 859 and Sgt. John A. Stam were discharged on Jan. 30, 1972, at Fort Lewis, Wash. after serving many areas in Vietnam.

We are thankful that our sons and their families live nearby. It could be otherwise, since three of the daughters-in-law are from out of state.

Calvin met his wife at Dordt College. She is the former Diane Van Schepen of Hull, Iowa.

John's wife is from Salt Lake City, Utah. She is the former Joyce Solleveld. John and his cousin, Marvin Sturing, stayed at the Solleveld's home while doing Summer Workshop in Missions (S.W.I.M.).

Dennis met his wife, the former Kathy



Wilma (Kelderman) Stam

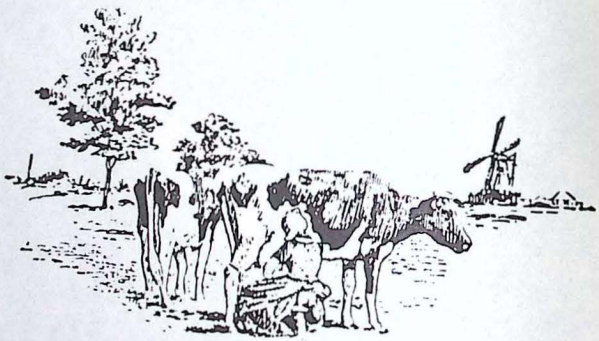
Slager, in Kalamazoo, Mich. Kathy's father was a greeter at church and invited him to dinner.

Stephen met his wife, the former Sheryl Galema of Lafayette, Ind., after the morning worship service the first Sunday that she was in Oskaloosa. Sheryl taught at the Oskaloosa Christian School.

Brent met his wife at a Pella Classis skating party. She is the former Phyllis Fynaardt from Peoria, Iowa.

The providence of God is truly amazing. What is man? How great Thou art! O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

by Wilma (Kelderman) Stam



Albert Stam Family

John and Calvin Stam

STAM, CORNELIUS AND JOHANNA (VANDE KIEFT)

F463

The name Stam means "dweller near an unusual tree trunk".

Cornelius Stam was born on Sept. 17, 1882, to Kryndert and Cornelia Kruiswyk Stam. The son of a shoe cobbler, he received his education in the Christian schools of Utrecht, Holland. As a young man, he came to America in the early 1900's. His parents and sisters followed shortly after in 1902. He worked for a time in Jasper County, Iowa, as a farm laborer. At age 30 he decided to seek a wife. With horse and buggy he went courting and married Johanna Vande Kieft from near Pella, Iowa. Johanna was born Jan. 10, 1888, the daughter of Hendrikus and Margaret Bomhof Vande Kieft. She also had come to America with her parents and brothers and sister from Utrecht, Holland. Cornelius and Johanna decided to wed on Feb. 19, 1913. They farmed in Marion and Mahaska Counties. After moving from the farm, Cornelius became a building custodian for Sears and Roebuck.

A family of ten children was born to this couple, five sons and five daughters: Frank and his wife, the former Janet Stangl, who reside in Boise, Idaho; Henry, deceased; Gerrit and his wife, the former Helen De Wit, who reside in Grand Rapids, Mich.; Marion and his wife, the former Esther Vander Beek; Cornelia (Kay) and her husband Franklin Sturing; Albert and his wife, the former Wilma Kelderman; Margaret and her husband Gerald Klyn, who all reside in or near Oskaloosa, Iowa; Johanna and her husband William DeGraaf (deceased July, 1985), of Pella, Iowa; Alida and her husband Bernard Vander Molen, also of Pella; and Jannet and her husband Harlan Groenenboom of Oskaloosa.

Johanna was a quiet type person. Her main concern was the well-being of her family. Cornelius was a jolly person and his favorite pastime was discussing the Bible with family and friends. Cornelius passed away on Oct. 1, 1953, at the age of 71 years. His wife Johanna passed away in Jan., 1960, at age 72. They are buried, along with son Henry, in Beacon Cemetery, Beacon, Iowa. Their four surviving sons served in World War II.

In Jan., 1946, the family of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Stam of Oskaloosa, Iowa, were reunited after five years. All four sons had been discharged after completing a total of almost 14 years of service with the army, of which nine and a half years were spent overseas in the European theater, Pacific theater, and Alaska.

Pfc. Gerrit Stam was inducted into the army on Dec. 3, 1941, and was sent to Dutch Harbor, Alaska, immediately following his basic training at Camp Roberts, Cal. He served in Alaska 18 months and was then returned to the States.

Gerrit joined the 66th Infantry Division and was stationed at Camp Rucker, Ala., where he underwent stiff unit training. On Nov. 12, 1944, he was given his second overseas assignment and was sent to England.

In England he received more training and on Dec. 23 the 66th Division was scheduled to sail to participate in the Battle of the Bulge. When the troop ship was sunk in the channel, plans were changed and the division went to St. Nazaire and Lorient, France, to relieve the 94th Division. After V-E Day, Gerrit was assigned to the Marseilles port to process troops going to the Pacific. He served at Marseilles until the latter part of Oct. when he was returned to the States for his discharge which he received on Nov. 11, 1946. He is entitled to wear the American Defense ribbon, Good Conduct ribbon, Combat Infantryman's badge, the European African Middle Eastern Theater ribbon with one star for Norther France campaign, the Asiatic-Pacific Theater ribbon with one star for the Aleutian, and the Victory ribbon.

Gerrit is married to the former Helen De Wit.

Cpl. Albert Stam, husband of Wilma Kelderman Stam, was inducted into the service on Feb. 15, 1943, at Camp Dodge. He received his basic training at Fort Sill, Okla., and was then sent to Pittsburgh, Cal., where he received his overseas assignment.

Cpl. Stam served at Guadalcanal for three months, New Caledonia for eighteen months, and Leyte for seven months with the 97th

Cornelius Stam family. Front, l-r: Henry, Margaret, Mrs. Johanna Stam, Cornelius Stam, and Gerrit; Back, l-r: Aleda Marion, Albert, Cornelia, Jannet, Frank, and Johanna.

Field Artillery battalion. He is the wearer of the Asiatic-Pacific Theater ribbon with two bronze campaign stars, the Philippine Liberation ribbon with one star, the Victory ribbon, and the Good Conduct ribbon.

Returning to the States on Dec. 24th at San Francisco, he was sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where he received his discharge on Jan. 7, 1946.

T/5 Marion Stam was discharged from the army at Fort Sheridan, Ill. on Oct. 24, 1945, after two years of overseas service in the European theater with the Third Armored Division of the First Army.

Entering the service on Nov. 11, 1941, at Fort Des Moines, Marion received training at Camp Polk, Louisiana, Mojave Desert in Cal., Camp Pickett, Va., and Indianatown Gap, Penn.

Marion left Camp Kilmer, N. J., on Sept. 5, 1943, and served in England nine months before going into action on June 24, 1944, on the Normandy Beachhead in France. He participated in the Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland, Ardennes and Central Europe campaigns with the Third Armored Division of the First Army.

He left Antwerp, Belgium, on Oct. 3, 1945, for the States and was discharged on the 24th. He has the American Defense ribbon, American Theater ribbon, European African Middle Eastern Theater ribbon with five campaign stars and four overseas service bars.

Marion is the husband of Esther Vander Beek Stam.

Pfc. Frank Stam received his discharge from the army at Fort McArthur, Cal. on Dec. 20, 1945.

He was inducted into the service on May 15, 1943, and received his basic training in the Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons Battalion at Fort Bliss, Tex. Following maneuvers at the Santa Maria Air Base in Cal., he was transferred to Camp Haan, Cal., to receive his overseas duty.

Arriving in England on Apr. 7, 1944, he was stationed there until going into action in Normandy. He also participated in the Northern France, Rhineland, and Central Europe campaigns, as a member of the 784th Anti-Aircraft Automatic Weapons of the Ninth Air Force. He was wounded in the arm at Leige, Belgium, on Dec. 30, 1944.

Frank is authorized to wear the Purple Heart, American Theater ribbon, ETO ribbon, Good Conduct ribbon, and Victory ribbon. He also has the Belgian Fourragere for the air defense against enemy planes during the Battle of the Bulge.

Frank is married to the former Janet Stangl.

by Albert and Wilma Stam

Left to right: Gerrit, Albert, Marion, and Frank Stam.

STAM, KRYNDERT AND CORNELIA

F464

Kryndert and Cornelia Kruiswyk Stam were both born at Utrecht, The Netherlands. They came to the U.S. around 1902 with six daughters. Their son Cornelius came before them.

Their children were: Cornelius (1882-1953), married Johanna Vande Kieft; Aleda (1886-1937), married Cornelius DeRonde; Fytje "Sophia" (1888-1961), married Johannas Struik, second marriage, Dirk Jansen; Maagje "Maggie" (1891-1973), married Martinus "Martin" Tibboel; Anna (1893-1953), married Gerrit Vander Wiel; Cornelia (1895-1978), married Henry Crum; Sarah (1897-1976), married Harry Van Vark, second marriage, William Neizink.

Cornelius and Johanna Vande Kieft Stam's children were: Frank (1914), married Leonora Smelser, second marriage, Janet Stangl; Henry (1915-1942); Gerrit (1917), married Helen De Wit; Marion (1918), married Esther Vander Beek; Cornelia (1920), married Franklin Sturing; Albert ;(1921), married Wilma Kelderman; Margaret (1923), married Gerald Klyn; Johanna (1925), married William De Graaf (deceased); Alida (1927), married Bernard Vander Molen; Jannet (1930), married Harlan Groenenboom.

Cornelius and Aleda Stam DeRonde's children were: Johanna (1909), unmarried; Cornelia (1912), married John Van Weelden; Jennie (1913), unmarried; Kryn "Connie" (1915-1986), married Dorothy Van Weelden; Elizabeth (1917), married Tunis Hol; Jacob (1919), married Margaret Roozeboom; Anna (1921), married Elmer Ryken; Wilhemina, died in infancy; Wilma (1925), married Gerard "Jerry" Deppe.

Johannas and Sophia Stam Struik's children were: Hubert (1911), married Hendreka Van Norden; Krynert (1913), married Alberta Jansen; Wilhelmina (1915-1967), married Mike Sjaardema; Cornelia Jacoba "Kate" (1916), married Bill Van Norden;

The Kryndert Stam Family. Front: Sarah; Middle, l-r: Cornelius, Cornelia (Krulswyk) Stam, Kryndert Stam; Back, l-r: Cornelia, Maggie, Aleda, Sophia, Anna.

Christine (1918), married Ben Vander Molen; Johanna (1920), married Joe Honderd (deceased).

Martin and Maggie Stam Tibboel's children were: Ann (1914), married Andrew P. Van Zee; Frank 91916), married Erma Van Zante; Cornelia (1917), married Tunis Verschuure; Gerrit (1918), married Martha Vander Woude; Harry (1919), married Cornelia Verschuure; Clarence (1921-1922); Peternellie "Nellie" (1923), married Jerry Rashell; Theodore "Ted" (1924), married Martha Beenes; John (1928), married Helen Plate; Herman (1930-1967), married Ruth Van Soelen; Margaret (1931), married Stanley Mulder.

Gerrit and Anna Stam Vander Wiel's children were: Gerald (1918), married Nellie De Graaf; Frank (1920-1977), married Catherine Verschuure; Henry (1923-1966), married Bernice Schut; Ruth (1925-1934); Anna Mae (1929), unmarried; Marjorie (1932), married Charles Keus; Raymond (1938), married Arlene Van Gorp.

Henry and Cornelia Stam Crum's children were; Johanna Sophia (1920), married Bernard Lewis; Cornelia Jacoba (1922), married Henry Ravenhorst (deceased); Hermina (1925), married William Drenth; Helen (1927), married William Goemaat; John Henry (1927), married Edna Smit.

Harry and Sarah Stam Van Vark had no children.

Kryndert and Cornelia Kruiswyk Stam and their family were sponsored by their relatives named Vander Wilt. They settled in Sully, Ia., and later moved to Pella, where they lived on West Franklin St. near West Market Park. Kryndert was a shoe cobbler by trade. They were members of the Christian Reformed Church. It was their desire that their descendants walk in the ways of the Lord. They have many descendants living in the Pella area.

by Wilma Stam

STEELE, MILDRED R. AND OTTO S., JR.

F465

The Steeles' first contact with the Pella community occurred in 1977, when Mildred accepted an administrative and teaching appointment at Central College, where she has continued since that time. Otto, a United Methodist clergyman, was serving a pastorate in Des Moines, and since then he has been a pastor in Monroe, and more recently in Fayette. In June, 1985, they purchased a residence at 906 East Third St. in Pella.

Otto S. Steele, Jr. and Mildred R. Steele. This photo was taken in June, 1986, at 906 E. 3rd St. in Pella.

Mildred's paternal grandfather, Carl Romedahl, a farmer and carpenter, came in 1888 to Boone Co. from the Smoland province in Sweden, where records there trace the family back to the 1400's. By 1890 Carl had saved enough money to bring over his fiancee Ida, a schoolteacher, and a year or two later, her mother and brother. Carl and Ida purchased a farm, and Mildred's father Joe Romedahl, later a farmer and government agriculture worker, was the oldest of their four children.

Mildred's mother, Gladys Bonebright Cree Romedahl spent her early years in the Webster City area, where her great-grandparents, the Wilson Brewers were the first settlers in 1848. Their daughter and Gladys' grandmother, Sara Brewer-Bonebright, an authority on pioneer life, was the narrator of *The Founding of NewCastle* (Historical Dept. of Iowa, 1921). When Sara died in 1930, MacKinlay Kantor composed the poem, "Granny," to mourn her passing. By that time Mildred's mother was living in Boone Co. Her parents' marriage had broken up in 1900 when Gladys was seven, and she had been adopted by Will and Lillie Cree, who lived near Luther. Gladys taught school and in 1920 married Joe Romedahl (1890-1982), shortly after he returned from World War I. They had two daughters, of which Mildred was the younger. Gladys, a Simpson College alumna, was a poet and writer, and some 140 of her poems had been published at the time of her death in 1983.

Mildred grew up in rural Boone Co. She earned an undergratuate degree at Simpson College, a master's from Drake University, and an Ed.S. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa. Before coming to Central College, she taught at Des Moines Area Community College and Drake University. An administrator, writer, and teacher of writing, she has spoken widely and has had a number of published writings. She currently chairs the Higher Education and Campus Ministry division of the United Methodist Church of the Iowa Annual Conference. One of her research interests is the writings of women who came through Iowa by covered wagon.

Otto grew up in Indiana, the son of a Methodist pastor and his wife. His Steele ancestors came to the U.S. from Belfast, Ireland, around 1760 and settled in Virginia, later moving to Ohio. Most were farmers. One of his mother's ancestors, Major Robert Pike (1616-1706), came to the U.S. from England in 1635 and settled in Salisbury, Mass. An uncle of Zebulon Pike, for whom Pike's Peak was named, Robert was the subject of one of Whittier's poems for his stirring defense of some "witches" who fled from the town of Salem and took refuge in Salisbury.

Educated at DePauw and Boston Universities, Otto holds an earned doctorate from Boston University and an honorary doctorate from Morningside College. In his 44 years as a pastor, he has served student pastorates in Indiana, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, and full pastorates in Iowa: Stratford, Des Moines, Adel, Wellman, Monroe, and Fayette. For ten years he was a lecturer in Methodist history and polity at the Drake Divinity School, and twice he has been a representative to the World Methodist Council. Active in many social and civic causes, Otto is probably most widely known in Iowa

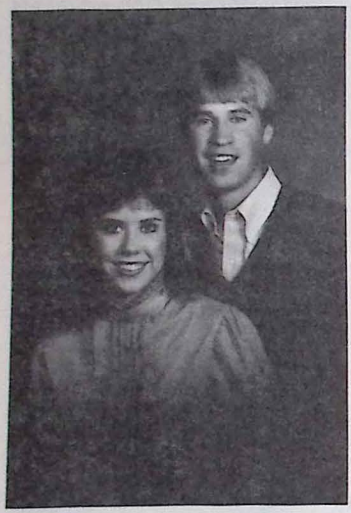
for his efforts against gambling. He is a sports fan and enjoys symphony records. When he retires, probably in June, 1988, he will join Mildred in Pella.

The Steeles met in 1946 when they were chosen the two Methodist student delegates from the U.S. to attend an ecumenical world conference in Switzerland. They were married in 1947. The Steeles have three children: Dr. Marty Steele Knepper (1950), chair of the English Department at Morningside College; John Steele (1957), a certified public accountant and a manager of Arthur Andersen & Co. in Omaha; and Timothy Steele (1958), a pianist, accompanist/voice coach, and a member of the music faculty at Chapman College in California. The Steeles have one granddaughter.

by Mildred R. Steele

STEENHOEK, DANIEL AND AMY

F466



Amy and Daniel Steenhoek.

On Aug. 8, 1960, Daniel Lee Steenhoek was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. He was born the second son to Simon Jr., and Corinne Steenhoek of Pella. Danny attended Pella Grade School, Middle School, and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1979. He then attended Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa for one year, studying welding. He farmed with his father and lived at home until 1984 when he married Amy Leigh Rickard.

Amy was born on Oct. 2, 1964, in Mason City, Ia. She was the third child born to Martin and Janice Rickard. Amy attended North Mahaska Grade School, Junior High, and graduated from North Mahaska High School in 1983. Amy worked for one year in a photography lab for her father in New Sharon before marrying Danny on June 8, 1984, at Third Reformed Church in Pella.

Both Danny and Amy worked for their parents after they were married, he on the farm, and she at the lab in New Sharon. They lived on Glenwood St. in a duplex for two years until they purchased a house on East 15th St. in June of 1986. In his spare time Danny enjoys flying and building his Ultralight and Radio-Controlled Airplanes, and also working on his gun collection. Amy enjoys singing, walking, and cross stitching in her spare time.

by Daniel and Amy Steenhoek

STEENHOEK, GYSBERT AND HENDRIKA (KLYN)

F467

Gysbert Steenhoek was born 1837 in The Netherlands. He grew up in Ond Beyesland. He came to this country in 1857. On Feb. 1, 1862, he enlisted in the 17th Iowa Infantry, Company H. He took part in the battle of Raymond, Jackson Champion's Hill, and Vicksburg. He was severely wounded at the latter battle and was in the hospital at Memphis and Jefferson barracks until May, 1864 when he was discharged.

He married Hendrika (Henrietta) Klyn on the 18th of July, 1865. She was born Feb. 11, 1846, in The Netherlands. They farmed northwest of Pella. By this union 14 children were born: Lena, 1866, Arie, 1867, Gysbert, 1868; Nellie, 1870; Jana, 1872-1873; Lizzie, 1873; Gerrit, 1875; Jana, 1876; Follina, 1877; Simon, 1880; John K., 1882; Henrietta and Bertha, 1885; and Hugo, 1887. Gysbert died June 11, 1918, after living in Pella a number of years on West Washington. Henrietta died Feb. 15, 1908.

by Henrietta Bogaards

STEENHOEK, KENDALL AND DIANE

F468

Kendall Wane Steenhoek, the first child of Simon Jr. and H. Corinne VerPloeg Steenhoek was born on Sept. 9, 1958. He attended Pella schools and was active in various sports: basketball, football, and track, graduating from Pella High School in 1977. He went on to take a diesel mechanics course at Des Moines Area Community College, in Ankeny, Ia. graduating in May of 1979. In early spring of 1979 he started as a mechanic part-time at Hoeksema's Inc., a John Deere Implement store in Pella.

He was married on Aug. 22, 1980, by Rev. Cornelius Hoekstra at Third Reformed Church, Pella, to Diane Lynn McCoy, the only child of James L. and Irene R. Hayden McCoy. Diane was born Dec. 3, 1961, in Waukegan, Ill. She also lived in San Diego, Calif., Arvada, Colo., and moved to Ankeny during her sophomore year, graduating from Ankeny High School in 1980.

Making their home in Pella at 511 Union St., Kendall continued working at Hoeksema's Inc. full-time and Diane was employed at Marion County State Bank.

Kendall and Diane Steenhoek, Andrew and Stuart.

They moved to Rural Route 1, Harvey, Ia. in Dec. of 1981, renting a farm for three years raising hogs, corn, and beans. He also continued working at Hoeksema's Inc. until Dec. of 1983 when they went out of business.

On Oct. 6, 1982, a son, Andrew Wane was born. A second son, Stuart James, was born Sept. 11, 1984.

They moved to a farm home at Rural Route 3, Pella, in Dec. of 1985. Kendall began his own repair shop, Steenhoek Repair, in the spring of that year on his parents farm at Rural Route 3, Pella. Diane took real estate courses and earned her license in Jan. of 1986. She is now a sales associate at First of Pella Better Homes and Gardens at 716 Main, Pella.

Kendall's interests are fishing and hunting. Diane's interests are sewing, needle work, and reading.

Both are active member of the Third Reformed Church.

by Kendall and Diane Steenhoek

STEENHOEK, NALDO AND MAGGIE

F469

Naldo Steenhoek, son of John Steenhoek (1868-1925) and Gertrude Vander Wilt Steenhoek (1866-1933), was born Nov. 28, 1894, in the Bethany neighborhood near Sully, Ia. Naldo served in the armed forces during World War I and was wounded in the line of duty. He was honored by receiving a letter of commendation from the White House for meritorious service to his country.

Maggie was born July 19, 1894, the daughter of Jan and Brietje Visscher Dykhuis. Both migrated to America from The Netherlands, and as a headline from their local newspaper stated, "The Grim Reaper called twice in one week" at their home, for they died within three days of each other in the fall of 1938.

Wedding picture of Naldo Steenhoek and Maggie (Dykhuis) Steenhoek. .

Naldo and Maggie had three children: Jarold, born Oct. 26, 1920; Gilbert N., born July 7, 1926; and Pauline, born Jan. 15, 1931. The Steenhoeks farmed in the Galesburg area until retirement in 1947, when they moved to Pella.

Naldo was a friend of everyone and worked for several years in Pella at the Star Oil Company. He also served as a deacon for a number of years in the Third Reformed Church. Maggie always enjoyed making many pieces of needlework which she passed on to grandchildren and friends. She persevered in this, even after losing the use of her right arm after suffering a stroke in the late fifties.

Naldo died July 8, 1972, and Maggie the following year, Mar. 29, 1973. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Jarold Steenhoek married Helen Gaass Dec. 5, 1946. Their children are: Janice Kay, born Nov. 16, 1948; Colleen Fae and Carleen Ann, twin daughters born June 5, 1953, who died in infancy; and Jaren Ray, born July 11, 1954. Jarold and Helen presently reside on the family farm near Galesburg, Ia.

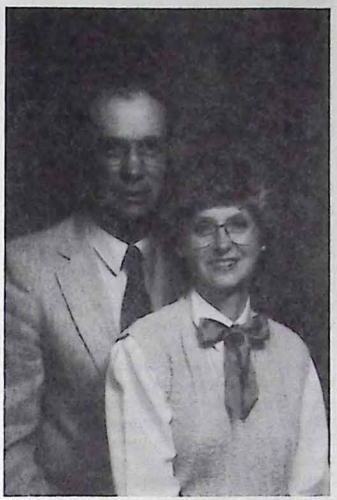
Gilbert N. Steenhoek married Wilma Van Gilst Oct. 6, 1950. He served his country during the Korea War, stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., where their daughter Lila Joy was born Oct. 1, 1952. They returned to their farm near Galesburg in Dec. 1952. Their son Kyle Nelson was born Nov. 11, 1953. Gilbert farmed with his brother and father until Jan. 4, 1955, when he was accidentally killed while dismantling an old building on their farm. Gilbert was well thought of by neighbors and friends who gathered to pay their respects in one of the largest funeral services ever held in Third Reformed Church in Pella. Neighbors still tell how they enjoyed listening to his beautiful tenor voice as they sat out on their porch in the evening, as he worked in the fields, singing.

Pauline Steenhoek married Henry De Cook Sept. 20, 1950. Their children are: Bryce, born 1951; Marla, 1953; Royce, 1955; Leon, 1957; Roger, 1959; Bryan, 1963; Jessup, 1966; Joel, 1967; Kurt, 1969; Daniel, 1970; Kevin, 1971; Travis, 1973; Christopher, 1974; and Nathan James Benedict, 1977, who, the parents said, was the "benediction." Henry and Pauline presently reside in Missouri.

by Lila Turnbull

STEENHOEK, SIMON JUNIOR

F470



Junior and Corinne Steenhoek – Oct. 1985.

Simon Junior Steenhoek was born on Nov. 28, 1934, to Simon J. and Wilhelmina Mol Steenhoek. He lived on the farm northeast of Pella with his parents until they moved to town in 1947 when he was in sixth grade.

He married Helen Corinne Ver Ploeg on Mar. 20, 1956, in the chapel of new First Reformed Chruch, Pella. She was born on Nov. 17, 1936, to Gradus and Fannetta Van Wyk Ver Ploeg and lived on a farm south of Pella until her parents retired in 1954 and moved to 1212 Peace St. Pella. Simon Junior and Helen Corinne were both called by their middle names so almost everyone knew them as Junior and Corinne.

Junior and Corinne both graduated from Pella High School in May of 1954. Following graduation Junior worked for Mr. Harold Thomassen, delivering drug sundries to a large area of south central Iowa. He also helped build the new Star Oil gas station for his uncle, Prescott Steenhoek, and then in late 1955 worked for him there as a station attendant. Corinne worked at the State Office Building in Des Moines the summer following graduation and started working at the Veterans Hospital, Knoxville, Ia., in Sept., 1954, as a secretary on a ward and worked there until late spring of 1958.

Junior and Corinne lived in a duplex at 912 West Third St., Pella, after their marriage. Junior joined the National Guard in Apr. of 1957, and received basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo., with infantry training at Fort Jackson. Following his active training in Oct. 1957, he worked as a farmhand for Corinne's uncle, John G. Ver Ploeg, for 15 months.

On Sept. 9, 1958, a son, Kendall Wane, was born. On Feb. 1, 1959, they moved to her parent's farm, which was purchased by Corinne's great-grandfather, Engel Verploegh, and is a Century Farm. They rented the now 325-acre farm, 50-50 basis with livestock and grain, raising pigs, cattle, sheep, chickens, one milk cow, corn, oats, and hay. During the 60's, prices were not very good and most of the hogs they raised (their main source of income) sold for only 13 cents to 17 cents per pound.

On Aug. 8, 1960, a second son, Daniel Lee, was born. On July 18, 1966, a daughter, Carla Sue, was born. In Mar. of 1967, they purchased the farm from Corinne's parents. After much contemplation, whether to build a new home or remodel the old house (original part of which was built by Corinne's great-greatfather), a new home was built about six feet west of the old home.

Kendall was always very mechanically minded. He also enjoyed sports: basketball, football, and track, in school. Danny liked animals and had a pet pig that would come when he called him and he would ride on it. Danny also liked riding motorcycles, including hill climbing. The boys belonged to 4-H during their grade school years and took pigs to the county fair. Carla was a cat lover and learned to twirl baton from her neighbors, Karen and Marilyn Ver Ploeg. When she got to high school she enjoyed being a part of the color guard (flag and rifle) in Pella Community High School marching band. Carla belonged to 4-H from age of nine years until 18 years old.

Kendall attended Des Moines Area Community College at Ankeny for two years following high school in 1977, taking diesel mechanics. He was employed as a farm machine mechanic at Hoeksema's, Inc., Pella, until they went out of business in Dec., 1984. Daniel took a welding course following high school graduation in 1979, at Indian Hills Community College, Ottumwa, Ia. He then worked with his dad on the farm. Carla graduated from high school in 1984; then took a full-year clerical course at Des Moines Community College, Ankeny, Ia. Following graduation from there in the Summer of 1985, she worked as a waitress at Country Kitchen, Pella, as a receptionist at Pella Community Hosptial, and is presently employed in the office of Precision Pulley, Pella. All three chidren are married and live in and near Pella.

Junior and Corinne have enjoyed many vacations, especially enjoying the family fishing trips to northern Minnesota and Canada. Junior especially enjoys fishing, photography, and reading. He is involved as a trustee, serves on Pella ambulance board, Farmer's Co-op board, and other community activities. Corinne has helped out on the farm, and enjoys sewing, needlework, and playing piano for her own enjoyment. Both are active members of Third Reformed Church.

by Simon Steenhoek

STEENSLAND, GREG AND LINDA (VANDER MEIDEN)

F471

Greg and Linda Steensland, Jennifer and Amy – Christmas 1986.

Linda Faye Vander Meiden was born Apr. 23, 1954, the oldest child of Gerrit and Florence (Terpstra) Vander Meiden. Linda and Florence lived with the Terpstra grandparents her first one and one-half years because Gerrit was serving in the army. She attended Wheat Grow and Flint Ridge Country Schools before entering second grade at Lincoln Grade School in Pella. Linda graduated from Pella Community High School in 1972, where she was active in band and pep club. She was a nine-year 4-H member.

The summer of 1972, Linda toured Europe for six weeks through the International Leadership Seminar for outstanding students. She attended Iowa State University in Ames, Ia., receiving her B.S. in family environment in Nov., 1975. Linda then worked as a counselor for delinquent girls for one and one-half years in Ottumwa, Ia. She moved back to Ames in 1978 and attended Iowa State University receiving as M.S. in higher education student personnel in 1979. She was a Personnel Director for a motel in Ames for one and one-half years.

Linda has been employed as a Personnel Officer with Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames, Ia. since Nov. 1981. She enjoys bowling, cooking classes, volleyball, and crocheting.

Linda married Gregory William Steensland on Sept. 14, 1985. Greg was born July 3, 1951, in Des Monies, Ia. and grew up on a farm just North of Huxley, Ia. He was active in 4-H, student council, high school basketball and track, and fine arts club. He played trombone in the Ballard High School band, and sang in chorus. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Ames, Ia., where he was confirmed. He graduated from Ballard High School in 1969, where he was student body president his senior year. Greg attended the University of Iowa and graduated with a B.S. in political science in 1973. He was a member of Acacia Fraternity, and was involved in intramural volleyball and intrafraternity council. He attended Drake University Law School and graduated in 1976 with a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. He has been in private practice in Ames and Huxley since graduation.

Greg was President of Fjeldberg Lutheran Church for two years. He is a 4-H leader for the local club which has 40 boys who are members.

Greg has two daughters. Jennifer Marie Steensland was born Oct. 6, 1977, in Des Moines, Ia. She is tall and studious. Amy Kay was born Feb. 21, 1979, in Des Moines. Amy is creative and energetic and likes ballet classes. The girls attend school in Lake Zurich, Ill. and enjoy summer and weekend visits to Huxley.

Linda and Greg were married at Fjeldberg Lutheran Church in Huxley, Ia., where they are members. It was a beautiful September day and Greg's daughters were proud to be junior bridesmaids. Greg and Linda left the church with lots of flying birdseed and rode to the reception in a horse-drawn buggy. The reception featured a buffet and petit four wedding cake, with Dutch letters, and Norwegian lefse.

Greg and Linda enjoy traveling as much as their busy schedules and careers allow. They spent their honeymoon in Nassau, Bahamas, and have visited the Northeast in the fall. The Summer of 1986 brought a family vacation to Mt. Rushmore, and yellowstone National Park, Wyo.

by Linda Steensland

STEWARD, THOMAS AND THYRZA

F472

Thyrza Hackert, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Van Zee) Hackert was born Mar. 4, 1929, at the family home near Leighton, Ia. She was welcomed by one sister, Edythe, born Apr. 6, 1924. She spent her childhood on the farm where they raised turkeys, silver foxes, and operated a hatchery. In helping with the farm chores she recalls skinning horses to feed the foxes, hauling feed to turkeys in a wagon pulled by Jack and Jill (two mules). She helped tray eggs by the thousands. Thryza is credited for waking the family with her coughs when a fire destroyed their home in 1931.

Thyrza graduated from Pleasant Grove Country School and Oskaloosa High School. She and her sister, Edythe (Hackert) Fleener, with their friends enjoyed "tooling around" in their father's 1914 Model T Touring Car. Riding in this car with friends is still enjoyed by Thyrza, along with her children and grandchildren as it carries them in Tulip Time parades.

Central College and the University of Iowa were the schools Thyrza attended. She was employed by Allied Gas and Chemical in Oskaloosa until having her family.

On Apr. 13, 1949, she married Thomas E. (Tom) Steward who was born Mar. 12, 1928. He is the son of Glen and Gladys (Wessling) Steward. He also attended Central College and graduated from the University of Iowa. They lived in Oskaloosa where their three daughters were born: Tomi Sue on May 3, 1950; Tricia Lea, Feb. 8, 1953; Teri Lyn May 22, 1955. Tom worked at Allied Gas and Chemical Company until June, 1957, when he started to work in the Sales Department at Rolscreen Company. He continues to be employed at Rolscreen Company at the present time.

Front, l-r: Jaci Buitenwerf, Teri Buitenwerf, Lucas Ballenger, Tricia Ballenger, Josh Ballenger; Middle, l-r: Jeff Buitenwerf, Thyrza (Hackert) Steward, Tom Steward, Kodi Klein, Mike Ballenger; Back, l-r: Alan Buitenwerf, Kevin Klein, Tomi Klein, Joe Klein, Dusty Klein.

The family moved to Pella in 1960. All the girls graduated from Pella Community High School. Tomi graduated from Methodist School of Nursing. She married Kevin E. Klein on June 19, 1971. They live in Lincoln, Neb. and have three children: Joseph Michael (born Mar. 3, 1974), Dustin Lee (born Feb. 8, 1978) and Kodi Sue (born Nov. 11, 1982). An infant son, Jason Thomas, was born Oct. 19, 1976, and died Oct. 21, 1976.

Tricia graduated from Iowa State University. She married Michael E. Ballenger June 18, 1975. They live in Pella and have two sons: Joshua Jay (born May 10, 1981) and Lucas Joe (born Mar. 9, 1984). Tricia had the honor of being the 1971 Tulip Time Queen.

Teri Lyn attended Iowa State University. She married Alan W. Buitenwerf on May 28, 1976. They live in Pella and have two children: Jeffrey Alan (born Sept. 10, 1977) and Jaci Lyn (born July 18, 1980).

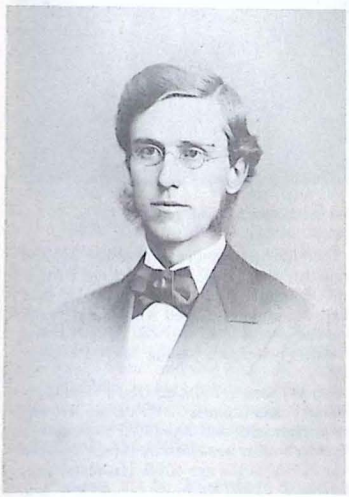
A special feature of this family is their shared vacation each year which keeps family ties close. These vacations are eagerly anticipated by all of Tom and Thyrza's daughters and their families.

One recent highlight in the Steward family was a large family reunion in 1986 to celebrate the 90th birthday of Tom's mother. Seventy-three of the seventy-five descendants of Gladys Steward attended the four-day event held in Snow Mountain, Colo., with family members travelling from all over the Unived States and Alaska. Only two in-laws were unable to make it due to work commitments. The event was captured on film and the memory of it will always treasured by the family, down to the youngest members.

by Thyrza Steward

STRENG, JOHANNES EVERHARDUS AND AALTJE

F473



Samuel Streng, 1877(?)

Johannes Everhardus Streng, a tailor, and his wife, Aaltje van Wesghel Streng, came to America from Holland in 1846. He went to join the colony in Pella, Iowa while she stayed in New Jersey until he could get settled. After sending for her, their first child, Christine, was born on Mar. 4, 1849. According to the "History of Pella" Christine was the second girl baby born in Pella, Iowa. Other children born to Johannes and Aaltje Streng were Marie and Samuel.

Samuel Streng married Jessie Davetta Thompson in 1877. Their children were Jennetta B., John Edward, and Jessie Davetta.

Jessie Davetta Streng married John Raymond Brokaw in 1914. Their children are Doris Genevieve and Theodore Henry.

Doris Genevieve Brokaw married George William Van de Voort on June 19, 1940. Their family of seven children were raised on the Van de Voort family farm northeast of Pella.

by Mrs. George Van de Voort

STRINGER, RANDY AND VICKY

F474

Randy Stringer was born at the Iowa Methodist Hospital in Des Moines, Ia., on June 15, 1963. He is the youngest of three children born to Richard and Althea Corene Stringer. His wife Vicky is the daughter of Arie W. and Alveretta Boot. She was born at the Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa, Ia., on Oct. 16, 1957. Vicky has one brother.

Randy went to Park Avenue Elementary School, Brody Junior High, and Lincoln High School in Des Moines, Ia. He then attended Bethel College, St. Paul, Minn., Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, Ill., and is presently attending Central College in Pella. Vicky received her education at the Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School. She then graduated from Iowa School of Beauty in Mar. of 1984.

Randy and Vicky were married Nov. 9, 1984, at Pella Second Christian Reformed Church. They have one son, Rick Eugene.

Randy is an employee at the Pella Rolscreen Company. Vicky is a homemaker and works part-time at Pella Hy-Vee.

by Randy and Vicky Stringer

STRUIK FAMILY

F475

Johannes and Fytje (Stam) Struik

Johannes Struik was born on Mar. 26, 1870, at Dinteloord, The Netherlands. He was the son of Huibert and Wilhelmina (Den Boef) Struik. He had four sisters – Maaike Wilhelmina, born Feb. 18, 1862; Jacoba, born Dec. 2, 1866; Elizabeth, born Dec. 25, 1868; and Wilhelmina, born July 21, 1872. All were born at Dinteloord, except Wilhelmina who was born at Melissant. On Mar. 15, 1900, Johannes Struik, along with John and Bill Lanser, left The Netherlands for the United States. Johannes worked for a farmer near Killduff two years before purchasing his own farm near Taintor. Three years later he met Fytje Stam and they were married on Jan. 6, 1910.

Fytje was born in Utrecht, The Netherlands, on August 10, 1888, to Krynert and Cornelia Jacoba (Kruiswyk) Stam. She was one of seven children: Cornelius; Alida (Mrs. Case De Ronde); Maggie (Mrs. Martinus Tibboel); Anna (Mrs. Gerrit Vander Wiel);

Johannes Struik Family. Front, l-r: Kryn Wilhelmina (Mrs. Mike Sjaardema), Christina (Mrs. Ben VanDer Molen); Back, l-r: Father Johannes, Cornelia Jacoba (Mrs. Wm. Van Noorden), Mother Fytje, and Hubert. Note: Johanna was born later.

Cornelia or Kate (Mrs. Henry Crum); and Sara (Mrs. Harry Van Vark). When Fytje was 16 years old, she came to America with her family. They lived around Sully and Galesburg where her father was a shoemaker. They later moved to Minnesota where her father died and was buried. Her mother, along with the children, moved back to Sully. Here her mother died and was buried in the Graceland Cemetery in Pella.

Johannes and Fytje had six children. Hubert was born on Aug. 16, 1911; Krynert was born on Oct. 20, 1913; Wilhelmina (Mrs. Mike Sjaardema) was born on Mar. 10, 1915. On July 16, 1916, Cornelia Jacoba (Mrs. Wm. Van Norden) was born. Sometime during 1916 and 1917 the family bought a farm east of Sully. This made it possible for the children to attend the Sully Christian Grade School. It was on this farm that the two younger children were born: Christina (Mrs. Ben VanDer Molen) born on May 3, 1918, and Johanna (Mrs. Joe Honderd) born on Aug. 1, 1920.

Soon after Johanna was born, her father Johannes died. He had bought a wooden water tank in town, had it on the wagon, and was bringing it home when the rattle of the tank scared the horses and they began to run. Johannes fell off the wagon and was run over by a steel wagon wheel. After this, he had many problems with rheumatism and other complications. The family was forced to have a farm sale on Dec. 8, 1920. The farm was then rented out to John Van Kalerdan, and the family moved to Sully. This didn't seem to be the thing to do, so after a year the family moved back to the farm. Johannes tried farming but his sickness got worse and he was bedfast. The last six weeks of his life a nurse, Henrietta Stek, was brought in to help care for him. Johannes died on Dec. 29, 1922. After her husband's death, Fytje continued living on the farm with her children. Some eighteen years later, on Feb. 22, 1940, she was united in marriage to Dirk Jansen. The two of them lived in a house west of Sully until Fytje died on Mar. 7, 1961. She died in the Grinnell Hospital and was buried along side her husband in the Sully Cemetery.

by Christy VanDer Molen

STURSMA, COENRAAD AND TRIENTJE (MAAS)

F476

Coenraad and Trientje (Maas) Stursma.

According to records gathered and compiled by Willem Stuursma, Zwyndrecht, Holland, in 1973, and translated from the Dutch by William C. Stursma, Pella, in 1978, the name Stursma was adopted in 1811. The name first appears in records as "Steursma", later "Stuursma", and today parts of the clan use the spelling "Stuursma" and others, "Stursma."

The first name to appear on the history records was that of Claas Louwes, born before 1653, when they began keeping baptism and marriage records. He died Oct. 23, 1703. He was married to Hillie Pieters on Apr. 29, 1677. They had three children: Louwe Clasen (baptized Apr. 5, 1678); Jan (born Feb. 25, 1681); and Eenje (baptized Apr. 1, 1683).

Louwe Clasen married Romkjen Franks on May 6, 1703, and they had four children : Romke, Claas (baptized Aug. 30, 1705); Frank (baptized Dec. 30, 1708); and Pieter (baptized Aug. 28, 1712).

The records are rather vague but the line continues with Romke Louwes (birthdate unknown) who married and had a son, Pytter Romken. This Pytter Romken married Grietje Joukes on July 1, 1742. Their son was named Romke Pytters, and was baptized on Mar. 12, 1752, and died in 1811.

It was in 1811 that the name Steursma appears in the records. It is probable that the Steursma name was taken during this time as Napoleon had made a law that all people from one family should have the same last name, and he was ruler of Holland at that time.

Jan Romkes Steursma was the son of Romke Pytters. He was born Aug. 16, 1790, and died July 24, 1828. His wife's name was Iettje Willems Kooy, who was baptized Feb. 29, 1784. Their son was named Willem Jans Steursma, born Dec. 1, 1811, died Feb. 25, 1882. Willem's wife was Antje Spoelstra (born Mar. 12, 1811, and died in 1882).

The name Steursma changes to Stuursma with the birth of Willem Stuursma, who married Eeuwkje Stouwi and moved to America in 1894. They had seven children : Antje (born Mar. 12, 1862, died Sept. 25, 1925 in Pella); Willem (born Dec. 25, 1864, died in 1945); Koenraad (or Coenraad); Giertje (birthdate unknown); Jan (birthdate unknown); Ietje or Ida (born in 1877, died in 1939 in Pella); and Hendriekje (birthdate unknown), who died accidently at age 13 or 14 in New York by stepping off the train shortly after their arrival in America.

Koenraad (Coenraad) Stuursma was born Jan. 21, 1867, in Munnekezyl, Holland, and died Feb. 21, 1948 in Pella. He married Trientje Maas from Visvliet, Holland, on May 8, 1893, and came to America in 1894 with his parents. They settled in a rural section of the Pella area, called Peoria.

It was during this time that the "Stuursma" name became "Stursma". Coenraad and Trientje had eight children, two sons and six daughters. Trientje died on Jan. 18, 1909, during childbirth, when the oldest child was 13 years old and their youngest, two years old. After Trientje died the household was taken care of by the oldest daughter, Reka. Coenraad and Trientje are buried in the Peoria Cemetery.

The children of Coenraad and Trientje were: Hendrika, (born Feb. 11, 1895, died Sept. 23, 1968 of cancer) who married Cecil Vander Molen (born Apr. 1, 1891, died in 1976) on Feb. 21, 1917; Jacob (born Mar. 24, 1896, died Mar. 13, 1973 of a heart attack) who married Reka Vander Schaaf on Jan. 13, 1921, who still lives in Pella; Sadie who was born on Apr. 14, 1898, died on July 24, 1971, of cancer, married Walter Van Wyngarden (born Dec. 28, 1898, died Dec. 22, 1982) on Aug. 20, 1918; Effie (born Mar. 16, 1900, died May 23, 1979), married Otto Pothoven (born Sept. 17, 1898, died in 1961) on Feb. 15, 1922. Twins Tena and Anna were born on Dec. 16, 1902. Tena, who was not married, died on Nov. 13, 1978. Anna married Fred Vander Schaaf (born July 28, 1904, died May 16, 1969), on Oct. 11, 1928, and still lives in Pella. Coba who was born on Jan. 16, 1905, and died Aug. 30, 1980, married Bert Swank (born Nov. 3, 1904, died Sept. 20, 1962), on Feb. 2, 1927. William C. was born on Apr. 2, 1907 and married Leona Rus (born Aug. 15, 1910), on Feb. 20, 1930. Leona died on Sept. 10, 1981 and Bill on Dec. 8, 1985.

by Alberdeen Stursma

STURSMA, DONALD R. AND ALBERDEEN "ALB" (GRITTERS)

F477

Don and Alb Stursma, May 1985.

Their life together began on June 3, 1952, when they were married in the (then) Protestant Reformed Church parsonage at 609 Peace St., where Alb lived with her parents. Don had always lived in Pella, but Alb was a relative newcomer, having moved here in 1948.

Don was born in Pella on Oct. 11, 1931, to William C. and Leona (Rus) Stursma. He was the second child, and later had two sisters. His older brother was Norman R., who passed away in 1966 at the age of 36. His sisters are Marilyn J. (Mrs. Vernon) De Vries, and Patricia A. (Mrs. Gene) Kamerick. Don's mother died on Sept. 10, 1981, and his father died Dec. 8, 1985. They are buried in

Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Alb was born on Aug. 6, 1932, to Martin J. and Jeanette (Vande Kerk) Gritters, in Grand Rapids, Mich. where her father was a new minister. She was the oldest of five children: Frank M., Goldie J. (Mrs. Duane) Dingeman, Edgar J., and Arnold H. Alb lived in Grand Rapids and Holland, Mich., Sioux Center, Ia., Oak Lawn, Ill., and Pella, Ia. Her father was minister of the Protestant Reformed Churches in those communities. Alb's parents currently live at 805 West Third St., Pella, Ia.

During his growing-up years, Don attended Pella Christian Grade and High Schools. He had various jobs through his teen years. Some of his employers were: Jaarsma Bakery, Marion County Road Department, Pella Block & Tile and Pella Construction Company. He currently works at the Farmers Co-op in Pella as an inside salesman.

Alb attended Christian grade schools in Holland, Mich., Sioux Center, Ia., and Roseland (104th St.), Ill., and Chicago Christian High. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1951. During high school Alb worked part-time at the former Allen's Dime Store, Vandevoort's Grocery, and the Farmers Co-op Grocery Store. After the children were grown she began working in the office at Vermeer Manufacturing Company, and currently works in the Personnel Department there.

Don and Alb have lived all their married life in the Pella area, except for about two years when Don was in the army. They lived in Manhattan, Kan., for about three months in late 1952, then Don received orders to go to Korea. He was in Korea during the Korean War from Mar., 1953 until July, 1954. During that time their oldest daughter, Jacki Lynn, was born on July 7, 1953. They later had two sons, Jimmy Lee, born June 8, 1955, and Jerry Dale, born June 6, 1957.

Their children are all married, and they have five grandchildren. Jacki is married to Kenneth D. Craver (born Mar. 12, 1953), formerly from New Sharon. They were married on May 6, 1972, and have two daughters: Desha-Noel, born Oct. 6, 1972; and Jessemynn Lia, born Sept. 24, 1977. They live in Pella where Ken works at Vermeer Manufacturing and Jacki is a homemaker and seamstress.

Jim married Susan K. Hicks (born June 7, 1953) on Oct. 5, 1973. He is a truck owner-operator and Sue is a homemaker. They have a daughter Jami Sue, born Dec. 21, 1976. They make their home in New Sharon, Sue's hometown.

Jerry and Darlene M. Wallace (born Oct. 13, 1957), also from Pella, were married on Jan. 4, 1974. They have two children: Justin Dale, born July 6, 1974; and Jennifer Nicole, born Nov. 23, 1982. Jerry and Darlene work at Vermeer Manufacturing Company and live at rural Otley.

Don and Alb live at Rural Route 2, Pella. They are members of Calvary Christian Reformed Church and sing in the choir there. Don's hobbies include reading, golfing, walking, and working in his garage/workshop. Alb enjoys reading, playing organ and piano, needlework, and walking.

by Alberdeen Stursma

STURSMA, WILLIAM C. AND LEONA RUS

F478

Wedding picture of William C. Stursma and Leona Rus

William C. and Leona Rus Stursma were married on Feb. 20, 1930. Each of them was the youngest child of the family. William C. Stursma was the eighth child of Coenraad (Koenraad) and Tryntje (Maas) Stursma. He was born on Apr. 2, 1907. Being raised in the Peoria and Taintor area, he attended Peoria Christian School. His mother died when he was two years old, so he was raised by his father and sisters. Leona Rus was the third child of Cornelius and Klazina (Sientje) Van Beek. She was born on Aug. 15,1910, only a few months after her parents' arrival from The Netherlands. Her two sisters had been born there. Leona's mother was a devout Catholic, so Leona was baptized in the Catholic Church in Pella. Because of the difficulty with the English language, Leona's mother attended the Christian Reformed Church where the services were conducted in Dutch. After her mother's death in 1923, Leona was forced to quit school and take care of the household. Her oldest sister Catherine was employed at the *Weekblad* , and sister Dorothy continued her education.

Leona and William were married at the Little Brown Church at Nashua, Ia. They lived in Pella for their entire married life including 46 years at 814 Washington St. William worked for the road maintenance department of Marion Co. for about 40 years, until his retirement in 1974. Leona was a faithful homemaker. They had four children. Norman Ray was born Aug. 22, 1930. He died unexpectedly on Nov. 18, 1966 due to a heart problem. Donald Rex was born on Oct. 11, 1931. Marilyn Joyce was born Mar. 25, 1933, and Patricia was born Nov. 3, 1943. After William's retirement he and Leona took an office janitorial position in the evenings at Van Gorp Corporation. Leona died Sept. 10, 1981 and William died Dec. 8, 1985, both of them from heart problems.

Their dedication to their church and Christian education is evident in the fact that all of their children attended the local Christian Schools. William served several terms in consistories of the Protestant Reformed Church and First Christian Reformed Church of Pella, and served as a board member of Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School. The epitaph on their grave stone which reads, "THIS TOO SHALL PASS AWAY", depicts their awareness that their life here on this earth was only temporary, looking forward to their eternal heavenly home which shall never pass away.

by Patricia Kamerick

SUMMITT, THOMAS J. AND ANN

F479

Thom was born Oct. 24, 1951, in Council Bluffs to James and Madeline Thomas Summitt, now of Bancroft, Ia. A Central College graduate, he taught two years before starting employment with Vermeer Manufacturing in 1977.

Ann, born May 19, 1955, also a Central garduate, is an elementary teacher in Monroe. She is the daughter of Lloyd and Nola Boot Vander Streek.

There are two children: Nathaniel James, born Aug. 25, 1979, and Elizabeth Marie, born Oct. 21, 1983.

by Nola Vander Streek

SWITZER, KRISTI AND DARRYL

F480

The Switzer family moved to Pella in late 1986 following nine years of Darryl's association with Vermeer sales and service organizations in Minneapolis, Minn., and Memphis, Tenn.

Kristi Lynn is the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kooi of Pella. She was born in Winterset, Ia., Mar. 2, 1951. She moved to Pella with her parents following graduation from Aplington, Ia. High School in 1969. In the fall of 1969 she accepted employment with Northwestern Bell Telephone Company in Cedar Rapids.

Darryl Joe is one of seven children of Margaret Stoa and the late Merle Switzer and was born in Anamosa, Ia., Jan. 3, 1951. He is a 1969 graduate of Benton Community High School.

They were married in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Atkins, Ia., Nov. 27, 1971, and lived in Cedar Rapids, Atkins, and Williamsburg before a move to Pella when Darryl began his career with Vermeer Manufacturing where he is also presently employed.

Their first child, Karilyn Joy, was born Feb. 26, 1975, in Cedar Rapids and was baptized in St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Atkins, Ia. David Edward was born Oct. 14,

Karlyn Joy and David Edward Switzer (1986 photo)

1977, in Pella and was baptized in the historic replica of Scholte's Church when members of Peace Lutheran Church were holding services there.

The Switzers are active members of Peach Lutheran Church. They enjoy living in the old Amsterdam School neighborhood in rural Pella.

by Kristi Switzer

SYNHORST, LORRAINE

F481

Front row, l to r: Eleanor Dodyk, Lorraine Synhorst, Lillie Hallom. Back; l to r: Toby Oonk, Michael Oonk and John Oonk.

In 1940, Lorraine Meulpolder (see Marinus and Lilly Meulpolder) met Lester Eugene Oonk while roller skating at the rink above the American Legion Hall. Les was born Dec. 5, 1922 in Hingham, Wis. to William Oonk and Eleanor Galloway; he was currently a student at Central College. Les walked me home that day, but we didn't talk to each other again until Jan. 1946, when he returned to Central after being discharged from the U.S. Army-Air Corps as a lieutenant. I was then a freshman at Central and was charmed by this handsome navigator who had flown 32 bombing missions in Europe. On May 31, 1946, Les and I were married by the Rev. Tunis Prins in my parents' home at 809 West Second St. We honeymooned in California that summer.

Les resumed his studies in Sept., 1946. At that time, Central had a number of 27-foot trailers by the railroad tracks on campus that were for the use of the married students. Rent was $27 a month and we used the bathrooms in the gymnasium as there was no running water in the trailers. Les graduated with a B.A. in business administration in Aug., 1947.

In Oct. 1951, Les was recalled into the Air Force for 17 months for the Korean Conflict. This service began a lifetime career culminating with the Legion of Merit Award for Lt. Colonel Oonk. The Air Force sent Les to school at the University of Indiana in Bloomington where he received his Masters Degree in Business Administration in June, 1961. We had many interesting and fun times, especially the three years we spent on Okinawa in the Ryukyu Islands. We then went to the University of Rochester in upstate New York where Les headed the AFROTC unit.

Les' final tour of duty ended on Aug. 13, 1970, when he died of a heart attack on Bien Hoa, VietNam, just 17 days before he was due to return home. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. Les is survived by our five children and ten grandchildren. They are: Eleanor Dodyk born in 1947 and her four children, Robin (1963), Amanda (1965), Mark (1967), and Matthew (1969); Lt. Col. Michael Oonk born 1949 and his three children, Michael (1974), Joel (1976), and Christina (1981); Lilli Hallam and her two children, Jennifer (1970) and Suzanne (1973); John Oonk born 1958 and his son Stephen (1984); and finally, Toby Oonk who was born in 1962. When Les died, I was living in Belford, N.J. and remained there until August of 1981 when I moved to Texas to join my daughters and their children. In Texas I worked at the local Social Security office until I married Gerald (Joe) Emmett Synhorst, RADM, Retired.

Joe was born Feb. 23, 1928 to John Synhorst and Gertrude Roorda of Pella. In fact, we grew up together and graduated from Pella High School in 1945. From there, Joe attended the Naval Academy at Annapolis and graduated in June 1949 with a B.S. in international affairs. He and Elaine Schuhler were married Jan. 2, 1950. Joe continued his education later at George Washington University. He attained a Masters Degree in International Affairs in Sept. of 1972. Joe spent most of his military career commanding submariners until he retired from the navy in 1975 for health reasons. He was left a widower on Oct. 15, 1981, when Elaine died of breast cancer. After receiving my note of condolence, Joe began phoning and writing with regularity. On Nov. 15, 1982, we eloped to Oklahoma (after announcing our intentions to our families).

We made our home in Virginia to be near Betheseda Naval Hospital since Joe was already ill with emphysema. After a "Pella party" in South Padre Island, Texas, Joe and I decided it was time to move, returning home to Pella. At this time, Jan., 1984, both of our mothers were living in Pella, as were numerous other relatives. After months of house-hunting, we moved to our home on Columbus St. in October of that year. Joe wrote many articles and made videotapes to encourage people to stop smoking. He died at home on Oct. 5, 1986. Joe is survived by his four children: Paul, born 1951, has three children, Elaine (1982), Mary (1983), and Stuart (1984); Barbara, born 1953; Patricia, born 1956; and John, born 1960. Joe chose to be buried in Pellas's Oakwood Cemetery since, as he put it, he "knows everybody there."

by Lorraine Synhorst

TEN HAGEN, ANDREAS JAN (JOHN)

F482

John, the eldest son of Peter and Cornelia (Kempkes) Ten Hagen was born June 16, 1872, in Pella, Ia. He married Dora Weyers Jan. 20, 1900, at Leighton, Ia. They had five children: Bessie, Helen, Ruth, Virgil, and Joy.

Before he was married he spent some time in the Merchant Marines. He shipped out from California to ports in China, Japan, and many others.

He returned to Pella and went into business with his father in the tinnery and hardware business. His father left the business, and his brother Mathew came into the business. He was nicknamed Tate and John was nicknamed Pork. When Tate died in 1914 leaving his wife and daughters, John felt his responsibility to help support the family because of being a partner in the business. He supported the family until the girls went to work and got married.

The shop was downtown until John and Dora bought the house on 808 East First St. and the shop was moved to that address.

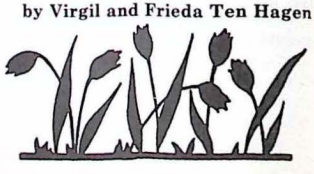
He was a tinner and then became a plumber, installing the plumbing in many homes and businesses. He had installed the plumbing in the old Webster School, which was all hot water heat. The building that was known as the "Opry House" was another one he worked on.

He was a hunter and a fisherman. He took his boys out fishing and hunting many times, so their love for the sport was passed on from him.

After retiring you could find him making his rounds downtown, up to the corner of Franklin and East First then to Plette's store, off to the bank corner to talk a few minutes to the fellows that gathered there to talk about the weather or some other gossip, perhaps who had passed away the night before. Then on down to Vander Meulen Hardware Store, on the alley. He would take the alley home. You would find him going this route many times a day.

John passed away Oct. 17, 1961, in Pella, Ia., after suffering a stroke that morning. He reached the ripe old age of 89 years, four months, and one day. Interment was at Oakwood Cemetery.

by Virgil and Frieda Ten Hagen



TEN HAGEN, CORNELIA (KEMPKES)

F483

Cornelia Kempkes, grandmother, came to America from Holland in 1885. She grew up in Pella. One day, after seeing grandfather Peter Ten Hagen, downtown, she remarked to her girl friends that some day she was going to marry him. They were married in Pella, on Sept. 16, 1871, he at the age of 26 and she at the age of 18. H. Neyenesch, the Justice of the Peace, performed the ceremony.

She did not have very much schooling but in her way she was "pretty darn sharp." She loved to knit. She made many different patterns of edging for pillow slips and some of the patterns she made up herself. She gave us a pair of pillow slips for our wedding gift in 1937, which we still have.

Grandmother and grandfather's home was always open for friends and travelers. Indian friends of grandfather's, that he had met while in the service, were always welcome. Many tramps were also fed, not mere handouts at the door, but were invited to eat at the table with the family.

by Virgil and Frieda Ten Hagen

TEN HAGEN, DORA (WEYERS)

F484

Dora Weyers was the daughter of Martin and Elizabeth (Stienkamp) Weyers and was born in Knoxville, Ia., on Nov. 20, 1877, and died in the Nursing Home in Knoxville, Ia., July 28, 1965. She married John Ten Hagen Jan. 20, 1900, at Leighton, Ia. She was a homemaker and the mother of five children: Bessie, Helen, Ruth, Virgil, and Joy Dale.

Many things that can be remembered of her is that in the winter time she would take care of the large goldfish that were in the fountain pool in Central Park in the summertime. They kept them in large tubs in the basement. She also had her own pool in her backyard where she raised fish.

She also was a flower lover and the pool was surrounded by beautiful flowers. In the winter the geraniums she had in the house were like small trees and were always full of bloom. Her violets were not 10 or 15, she raised them by the dozen. I remember at one time she had over 100 and she had about 20 different varieties. I found that the secret of her fertilizer was John Vander Baan's horse droppings. When he traveled though the alley with the milk wagon, she would retrieve the droppings. To make a fertlizer out of them she would take her egg shells and a few more ingedients, add them together, and let it set until it was ready to use.

When her granddaughters Mary Lou and Georgia Ann were in school she would call and want them to come for lunch. She would always bake cup cakes or make pudding and then have a nickel or dime, somethimes even a quarter in it, and when they ate the cake they would find it. They always liked to stay with their grandmother, she was always making home made bread or cookies.

by Virgil and Frieda Ten Hagen

TEN HAGEN, FRIEDA (GEZEL)

F485

Frieda Gezel Ten Hagen was born Apr. 1, 1919, in Pella, Ia., daughter of George and Edith (Porter) Gezel. Virgil and Frieda were married in Pella, Ia., Mar. 3, 1937. She attended Pella Public School. Her first job was working at the Coffee Shop for Marie and Mick Blecha. She also worked at the Overall factory before starting her own drapery business selling and making drapery and other window treatments.

What started as a hobby was cake baking and decorating which became an extra very busy business. Making wedding, anniversary, birthday cakes, and one special cake baked for many a husband or a surprise party for a friend was my Bikini cake. Love for sewing has been another one of my hobbies. I have made many of the patterns for Dutch costumes. When the steering committee decided to dress our queen and her court in Dutch costume, I worked on the first committee. We went to Des Moines to look for fabric, Younkers had had a fire and we purchased some imported fabric of brocade and satin from France. We would never have been able to afford to pay the original price for the fabric. I worked on the committee for five years and am still making patterns from the pictures.

I also enjoy fishing with my husband but you would not find me out on an ice covered pond, it has to be warm. Our fishing trips to Canada and Minnesota were always fun. I was the only one that caught the largest walleye that weighed 10 lbs. When we went out of Lake Superior I was the one that caught the lake trout and the others didn't get a one.

Our home is filled with a collection of plants, violets, foliages, and many varieties of begonias. In the garden, of the prizes from entries at the tulip time flower show, are my tulips. I love to arrange and enter them in the flower show, I also grow many summer flowers to use in programs that I have done. I am an Accredited Flower Judge of Iowa, a member of the First Baptist Church of Pella, a Past Worthy Matron of Eastern Star, a charter member of the Pella Garden Club, and, at this time, Secretary of the Fifth District Judges' Council.

Virgil and Frieda celebrate their birthdays on the first of April. When they were married he did not believe I was telling the truth about my birthday, until we were married a year because he thought I was pulling an April Fool joke on him.

Virgil and Frieda have two daughters: Mary Lou, Mrs. Torwood Thompson of Des Moines, Ia., who are the parents of three sons — Merle, Westly, and Brice; Georgia Ann, Mrs. Dwight Roorda of Des Moines, Ia., who are the parents of two sons — Todd L. and Tyler L. There are three granddaughters-in-laws: Barbara, Mrs. Westly Thompson; Teresea, Mrs. Merle Thompson; and Diana, Mrs. Todd Roorda. Two great-granddaughters: Heather and Michelle Thompson and two great-grandsons: Toby and Westly Thompson.

by Virgil & Frieda Ten Hagen

TEN HAGEN, JAN CORNELIUS, ADEIANUS AND PETER FAMILY

F486

Jan Cornelius Ten Hagen was our great-great-grandfather.

Our great-grandfather was Adrianus Ten Hagen born in Holland, Oct. 24, 1810. He served in the Holland Army and was discharged July 24, 1839, from the military service as a sharpshooter. He married Jeanake Hol Van Ryswyk (date unknown). They came to America on the *Catherina Jackson* which left Rotterdam on Apr. 12, 1847. They had a two-year-old son, Peter. Besides furniture and the Bressels carpets, he also loaded his carriage. Great-grandfather's full name was Adrianus James John Vernelus William Helmus Ten Hagen. He was a wealthy aristocrat. The ship was very dirty when they left Holland; when they arrived in Baltimore it were spotless.

The journey inland was very tiresome as the railways were still in their beginnings. The cars could only accommodate eight people. At Columbus, Pa., they packed into dirty and inadequate canal boats to travel to Pittsburg, Pa. Then they journeyed down the Ohio River and on to St. Louis, Mo. The summer was very hot and there was great suffering and several deaths — including our great-grandmother who died May 10, 1848. Great-grandfather and his son Peter traveled on to Pella.

Great-grandfather remarried Charlotte Van Spankeren. She turned out to be an "hellion." She mistreated grandfather, but also disinherited him. He was not permitted to eat at the table with the rest of the family, he ate standing at the cupboard shelf.

When he was sixteen, a call for volunteers for the Civil War was issued and he tried to enlist but was rejected because of his age. However, he followed the volunteers to Missouri where he enlisted in the cavalry for three years as a bugler. He declared his age as 18 and gave his birthplace as Germany, both untrue. The war ended in Apr. 1865, but great-grandfather's three enlistments did not expire until Mar. 1867. The rest of his term was in the West where the Indian uprisings were taking place. He became a friend instead of foe. Great-grandfather arrived home after his discharge from the army at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., on May 13, 1867, only to find that the money he had sent home had been spent by his stepmother.

Grandfather Peter, while in his youth, must of acquired some education from the Holland school masters who also migrated to Pella, Ia. Several were graduates of, and previous instructors, in the Leyden University.

Some of his sheet metal domes and cornices still exist in Pella. He worked in the Herman Bousquet hardware store for a time as a

tinner but left there to open his own shop on the north side of the square. He added also a sizeable stock of hardware, cooking and heating stoves, etc.

They had five sons and three daughters: John born June 16, 1872, died Oct. 17, 1961; Mathew (Tate) born Feb. 1, 1874, died Feb. 7, 1914; Dirikie (Dora) Jan. 31, 1878, died Oct. 12, 1957; Maggie born July 8, 1882, died Dec. 28, 1957; Peter, Jr. born Mar. 19, 1887, died when two or three years old; Chester born July 24, 1894, died in 1972.

by Virgil and Frieda Ten Hagen

TEN HAGEN, VIRGIL
F487

Virgil, son of John and Dora (Weyers) Ten Hagen was born in Pella, Ia., Apr. 1, 1911. He attended Pella Public Schools.

When a young boy he became an outdoorsman. He liked to fish, hunt, and trap.

At the age of 15 he worked for Pete Stubenrauch for a week and he had 35 cents with which he bought his first trap. His first was a rabbit caught out by the slaughterhouse. From then on he become an avid trapper. He has kept this up for 55 years. When a young man his trap lines were long. He would start out at the Howell brdge rowing his boat up to Red Rock, then staying overnight under the bridge or with a friend he had made. Then the next morning he would return down the river with his catch. His trap line north of town included walking the Thunder Creek area and on to the Skunk River. He has had some narrow escapes from falling and getting wet. Falling through the ice, a buddy with him helped him dry his wet clothes. Virgil was known as the best mink trapper in Iowa when he was a young man.

His fishing has taken him many places: Canada, Minnesota, and Iowa lakes and streams. At the age of 76 you can still find him fishing. He can be found out at Roberts Creek, at sand pits, and many private ponds or ice fishing in the middle of the winter when most people are sitting at home keeping warm.

On these trips on the trap lines out fishing or hunting, he has collected Indian arrowheads and tomahawks. He has also found other Indian relics.

Hunting all kinds of game from rabbits, pheasant, deer, etc., is another hobby. He has always enjoyed hunting and preparing his catch until 1983 when he lost the sight of one eye after eye surgery.

He was in business as a brick mason and plasterer, for 45 years. Many of the homes and businesses he worked on are landmarks. The First Christian Reformed Church has a beautiful sanctuary where he worked many an hour on the plastering. His job was to do the pulpit area and when that was finished, he worked on the main sanctuary.

When the Nazarene Church in Oskaloosa, Ia., decided to build a church of stone, Virgil was the only one in the state at that time that knew how to lay that kind of stone. He also built the new fire station and police station and other city buildings in Pella, Ia. His fireplaces are a work of art. Those, too, are in many homes in Pella, Oskaloosa, Knoxville, and he also went to Marshalltown. The Maurice Van Willegan home on North Main Street is just one of the many unusal fireplaces with the many beautiful native rocks; some Nellie and Maurice collected. When he was building it Nellie would pick the rocks out that she wanted placed in certain parts of the chimney. Many of these homes and buildings will be here for years.

Virgil and Frieda have two daughters: Mary Lou, Mrs. Torwood Thompson of Des Moines, Ia., parent of three sons: Merle, Westly, and Brice; Georgia Ann, Mrs. Dwight Roorda of Des Moines, Ia., parent of two sons. There are three grand daughters-in-law; two great-granddaughters; a great-grandson; and another on the way.

by Virgil and Frieda Ten Hagen

TER LOUW FAMILY
F488

Jan and Stientje (Korver) Ter Louw

Jan Ter Louw born April 22, 1825, in Hoogblokland, Zuit Holland arrived in America June 10, 1855. A brother Hendrik, came at the same time.

Stientje Korver born Mar. 12, 1843, in Vinkeveen, Utrecht, Holland arrived in America June 30, 1856, with two sisters and three brothers: Geertje, Woutje, Simon, Willem and Gerrit.

Jan Ter Louw and Stientje Korver were married May 17, 1857, and lived on a farm south of Pella. In the middle 1860's they moved five miles northeast of Pella. Records show they bought 80 acres for $100.00, June 9, 1868, the minimum price for overflow land. Later they increased this to 216 acres. While living on the hillside overlooking the Skunk River bottom they had an experience with flood water. One Sunday evening things were normal, they were not aware that one of the highest flood levels ever was on it's way due to a cloud burst up the river. The following morning much of the bottom land was under water, it was four feet deep in the barn. One of the boys washed his feet in river water sitting on the porch. This made them aware that sudden floods could be expected.

In the 1880's they moved to Jasper Co. to a farm in S.W. Richland Twp. In the late 1890's they moved to Pella, living on the corner of Washington and West First St. where the Open Bible Church now stands. I have been told that grandfather (Jan Ter Louw) prayed that someday there might be a church there; if this was his desire then the prayer was answered years after his death in 1908.

The Jan Ter Louw family had 13 children: five of these died as infants; John (Jr.) Ter Louw, married Annigje Kool (who was also an immigrant from Holland in 1884); Martha married Henry Mathes; Gerrit married Jane Elscott; Henry married Kate De Heer; Johanna married Jacob Van Gorp; Nickolas married Ida Van Houweling; Wouzena married Peter G. Van Gorp; and William married Doris Cousineau. All lived in the Pella, Sully, and Kilduff area except William who taught school in S. Dak. a few years then moved to Minneapolis, Minn. Pioneer life was not easy, there were many hardships. Houses usually were built as cheaply as possible. In the cold weather they were far from comfortable. Of course there was no running water, the lighting was dependent on kerosene oil lamps, and communication was by word of mouth. Doctors were miles away and could only be summoned personally, and hospitals were far away. Perhaps this was one of the reasons for the high rate of infant mortality. Many families experienced death of children. The Jan Ter Louw family was no exception; five children died, all very young. They were buried in different cemeteries, two in the 't Lam Cemetery, the others in the Dairy Grove Cemetery, near Sully. But there was one great sustaining force that made it

Front, L-R: John (Jr.), Jan, Stientje, and William; Middle, L-R: Martha (Mathes), Johanna (Van Gorp), and Wouzina (Van Gorp); Back, L-R: Gerrit, Henry, and Nickolas.

possible not only to survive but to meet the cruel realities of living within difficult circumstances — that was their absolute and complete faith in the Almighty God, whom they served and trusted with childlike faith. They were devout Christians. They along with their two oldest sons, John and Gerrit, were charter members of Bethany Reformed Church located four miles southwest of Sully.

They retired in Pella in the 1890's. Jan Ter Louw died Dec. 27, 1908, at the age of 83 years; his wife Stientje died Feb. 20, 1921, at the age of 78.

The name Ter Louw was also spelled Terlouw.

by Simon Ter Louw

TER LOUW FAMILY
F489

John (Jr.) and Annigje (Annie Kool)

John Terlouw, son of Jan Terlouw and Stientje (Korver) Terlouw, was born south of Pella, Aug. 6, 1860, and married Annigje Kool on Feb. 19, 1889. Annigje was born Mar. 21, 1865, in Werkhoven, Overijssel, Holland, daughter of Johan Andreas Kool and Annigje Kersbergen. She came to Pella in 1884 with a brother Andreas and sister Jane. Her parents came soon after, plus three brothers and four sisters, all settled in the Pella-Sully area. A brother Frederick remained in Holland. Ten children were born to John and Annigje (Annie) Terlouw: John Samuel, Andrew John, Christine Elizabeth, Annigje Marie (died at age 1 year), Anna Marie, Lydia Rebecca, Frederick William (died at age one year), Sarah Johanna, Fred W., and Simon G.

John Terlouw had varied interests and talents. He farmed for a living, convinced it was a good environment for family life. He was also a craftsman, a self-educated wood worker and blacksmith. His tools were crude, some homemade. He owned a forge, and a tire crimping machine to crimp the steel rims on wagon wheels. He did some custom work. He owned a threshing rig, the first being driven by horse power, four teams on a capstan. Later he owned a steam traction engine, grain separator, clover huller, and saw mill. They covered an area of 12 miles in custom work. He helped build houses and barns. He was one of the first in the area to have an automobile, a 1913 Model T Ford. He bought the car on the condition he could learn to drive it. He spent most of an afternoon out in the pasture, starting, stopping, and backing; of course he bought the car.

Annie was a very busy and dedicated mother and homemaker, always having time for the children, their spiritual concerns having very high priority. Although having her schooling in Holland, she taught herself to write English and was very faithful in corresponding with her several grandsons who served in the armed forces.

John S. at a young age felt the call to the ministry. He graduated from Western Seminary in 1919 and served churches in Mich., Iowa, Minn., Wisc., Ill., and Ontario, Can. He married Henrietta Vander Hart and they had four children. Henrietta died in 1928. In 1929 he married Annette Vander Hart, two children were born to them. Andrew J. married Nellie Vos in 1914. They lived in the Pella area and had four children. Christine E. married James Vander Waal in 1920, and they had three children, and they lived near Kirkville, Ia. and at Pella. Anna M. married Isaac Roorda in 1921, had six children, lived in S. Dak., Galesburg, Leighton, Prairie City, and Pella. Sarah J. married Bert C. Van Hemert in 1925, had three children, lived in the Pella area. Fred W. married Rose Schloz in 1943; had two children — lived all their working years at Dubuque, Ia. and retired at Grand Junction, Colo. Simon G. married Elizabeth Boot in 1933, had two children, lived in Pella-Sully area, Monarch, Alberta, Can., and Amherst, S. Dak., residing in Pella Manor as of 1987.

John and Annie Ter Louw were devout Christian parents, for many years members of Bethany Reformed Church four miles south of Sully. He served there as elder. They also attended church and Sunday School at Sandridge School where he was teacher and superintendent of the Sunday School. He also served on the Sandridge School Board for years.

After retirement to Pella they transferred membership to the Third Reformed Church in Pella. Annie Ter Louw was the oldest charter member of Trinity Reformed Church organized in 1953.

John Ter Louw died Jan. 28, 1937, at the age of 76. His wife, Annie died Apr. 5, 1957, at the age of 92. The name Ter Louw was sometimes spelled Terlouw.

by Simon Ter Louw

Front, L-R: Lydia, Christine, Father, Mother, Ann, Sarah; Back, L-R: John, Fred, Simon, Andrew

TER LOUW FAMILY
F490

Simon G. and Elizabeth A.

Simon Gerrit Ter Louw, son of John Ter Louw and Annigje (Annie) Kool, was born July 7, 1907, six miles north of Pella in the Sandridge neighborhood, the youngest of ten children. He attended Sandridge School and also Webster School in Pella. Elizabeth Alice Boot was born Feb. 1, 1912. She was the youngest daughter of William B. Boot and Alice Rietveld, living five miles south of Sully. She attended the Battleridge School in Jasper Co. On Feb. 22, 1933, they were married. Dr. John Wesselink, President of Central College officiated in the president's residence on the College Campus. They moved to a farm five miles north of Pella. This was the year of the great depression — corn at 10 to 12 cents per bushel, hogs at 3 cents per pound and cattle at 5 cents; cream 10 cents per pound of butterfat, and eggs 7 cents per dozen. They owned a 1926 Ford Model T roadster. Times were difficult since 1934 was a complete crop failure. They became members of Bethany Reformed Church, near Sully in 1933, later transferred to Third Reformed Church in Pella and later became charter members of Trinity Reformed Church in Pella. They lived south of Sully three years where their oldest daughter, Joann Arlene was born on Dec. 19, 1935. They moved to the original Ter Louw farm north of Pella in 1938. On Apr. 3, 1939, their second daughter, Alice Marlene was born. They farmed until 1963. During these years the daughters attended Sandridge School, Pella High, and Central College at Pella.

Joanne married Dean Risius from Buffalo Center, Ia. They have two daughters: Terri Ann, and Kristi Lea. Kristi and Bob Bessee have a daughter, Meghan Elizabeth born July 22, 1986. The Risius live in New Ulm, Minn. They are in school administration and teaching.

Alice married Carroll Rempe from Pella.

Left to right: Michael Rempe, Kendall Johnson, Michelle (Rempe) Johnson, Carroll Rempe, Alice (Ter Louw) Rempe, Elizabeth Ter Louw, Simon Ter Louw, Joanne (Ter Louw) Risius, Dean Risius, Terri Risius, and Kristi Risius.

They live in Mooresville, N. Car. Carroll is engaged in manufacturing and sales of textiles, Alice is a sales representative of jewelry. They have a daughter Michelle Dawn and a son Michael John. They had their schooling in Charlotte, Mooresville, and Statesville, N. Car. and attended Lenior-Rhyne College in Hickory, N. Car. Michelle is married to Kendall Johnson. They live in Charlotte, N. Car.

On Jan. 1, 1963, Simon and Elizabeth left the farm after receiving a call from the Reformed Church in Monarch, Alberta, Can. to serve as a lay pastor. They served this congregation for more than five years. Elizabeth served for three years on the National Board of Managers for the Reformed Church Women.

They received a call from the Zion Reformed Church in Amherst, S. Dak. and in May, 1968, moved there, serving both the Reformed Church in Amherst and the Community Church at Pierpont, S. Dak. On July 16, 1969 Simon was ordained to the gospel ministry at the Zion Reformed Church, Amherst, S. Dak. after receiving a special dispensation for ordination from the General Synod of the Reformed Church in America. They served the churches in S. Dak. until Sept. 1974, when they returned to Pella. He then served as a representative for "Words of Hope", a gospel radio program of the Reformed Church. In 1978 he became a Minister of Calling at Trinity Church in Pella, serving in this capacity for three years. He also assisted in the winter months at Faith Reformed Church, Pompano Beach, Fla., plus a short time at the Comanche Reformed Church, Lawton, Okla. From 1975 until 1983 they resided at 401 Jefferson St., Pella, then moved to the Pella Manor where they reside at this time.

by Simon Ter Louw

TERLOUW FAMILY

F491

Nicholas Terlouw – Ida Van Houweling wedding picture February 15, 1900

Nicholas Terlouw

Nicholas Nys Terlouw was born Sept. 25, 1876 in the Sandridge area north of Pella, the 11th of 14 children born to Jan and Styntje Korver Terlouw. Jan Terlouw was born Apr. 22, 1825, at Hookblokland, The Netherlands and Styntje was born in Vinkeveen, The Netherlands Mar. 12, 1843. Six of the children born to them died in infancy.

Jan and Styntje are buried in the Bethany Church Cemetery near Sully. Jan died Dec. 27, 1908 and Stientje went to her heavenly home Feb. 20, 1921.

Nicholas Terlouw, better known as Nick, married Eggie (Ida) Van Houweling on Feb. 15, 1900. She was the eighth child in a family of 11 children, born Jan. 9, 1870. Ida's parents were Gysbert and Neeltje (Nellie) Dejong Van Houweling. Gysbert had been born in 1837 at Nieuwland, Holland and Neeltje in 1839 at Ameide, Holland. Gysbert and Neeltje are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. Gysbert's death occurred Aug. 21, 1894 and Neeltje (Nellie) died two years later on Sept. 14, 1896.

The marriage of Nicholas and Ida Terlouw took place at her parents' home in the Bethel neighborhood northwest of Pella with Rev. Poot officiating. After the wedding the couple settled on their farm four miles south of Sully, Ia., Jasper Co. where they attended rural Bethany Church.

They were blessed with four children: Gysbert John, Dec. 26, 1900; Stella, Aug. 23, 1904; Nellie Alida, Nov. 23, 1907; and Jeanette Christine, May 22, 1912.

While living near Sully, Indians came to their home to beg food, especially meat. Gypsies often came, also wanting food and selling their home-made products. In 1912, approximately, the Terlouws purchased their first Ford automobile. In Feb. 1918 the family moved to the 160-A. farm purchased from Mrs. Aart Van Zee, four miles southeast of Pella in Mahaska Co., the moving being accomplished by teams and wagons, the cattle being driven to the new place by men on horseback, neighbors helping neighbors.

In 1920 a large square stucco house was built, replacing the old one. Huckster wagons filled with grocery supplies and household needs came at regular intervals to sell their products. Living near the railroad line, the Terlouws often had tramps who came for a meal or a place to sleep in the barn.

During the farm years, most of the food came from a large garden and from fruit orchards, the product being canned and preserved in jars, over a cookstove which needed to be replenished with corn cobs, wood and coal. Later a Perfection oil stove was used. Winter time was butchering time for pork and beef, all raised and butchered on the farm. Neighbors often came to help with the killing, dipping in scalding water and removing the skin, and cutting up the carcass. The meat was then processed in jars or fried down and covered with lard in large crocks or placed in a strong salt brine for preservation. Excess lard and tallow were used to make laundry soap. With no refrigeration, if the weather remained cold enough, some of the fresh meat was stored in tightly closed containers and set outdoors or covered with snow.

Entertainment consisted of neighborhood visiting (buurten) when the younger kids played games, sang, roasted and popped corn,

cracked nuts etc. while the elders caught up on the latest news. In winter time the roads were often closed due to snow and neighbors would get together and shovel roads open . . . only to have the first wind close them again. Bobsleds were often used. Tuesday evening Bible classes and an occasional party at the church were events to look forward to, as well as rural school programs and community get-togethers.

In 1933 the Terlouws moved to Pella, residing on North Main St. for their remaining years. The family were members of the Third Reformed Church where Nick was a deacon for many years.

Ida died on Oct. 23, 1956 and Nicholas died Oct. 29, 1970. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella, Ia.

by Mrs. Jeanette De Bruin

TERLOUW FAMILY
F492

Gysbert and Winnie Terlouw

Gysbert, oldest child and only son of Nicholas and Ida Terlouw was born at Sully, Ia. Dec. 26, 1900. He married Winnie Engbers at the home of her parents on Feb. 27, 1927. Winnie's parents were Mr. and Mrs. Rut Engbers.

Gysbert and Winnie moved to a farm owned by his father which was five miles east of Pella formerly the Ellsworth Richardson farm. They were engaged in farming there until retirement in 1960. Gysbert had been interested in horses since the days of his youth.

Third Reformed Church was the family church where Gysbert taught Sunday School. Later he became affiliated with the Gospel Tabernacle in Oskaloosa where he served as a deacon and teacher. He had a dedicated interest in the Gideon Bible Society and was state president at the time of his death.

Four children were born to the couple: Edna Mae born in 1930; Reuben N. born July 23, 1934; Norman Nicholas born Jan., 1937; and Martha Rose born Mar. 11, 1942.

Edna Mae married William Parker in her parents' home on June 8, 1954. William was born in 1929. They live in Sauk Center, Minn. where they are pastoring Faith Baptist Church. Their eldest child is William R. born 1955 and married to Linda Stoll July 14, 1979, living in Alviso, Calif. with their three children. William D. was born in 1980, Tara in 1981 and Amanda in 1985. Edna and William's second child is Esther, born 1956 and married on Mar. 6, 1977 to John Gallagher, a farmer at Plummer, Minn. Their four children are John, born in 1977, Jennica born in 1979, Joshua born in 1981, and Justin born in 1985. The Parkers' third child is Rebecca who was born in 1959 and married Franklin Whitcomb on July 11, 1981. They live in Thortun, Colo. Deborah was the fourth child born to the Parkers on May 6, 1965. She lives at home.

The second Terlouw child, son Reuben N., married Carol Voskuil on Dec. 29, 1954 at Baldwin, Wisc. Carol was born in 1932. They live on a farm northeast of Pella. They have three children. Steven, born in 1957, married Julie Santen of Monroe, Ia. Mar. 23, 1979. Their children are Karen, born 1981 and Laura who was born in 1983. They live in Ames. Reuben and Carol's son Keith, born 1959, married Mary Ann Adams in 1985. They live in Pella with their children, Laura born 1981 and Matthew born 1986. The youngest son of Reuben and Carol, Bruce, was born in 1961 and was married Apr. 2, 1982, to Marla Vande Voort. They live in Pella with their child Jaci, born 1986.

Norman Nicholas, third child of the Terlouws was married June 4, 1960 to Linda Degler born in 1939 at Robbinsdale, Minn. They farm five miles southeast of Pella. Sanya, their older child was born 1963, and was married Aug. 3, 1985 to Alan Boucher at Pella. They live in Des Moines, Ia. The second child Lori, born 1966, attends college in Ankeny, Ia.

The youngest child of Gysbert and Winnie, Martha Rose, was married June 12, 1965 to Fred Rowden at Cedar Rapids, Ia. He is engaged in pastoral work at Frankfort, Ind. They have two daughters: Lisa born in 1969 and Lora born in 1971.

Gysbert Terlouw died May 30, 1965 and Winnie died Aug. 20, 1976. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Jeanette De Bruin

Nick Terlouw family taken in 1927. Front, l-r: Nick, Jeanette, Ida; Back, l-r: Stella, Gysbert, Nellie

TERLOUW FAMILY
F493

Taken at a Birthday Occasion. Front, l-r: Jeanette De Bruin, Nick Terlouw; Back, l-r: Nellie Van Roekel, Gysbert Terlouw, Stella Boot.

Boot, Harry and Stella
Van Roekel, Richard and Nellie
DeBruin, Marion and Jeanette

Three daughters of Nicholas and Ida Van Houweling Terlouw were Stella, Nellie, and Jeanette. Their older brother was Gysbert.

Stella was born Aug. 23, 1903 at Sully, Ia. She married John Harry Boot who was born July 12, 1903. The wedding took place Feb. 2, 1928 at her parents' home and was followed by a traditional charivari by large groups of young people and neighbors who came to serenade the newlyweds with much noise and fun.

Stella and Harry Boot lived on a farm south of Sully, Ia. until 1936 when they moved to their farm three miles north of Pella. they moved into Pella in 1955, residing on North Main St. Stella was a homemaker, enjoyed handwork, traveling, and volunteer work at the local hospital.

They had one child, Arvin Gene born Jan. 26, 1933. He married Violet R. Kuiper on July 29, 1952 at Pella, Ia. I they live on a farm north of Pella and had two children: Kaylene, born Mar. 24, 1957 and died May 8, 1965; Beth Ann born Apr. 1962. Beth Ann married Mark Loux at Pella, Ia. on Apr. 28, 1984. They reside at Eugene, Oregon.

Stella Boot died June 30, 1983 and John Harry Boot passed away Feb. 5, 1987. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Nellie Alida Terlouw, born Nov. 23, 1907 at Sully, Ia., married Richard Van Roekel on Mar. 29, 1933. He was born Oct. 8, 1907.

After the marriage at the home of the bride's parents, the couple lived on farms southeast of Pella until their retirement in 1970. They moved at that time into Pella and reside on Monroe St. Nellie is a homemaker, enjoys traveling, is involved in volunteer work at the hospital, and Senior Citizens' Center, and is a member of Ladies' Auxiliary of Gideons International.

Nellie and Richard adopted two children. Ronald Lee was born Nov. 25, 1944 and on Dec. 28, 1963 married Mary Lou Van Wyk at Otley, Ia. where they now live. Mary Lou was born Nov. 9, 1945. Their child is Randy L. born 1964. He now resides at Monmouth, Ill. Linda Joy was born Oct. 20, 1947 and on Dec. 30, 1965 married Roger Witzenburg at Pella, Ia. where they now reside. Roger was born Aug. 22, 1943. They have three children: Michael, born 1967, Machelle, born 1969, and Dustin born 1979.

Jeanette Christine Terlouw was born May 22, 1912 at Sully, Ia. She married Marion DeBruin on Jan. 30, 1936 at the home of her parents. Marion was born Dec. 15, 1911. They lived on farms southeast of Pella, Ia. until retirement in 1971 when they moved to Pella, Ia. to reside on Columbus St. She is a homemaker, enjoys needlework, organ and piano, and volunteer work in several local auxiliaries.

Their first child Helen Loretta was born Jan. 14, 1937. Helen married Ralph Ver Ploeg on Feb. 21, 1956. He was born Sept. 7, 1935. Helen and Ralph live in Noblesville, Ind. where they are pastoring at the Community Reformed Church. Their first child is Barbara, born in 1957, married to Wayne Vanek on July 25, 1981 at Munster, Ind. They reside in St. Croix Falls, Wisc. Helen and Ralph's second child Janna was born in 1963 and married Michael Lagestee at Munster, Ind. on Aug. 6, 1983. They reside in Highland, Ind. The son of Ralph and Helen was born in 1968 and was named Mark. He is living at home.

The first son of Jeanette and Marion DeBruin was named Elmer John. He was born Feb. 16, 1940 and in July, 1979 married Sharon Weaver at Phoenix, Ariz. They now live in Orlando, Fla. where they are in business.

Clarence Melvin, the second son, was born June 11, 1946. He resides in Spokane, Wash. where he is a radio and TV broadcaster.

by Mrs. Jeanette De Bruin

TERLOUW FAMILY
F494

Jeanette and Marion DeBruin

Jeanette Christine, born May 22, 1912, in Sully, Ia., married Marion DeBruin on Jan. 30, 1936. He was born Dec. 15, 1911. Their marriage took place at the bride's parents' home. They lived on a farm southeast of Pella, Ia., until retirement in 1971, moving into Pella to reside on Columbus St. Jeanette is a homemaker, enjoys needlework, organ and piano, and volunteer work in several local auxiliaries.

Their children are Helen Loretta, born Jan. 14, 1937, married Ralph Ver Ploeg, born Sept. 7, 1934. The wedding was Feb. 21, 1956, at Pella, Ia. They live in Nobleville Ind., where they are pastoring at Christ's Community Church. Their children are: Barbara, born in 1957, and married to Wayne Vanek July 25, 1981, at Munster, Ind. They reside at St. Croux Falls, Wisc. A second daughter Janna married Michael Langestee Aug. 6, 1985, at Munster, Ind., and they reside at Highland, Ind. Janna was born in 1963. Helen Loretta's son Mark was born in 1968.

Elmer John DeBruin was born Feb. 16, 1940, married Sharon Weaver in July, 1979, at Phoenix, Ariz. They reside at Orlando, Fla., where they are in business.

Clarence Melvin DeBruin was born June 11, 1946, and resides in Spokane, Wash., where he is a Radio and TV Broadcaster.

by Mrs. Jeanette DeBruin

TERLOUW FAMILY
F495

Nellie and Richard Van Roekel

Nellie Alice, born Nov. 23, 1907, in Sully, Ia., married Richard Van Roekel Mar. 29, 1933, at the home of her parents. Richard was born Oct. 8, 1907. They lived on a farm southeast of Pella until retirement in 1970, moving into Pella, Ia., and now residing on Monroe St. She is a homemaker, enjoys traveling, and is involved in volunteer work at the hospital, the Senior Citizens Center, and a member of Ladies Auxiliary of Gideons' International.

Their children by adoption are: Ronald Lee, born Nov. 25, 1944, who married Mary Lou Van Wyk Dec. 28, 1963 at Otley, Ia. where they now reside. Mary Lou was born Nov. 9, 1945. Their child Randy L. was born in 1964, and lives in Monmouth, Ill.

Linda Joy was born Oct. 20, 1947, and married Roger Witzenburg Dec. 30, 1965, at Pella, Ia. Roger was born Aug. 22, 1943. They reside in Pella. Their children are: Michael, born in 1967; Machelle, born in 1969; and Dustin, born in 1979.

by Jeanette DeBruin

TERPSTRA, DIRK AND ANTJE DIRKS (DE BOER)
F496

Dirk Klases Terpstra, my grandfather (son of Klaas Dirks Terpstra and Antje Sjoerds de Groot), born Dec. 6, 1839, Holwerd, Netherlands, died Jan. 31, 1923, Menaldum, Netherlands. Dirk Klases Terpstra married May 13, 1863 Menaldumadeel, to Antje Dirks de Boer, daughter of Dirk Martens de Boer and Sipkje Hanzes Hoitinga, born Jan. 20, 1844, Berlikum, Netherlands, died May 23, 1925, in The Netherlands. To this union, nine children were born: Sipkje; Klaas; Antje; Dirk, my father; Trijntje; Marten; Klaaske; Pietje; Lieuwkje. Antje Terpstra married Oct. 18, 1888, Menaldumaddel, to Jan Runia; several

Grandparents that stayed in Holland. Dirk and Antje Dirks (de Boer) Terpstra. Date unknown.

of their children came to America. Dirk Terpstra, my father, born Oct. 25, 1870, Menaldum, Netherlands, came to America in the spring of 1893 with his bride-to-be Sietske Katje and her family. Dirk made locomotive boilers for the railroad, 16 years in New Jersey, married June 17, 1893, at Paterson, N.J., and died July 30, 1955, at New Sharon, Ia. is buried at Graceland, north of Pella, Ia. Pietje (Nellie) born Feb. 19, 1881, Menaldum, came to Lynnville, Ia., June 6, 1901, married Mar. 1902, Sully, Ia., Jasper Co. to cousin Wijtze (William) Terpstra (son of Sjoerd Terpstra and Renske Hendriks Kramer) born Apr. 20, 1879, died July 9, 1940, Oskaloosa, Ia. Pietje (Nellie) Terpstra died Apr., 1931, Lynnville, Ia., both are buried in Sully Cemetery. William and Nellie Terpstra's children all born at Lynnville, Ia., are: George; Dick; Rena (Elscott); Carl; Anna (first Montgomery, second Olsthoorn); Wilhelmina (Monsma); Pauline (Engle); and Wanda (Dunsbergen).

by Frank Terpstra Sr.

TERPSTRA, DIRK AND SIETSKE KATJE
F497

Dirk and Sietske Terpstra came to Iowa in 1908 and farmed. My father Dirk Terpstra stayed at our house some. He smoked cigars and when they got short enough to burn his fingers, he stuck a match stick in them so he could smoke them shorter. He loved to play checkers but he couldn't stand to lose to a grandchild. Their children born near Paterson, N.J. are: Gerrit, Dick, Nick, Peter, Anna, Frank (author of this story), Martin Jacob was born in Sully, Ia.

Gerrit Terpstra, born Jan. 26, 1894, died Mar. 24, 1979, Pella, Ia., married Dec. 7, 1916, to Marie E. Vande Voort, children: Gerald; Merlon (1919); Cecil; Chrystal; Robert; Betty; Donald (1935-1953).

Dirk (Dick) Terpstra, born July 1, 1895,

Wedding photo: June 17, 1893. Sietske (Sadie) Katje and Dirk Terpstra.

died Feb. 7, 1976, Marysville, Ohio, married Aug. 21, 1919, to Jessie Post, children: Richard; Charlotte; Sylvia; Peter; Wesley; Joy; Eunice; Walter.

Nick D. Terpstra, born Dec. 21, 1897, died Apr. 2, 1971, Oskaloosa, Ia., married Mar. 17, 1925, to Jennie Dirkje Van Den Heuvel, children: Richard John; John Martin (1927-1929); John Elmer; Alida; Nancy.

Peter Terpstra, born Aug. 28, 1900, died Jan. 4, 1947, rural New Sharon, Ia., married June 11, 1924, to Jennie Cora Plate, children: Gerrit; John Everett; James (1929); David.

Anna Terpstra, born Oct. 27, 1902, died Jan. 4, 1981, Ripon, Calif., married Sept. 21, 1922, to Louis Sikma, children: Twin girls (1923); Sadie; Joyce; Dorothy; Johanna; John; Lilly; Dirk; William; baby boy (1943).

Frank Terpstra, born Oct. 4, 1906, married 1928, Oskaloosa, to Pietje (Pearle) Memmelaar, ten children listed in Frank and Pearle Memmelaar Terpstra Family Story.

Martin Jacob Terpstra born July 14, 1910, Sully, Jasper Co., Ia., died Nov. 14, 1951, Oskaloosa, Ia., married Dec. 20, 1934, to Nettie Lamers, children: Marshall, Mary (1940-1959).

My father Dirk Terpstra and Sietske Katje were married June 17, 1893, Paterson, N.J. My Father Dirk passed away July 30, 1955, at New Sharon, Ia., and my mother Sietske passed away Mar. 15, 1947, Pella, Ia. Both are buried at Graceland Cemetery north of Pella, Ia.

by Frank Terpstra

TERPSTRA, EDWARD AND DEBORAH (SLYCORD)

F498

Edward Terpstra Family. Front l-r: Jared (age 7), Edward, and Amanda (age 5); Back, l-r: Russell (age 15), Deborah, and Brenda (age 16). Taken Jan. 4, 1987.

The Terpstra family originates from the province of Friesland, in the country of The Netherlands. the Terpstra name was derived from the word "Terp", meaning mound, (a kind of port or refuge), which is a thrown up or natural hill on which a village or one single farm was built for protection against flood. After the low country was dammed in and sea banks were raised the "Terpen" were no longer necessary. Many Frisian family names end in 'stra".

Edward Willaim Terpstra was born during World War II, the eighth child of a family of ten, son of Frank and Pearle Terpstra. I attended Oskaloosa Christian Grade School. I learned many important things working on the farm, things they don't teach in school. Although I graduated from Oskaloosa Senior High School in 1961, the common sense experience I received growing up on the farm was probably more important. On the fourth of October 1964, I enlisted in the Iowa Air National Guard. I had my basic at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex. and the rest of my six years in the Iowa Air National Guard in Des Moines, Ia. as a crew chief and jet engine mechanic.

I am presently self-employed at farming in Scott Twp., Mahaska Co. and a member of the Mahaska County Pork Producers, Cattlemen's Association, Farm Bureau, and four years a boys Cadet leader at church.

I married Deborah Kay Slycord born May 3, 1949, Oskaloosa, Ia. daughter of Walter Sycord and Dorothy Evelyn Newell. Deborah served three years as a 4-H leader, taught Calvinettes five years at church, enjoys all craft and handwork, stamp collecting and genealogy. We have four children, all born in Oskaloosa, Mahaska Co., Ia. Brenda Renee Terpstra, born Mar. 12, 1970, is a junior at Pella Christian High, is president of Mahaska County 4-H Executive Council, enjoys volleyball, is on annual staff, and is the 1987 Mahaska County beef queen. Russell Stuart Terpstra, born Sept. 27, 1971, is a freshman at Pella Christian, enjoys baseball, 4-H, basketball, and reading. Jared William Terpstra, born Mar. 11, 1979, is a second grader at the Oskaloosa Christian School and enjoys soccer. Amanda Joy Terpstra, born Aug. 25, 1981, is presently attending preschool at Vennard Kiddie Kollege, University Park, Ia. and enjoys coloring.

We are members of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church, Leighton, Ia., Mahaska Co. and I am serving as deacon. We are engaged in farming on the home place of 114 acres where we have a farrow-to-finish hog operation, small stock cow herd, and raise corn and beans. In the Fall of 1983 I built a Burm home (underground house with a roof) and the home I was born in was torn down.

by Edward William Terpstra

TERPSTRA, FRANK AND PEARLE (MEMMELAAR)

F499

Golden Wedding anniverary 1978. Pietje (Pearle) (Memmelaar) Terpstra and Frank Terpstra.

My father, Frank Terpstra, was a very hard working Dutch farmer. He always kept his four boys as well as some of the six girls busy. He owned a threshing machine and truck and had a large threshing run and hauled oats. When we weren't farming we did several other things. My father was an excellent carpenter and built all his own buildings as well as doing carpenter work for other people. He remodeled, painted, fixed and built new sheds, hog houses, barns, and houses. To Frank and Pearle Terpstra ten children were born: Frances, Chester, Florence, Jean Ann, Harriett, Frank Jr., Carolyn, Edward, Gloria, David.

Frances Paulina Terpstra, born Dec. 8, 1928, married Feb. 14, 1948, Oskaloosa, to Gene Carlos Ferguson, farmers south of Oskaloosa, children: Donna, Janet, Paul.

Chester Dick Terpstra, born Aug. 28, 1930, married Apr. 5, 1957, Pella, to Wilma Maxine Dieleman, farmers south of Peoria, children:

Cheryl, Sandra, Leon.

Florence Esther Terpstra, born Jun. 8, 1932, married Apr. 24, 1953, Oskaloosa, to Gerrit Henry Vander Meiden, farmers east of Pella, children: Linda, Lyle, Mark, Marcia, Keith.

Jean Ann Terpstra, born Aug. 17, 1933, married June 12, 1958, at Des Moines, to Willis Fred Hinrichs, mechanic for John Deere at Ankeny, children: Kenley, Curtis, Vonnie, Jeffrey.

Harriett Joyce Terpstra, born Dec. 27, 1934, married Oct. 30, 1953, Oskaloosa, to Clarence Clyde Bennink, retired engineer for John Deere, Ottumwa, and farmers Wapello Co., Ia., children: Sharon, Allan, Sherry.

Frank Jr. Terpstra, born May 8, 1936, married Apr. 8, 1960, Leighton, to Carol Ann Sedrel, works in the Hydraulic Dept. (Vermeer Mfg) Pella, lives Leighton, children: Diane, Bruce, Cindy.

Carolyn Ruth Terpstra, born Jan. 21, 1940, married Aug. 28, 1958, Oskaloosa, to Leroy Wilson Clark, farmers by Eddyville, children: Michael, Lois, James.

Edward William Terpstra, born Apr. 3, 1944, married June 2, 1967, Leighton, to Deborah Kay Slycord, children: Brenda, Russell, Jared, Amanda.

Gloria Fay Terpstra, born Mar. 20, 1946, married June 19, 1964, Leighton, to Harvey Eugene Van Kooten, self employed contractor, live west of Oskaloosa, children: Loren, Tammy (1968-1971), Jodi, Anthony, Patricia.

David Andrew Terpstra, born Mar. 15, 1949, married Sept. 19, 1981, Collbran, Colo. to Jeanette Lucille Quist. David is a master plumber, lives Molina, Colo., with their daughter Esther Pearle.

Frank and Pearle Terpstra retired in 1968 and sold their farm, which was purchased in 1943, to us (Edward and Deborah Terpstra). The farm is located south of Leighton in Scott Twp., Sec. 23, Mahaska Co. My mother, Pearle Terpstra, passed to rest Jan. 19, 1984, at Palmetto, Fla., and is buried at Forest Cemetery in Oskaloosa, Ia. My father, Frank Terpstra, still spends his winters at Frog Creek Campground, Palmetto, Fla., and his summers at the Leighton Leisure Apartments, Leighton, Ia., and attends Leighton Christian Reformed Church.

by Edward William Terpstra

THIESSE FAMILY

F500

The Thiesse's moved to Pella on the cold and icy day of Jan. 17, 1982, Rev. Thiesse having accepted the call to become pastor of the Third Reformed Church. The family members were Rev. Delmar and Louise Thiesse with their children Nathan, Norman, Marilyn, Maureen, and Monica.

Delmar (Del) was born Aug. 10, 1937, to Mr. and Mrs. Abner Thiesse of Little Rock, Ia. Upon graudation from Little Rock Public High School he enrolled at Central College in Pella. After two years of service in the United States Army he returned to Central where he received his B.A. degree in 1961. Then attending Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Mich. he received his Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1965. Del was awarded a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Luther Rice Seminary in Jacksonville, Fla. May of 1984.

Louise (Lou) was born on Apr. 21, 1939, to Mr. and Mrs. William R. Turnbull of Albany, N.Y. After graduating from the Academy of the Holy Names in Albany, she attended Hope College in Holland, Mich. where she earned her B.A. degree in Elementary Education in 1962.

Delmar and Lou were married on Aug. 18, 1962, at the First Reformed Church in Albany, N.Y. by Rev. Norman Thomas.

Five children were born to the couple – two sons and three daughters. Nathan Dean was born Aug. 4, 1963, in Holland, Mich.; Norman Dean was born Oct. 12, 1965, in Sheffield, Ia.; Marilyn Louise was born Mar. 23, 1969, in Sheffield, Ia.; Maureen Louise was born May 10, 1970, in Sheboygan, Wis.; and Monica Louise was born July 13, 1980, in Sarasota, Fla.

While in Seminary the couple spent the school year, 1963-1964, on an internship at the Elemendorf Reformed Church in New York City. Since graduation from seminary they have served at the Zion Reformed Church of Sheffield, Ia. from 1965 to 1969; the Bethany Reformed Church of Sheboygan, Wis. from 1969 to 1974; the First Reformed Church of Fulton, Ill. from 1974 to 1978; the Church of the Cross of Sarasota, Fla. from 1978 to 1982. Since January 1982, they have been serving the Third Reformed Church of Pella, Ia.

While in Pella their son Nathan married Brenda Joy Bogaards, daughter of Dale and Gladys Bogaards, on May 31, 1986, at Third. On July 5, 1986, their other son Norman married Bonnie Sue Visser, daughter of Laverne and Carol Visser, also at Third.

by Del Thiesse

THOMASSEN, JACK AND JEAN

F501

Sept. 21, 1985, wedding of Carol and Gene Williamson. Front, l-r: Ruth, Michelle, Jean, Jack, Carol; Back, l-r: Paul, Donald, Eric, Gene Williamson.

Jack Thomassen is the oldest son of Harold and Grace (Boat) Thomassen. He was born on Jan. 9, 1931. After attending elementary and high school in Pella and one year at Central College, he enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951. After serving in Texas, Missouri, Michigan, Greenland and Arizona he returned to Pella in 1955. While stationed at Selfridge Air Force Base in Michigan he married Jean Woolley from Mt. Clemens, Mich. on July 3, 1953. They have four children: Paul, born Dec. 31, 1955, married to Ruth De Prenger on Aug. 5, 1978, living in Littleton, Colo.; Donald, born Oct. 16, 1957, living in Arlington, Tex.; Carol, born Sept. 7, 1962, married to Eugene Williamson on Sept. 21, 1985, living in Burlington, Ia.; and Eric, born Nov. 14, 1966, living with his parents at 1203 Main St., Pella. Jack and Jean have one granddaughter, Michelle Lynn Thomassen, born Sept. 5, 1982.

When Jack was discharged from the Air Force he went to work for his father at Thomassen Wholesale, a drug sundries firm in Pella. He left Pella to manage a furniture factory in Cedar Rapids, Ia., that he and three other Pella men had purchased. The factory was moved to Austin, Minn., where it was closed a year later. At that time Jack moved to Minneapolis, Minn., and became the manager of the furniture department of a Gamble Store in Apache Plaza. He remained there until 1983 when he moved back to Pella and purchased his father's business, Thomassen Wholesale, with his brother-in-law. This business was closed out in 1983. Jack then went to work for Leydens Chevrolet as a car salesman.

by Jack Thomassen

TIMMER, GARY AND MAURINE

F502

Gary Timmer family in 1984. Left to right: Gary, Kyl, Susan, Craig, Maurine, and Sheri Timmer.

Gary and Maurine Timmer, with children Craig, Kyl, and Sheri, moved to Pella in March of 1970 from Sioux Falls, S. Dak. Gary had been vice president of the Mid-West Beach Company, and now became vice president of development of Central College.

Craig Arlan Timmer was born July 3, 1959 in Fort Dodge, Ia., and was in the fifth grade at Lincoln School when we moved to Pella. Lincoln's fifth grade class that year was meeting in the northeast corner of the old middle school building. Craig was on Coach Bender's basketball team in '76 and '77 going as far as sub-state in '77. He participated in choir, swing choir, boys glee, and boys double quartet with Mr. Lucas. As a part of the high school A.F.S. program, Craig spent the summer of '77 in England. After graduating from Central College in 1981, he worked at Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines as a budget analyst. On Dec. 8, 1984, he married Susan Firnhaber in Kansas City, Mo. Susan is the daughter of Bob and Nancy Firnhaber and was born in South Bend, Ind., Apr. 8, 1961. They now live in Chicago, Ill. Craig sells software for McCormick and Dodge and

Susan sells business and economics text books to college professors for use in their classrooms.

Kyl David Timmer was born in Fort Dodge, Ia., Mar. 21, 1962, so was in third grade at Lincoln when we moved to Pella. Kyl also played basketball but was more interested in music. He was in all music activities in high school with Mr. Lucas and Mr. Blair. He played alto saxophone and won numerous outstanding solo awards in various jazz competitions and played in the All-State Band. As a senior, he was awarded the Arion Award in both vocal and instrumental music. The Rotary program provided Kyl a year in Sweden as an exchange student. Kyl graduated from the university of Iowa in 1986 and is now teaching vocal music in Jewell, Ia.

Sheri Ellen Timmer was born in Sioux Falls, S. Dak., on Mar. 15, 1965 so her school career started in kindergarten at Lincoln School. In the spring of 1980, during Pella's Tulip Time, Sheri was the drum major for the junior high band and Kyl was the drum major for the high school band. Sheri played softball, golf, and basketball in high school and was voted the radio station's M.V.P. guard, and also was on the all-conference basketball team. Choir, swing choir, triple trio, and playing alto saxophone in band were also part of her activities. The Rotary program also provided Sheri a year overseas and she chose Norway. She is now a junior at Central College, majoring in English and hopes to teach. She spent half a year in London on Central's overseas program.

Maurine Thorson Timmer was born in Fort Dodge, Ia., Dec. 16, 1934, the daughter of Arthur Alonzo Thorson and Amelia Peterson Thorson. All of her grandparents came from Norway. She attended the Fort Dodge Community School; Fort Dodge Community College; Augustana College, Sioux Falls; and graduated from Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls in 1957. Gary and Maurine were married in Fort Dodge, June 8, 1957. Maurine taught 7th grade science in Franklin Junior High in Cedar Rapids and did substitute teaching in the Pella school system until taking a full time position as a library aide-tutor in the Pella Middle School. She also has coached the Central College Women's golf team since 1972.

Gary Timmer was born in Beaver Creek Minn., Apr. 21, 1933. He attended the Rock Rapids, Ia. school system and graduated from Central College in 1955. He was student body president as a senior and participated in both track and basketball at Central. Gary's family has its roots in The Netherlands. His father, Ed Timmmer, immigrated from Nieuweschans, The Netherlands at the age of seven in 1913. His mother Dena Jongerius' family also came from The Netherlands. Gary is the second of eight children, five of whom attended Central College.

Second Reformed Church has been the church home for the Timmers. Kiwanis; Chapter BU, P.E.O., and Chapter AE, T.T.T.; have been some of our activities, plus many at Central College.

by Maurine Timmer

TOOM, DOROTHY

F503

Dorothy N. Toom was born in Pella, Oa., on Mar. 28, 1938, to Marion and Wilma A. (Vande Voort) Vanden Oever. She attended the Pella Community Schools and graduated from Central College in 1960.

On June 15, 1960, she married Larry E. Toom, the son of Marion A. and Leah Ann (Verros) Toom. Their children are Todd Alan Toom, born Dec. 6, 1961; Nancy Lea Toom, born Oct. 2, 1963; and Carol Ann Toom, born Nov. 2, 1967.

Todd attended the University of Northern Iowa and the Indian Hills Community College. Nancy graduated in 1986 from the University of Iowa with a major in Graphic Design. Carol enrolled in 1986 as a student at the University of Iowa. At this time, Dorothy is enrolled in the Master of Divinity program at New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey.

by Mari Savery

TOOM, JAN A.

F504

Jan Toom came to visit this country with the original settlement. He sailed on the ship *Nagasaki*. At the first election in the city of Pella held in the spring of 1848, Toom was elected to the position of fence viewer. At that time, he was 27 years old and had the respect of the other colonists.

He was employed as a hired hand by Green T. Clark, a prominent farmer who was one of the earliest settlers in Marion Co. having come here in 1843. Mr. Clark was of English background so Jan Toom had a good opportunity to learn the language of his new country. Toom doubtless learned much about farming in this area as Mr. Clark was a progressive farmer and stock dealer. He planted the first orchard in the county. He made a trip to Illinois for young trees.

Jan Toom married Jannige Rietveld in 1893. They are thought to have farmed just north of the town of Amsterdam. One of the 47 persons who had bought lots in Amsterdam, Toom later put up a brick factory (steenbakkerij) on his lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 of block 3 on the Amsterdam plat. Van Stight's history says that most of the brick used in the county and in near-by counties was made in the factory. The First Reformed Church building torn down in 1954, was built from this brick. Toom built his own brick home across from the factory. This house still stands on the old Pella-Knoxville road in the Howell area. The brick yard continued for 27 years. Toom also built a lime kiln in Amsterdam. The house was sold after the death of Mary Toom in 1944. It had been occupied by the Toom family for nearly 100 years.

Jan Toom was a pall bearer at Rev. Scholte's funeral. Mrs. Scholte sent him a letter thanking him for help and kindnesses shown to her at that time.

Mrs. Jan Toom's family, the Jan Rietvelds, were living in a log cabin on the slope of the hill to the north of the bottomlands at Amsterdam by 1857. The Rietvelds were also of the first settlement having coming on the ship *Catherina Jackson*.

These families experienced the hardships of life in the Amsterdam community. There were many cases of "bottomkoorsen" or lowland fever. Many became sick from eating too freely of the "heerlijke" (luscious) fruit such as berries and plums. The floods in the year 1851 were devastating to farmers in the river and stream lowlands. The first flood in June came soon after the corn had been planted. The seed was washed out, rail fences washed away, and horse, cattle, and hogs were swept down-stream. When the land dried, a second crop was planted and another flood swept down-river. About the first of July farmers again planted corn. Due to a late fall frost the crop was abundant, but because of the great loss of livestock, there was much less need of corn. Many of the mills had been washed out, so farmers had to travel much farther to grind grain for household use. Sometimes a wait of a week was required even though the mills ran day and night. Many households ran out of ground grain and people were forced to grind the grain in coffee-grinders.

In 1852, some men from Pella financed a project to sell the extra corn in the area. They provided flat-boats which were loaded with shelled and sacked corn. Holland native boatmen were hired to guide these boats down-stream to St. Louis. But the men were not accustomed to the swift rivers of the new world. Some flat-boats were broken on sandbars. The Mississippi destroyed more so only a few of the boats reached St. Louis. This brought financial loss instead of the hoped-for prosperity. The Rietveld family had spent nearly the whole preceding winter shelling their corn by hand and sacking it to be put on the flatboats.

The Toom and Rietveld families were faithful members of Rev. Scholte's church. Jan and Jannige's children were: Jan, Dirkje, Elizebeth, Meyer, Jan Arizen (called Johnnie to distinguish him from his older brother with the same name), Cornelius, Mary Barbara, and Arie. Jan, the older brother, married Grada Van Der Plaats, a daughter of Herman Vander Plaats, an original settler. Dirkje, a good musician (her father bought her the first piano in the area) married Case Van Lint. Elizebeth married Lambert Lautenbach. Neither Meyer nor Mary married. They lived on the home farm all their lives. Jan Arizen (Johnnie) married Jane Ver Ploeg. Cornelius married Alice Van Lint. Arie married Alice Buwalda.

The Tooms were a musical family and shared their talent and knowledge with many people. Jan and Grada Van Der Plaats Toom had a singing school in their home which many young people attended. Jan taught them to sing in four part harmony while Grada played her organ for them. She had been the organist for the First Reformed Church before her marriage. All the children of this family learned to play a musical instrument and formed a family orchestra. Many will remember them as the Toom Brothers and Sisters: John, Herman (who married Maggie Walters), Jennie, Mattie, Mike, Dixie, Andrew, and Grace. They lived first in the Amsterdam area and later moved near Rousseau.

Grada, born in 1852, had watched Pella grow from "Strawtown" to a neat, prosperous city. As a child she lived on North Broadway. One morning her father urgently called her outdoors. He put her up on his shoulder and

pointed to the church several blocks away. From the belfry flew the United States flag.

Jan Arizen and Jane Ver Ploeg became the parents of Charles and Pearl. Charles married Marie Roorda in 1923. Their children are Mary Toom Parkinsen, Lora Toom Fugua, and John Charles. Pearl Toom married David Van Steenis. Mrs. C. Toom compiled the Toom-Rietveld History in 1959. Most of the information in this article is from that history.

by Pauline Tysseling

TOOM, MARION A.

F505

Front, l-r: Marion, Leah Ann; Back row, l-r: Larry, Melvin.

Marion A. Toom was born first child of Jan Arie and Alice (Buwalda) Toom, Mar. 4, 1908, at the family farm in Amsterdam, Ia. Amsterdam was south of Pella near the Des Moines river—later called Howell Station.

On Feb. 14, 1928, Marion married Leah Ann Verros. Leah Ann Verros was the twelfth child of Mathys and Datje (Van Beck) Verros and was born May 10, 1908, in Durham, Ia. After marriage the couple lived on, and farmed, the family farm in Amsterdam. Marion was stricken with polio at the age of 32.

Melvin Leroy Toom was born Jan. 7, 1935, at the farm. Larry Eugene Toom was born six years later, Mar. 27, 1941, also on the farm. At the ages of ten and four, the boys moved, along with their parents, to another farm at Durham, Ia. They farmed there until 1957 when they moved to Pella. Marion had been elected Marion County Recorder. He served as recorder from Jan. 1957 to Mar. 1973.

Melvin married Beverly Ann De Moss on May 17, 1957. They lived six months in an apartment in Knoxville, moved to 1118 Main St. in Pella for one year, finally moving back to the family farm in Amsterdam (at this time known as Howell Station). Melvin worked for the Cloverleaf Dairy until he went to work for the Pella Farmer's Coop in 1958 where he still works and also runs the Toom farm. The farm was named a Century Farm in 1977.

Beverly started work in 1968 at De Jong Floral. She worked there until 1979 when she went to the Coop oil station as a bookkeeper. Bev went on to pursue other interests in 1980.

Melvin and Beverly had three children: Terri Lynn (Nov. 21, 1958); Pamela Sue (Apr. 17, 1961); and Randol Lee (Nov. 7, 1962).

Larry Eugene Toom was united in marriage to Dorothy Vanden Oever on June 15, 1960. The couple lived in Pella. Larry and Dorothy had three children: Todd Alan (Dec. 6, 1961); Nancy Lea (Oct. 1, 1963); and Carol Ann (Nov. 2, 1967). Pursuing many interests, Larry worked at Van's Food Market, Vander Hart Transfer, Vermeer Mfg., and in 1972 started Pella Industries, Inc. where he remains today as owner-president. Larry and Dorothy were divorced in 1985.

Marion A. Toom died June 28, 1974, of cancer. He is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Terri L. Frank

TOOM, MELVIN LEROY AND BEVERLY ANN (DE MOSS)

F506

Married May 17, 1957, Melvin went immediately into the national guard. Beverly finished school at Knoxville High School graduating in 1958.

Terri Lynn was born Nov. 21, 1958, in Mahaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa (there was not yet a hospital in Pella). Pamela Sue entered the world Apr. 17, 1961, at the new Pella Community Hospital. Randol Lee was born Nov.7, 1962 in Pella Community Hospital.

Everyone enjoyed growing up on the family farm. For many years the family was very involved in the 4-H program. Melvin and Beverly being leaders while the kids were very busy with their livestock projects, leadership roles, etc.

Terri helped out after school at De Jong Floral with her mother. After graduation in 1977 she worked there full time until her marriage to James Edward Frank of Chariton, Aug. 8, 1980.

Pam worked during high school at the Hy-Vee food store in Pella. She graduated in 1979 from Pella High, then married Ronald Lee Kool on July 6, 1979. They first moved to Ames where Ron finished college and Pam worked at the Ames Hy-Vee. After graduation, they moved to Davenport. Ron worked for the Rock Island Arsenal and Pam for Compac Corp. Pam then moved to the Mississippi River Grain Elevator Company of Davenport. The two were divorced May, 1985. She was then transferred to New Orleans, La. In the fall of 1986, she quit that job to come back to Ames to attend Iowa State University.

After graduating in 1981, Randy went to school in Fort Dodge for radio broadcasting. During college, he met his future bride, Holly Maureen Dobson of Cedar, Ia. Upon graduation Randy worked for KJJY in Ankeny, KRIT in Clarion, and then getting a job at KBOE-KOSK in Oskaloosa. Randy and Holly were married May 2, 1986, in Oskaloosa, where they both work for KBOE-KOSK radio.

by Terri Frank

TROMP, FRANK

F507

Frank Tromp was born May 15, 1903, to Gerrit and Lysje Baardman Tromp, in Giessendam, South Holland, The Netherlands. He attended Christian Grade School in The Netherlands. His father died at a young age in 1916. When Frank was 13 years old he came with his mother and two sisters, Maria (Mrs. Wallace De Penning) and Nellie (Mrs. Lambert Ver Meer) to the U.S. to live with his grandparents and two uncles, John and Peter Baardman. As a boy in the U.S., he did not want to attend school, so a friend of the family, Mrs. Gam Rus took him in to help

Randy and Holly's wedding, May 2, 1986 left to right: Jim, Pam, Terri, Holly, Randy, Bev, Mel.

Frank and Nellie Tromp

with chores around the house.

Frank worked for some time at the Garden City Feeder Co. He was then employed by George Heeren, where he learned the glass and wood-work trade. He started his own business but lost it during the depression. A few years later with the help of his uncles, John and Peter Baardman, he started in business again which later became known as Tromp Paint and Glass Store, which he owned and operated for 40 years, retiring in 1969.

Frank married Cora Plate, who died in 1925. To this union Cornie Tromp was born. In 1930 he married Nellie Pothoven Tromp. To this union Bernice, Mrs. Harry Vermeer, and Gary were born.

One of the highlights of Frank's life was a return visit to Holland in 1964 with his daughter and son-in-law. Arie Baardman, the man who brought him to the ship when they left Holland in 1916, was 96 years old and still living. After a very emotional reunion he was thrilled to show his wife and daughter where he had lived as a boy and to climb the windmill with them where he had played as a boy and attended church.

In 1969 he retired from business. The last 11 years of his life they lived in the Pella Manor, which he enjoyed very much. On July 20, 1977, Frank died at the age of 74 years.

by Nellie Tromp

TUKKER FAMILY

F508

Jan Tukker was born in Holland in 1817. He had a son Cornelius, born in 1852 to his first wife, name unknown.

His second wife was Mrs. Gerritje Stravers Stek who had three children from her previous marriage: Adraantje, Jan, and Cornelia Stek. They came to America in 1870 and lived north of Otley in the area of the big elm tree which is gone now but there is a marker. Her daughter Cornelia died soon after and they later moved to Pella.

Jan Tukker died Dec. 25, 1887 and is buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Row 8, Lot No. 337. There is a no grave stone.

Jan's son Cornelius (sometimes called Case) married Marie De Joode. They had four children. Allie married John De Jong, who was an uncle of Cornelia De Jong Tukker, and Allie died soon after their son Nick was born. Elizabeth, called Lizzy, married Lane Zwyns and they lived most of their married life in Washington State. Bertha married Ben Vroegh and they lived in Eddyville, Ia.. A son John was born Dec. 25, 1888. Cornelius died in 1939 and Marie died in 1934. They are both buried in Graceland Cemetery.

On Mar. 4, 1913, John married Anna Marinus who was born Dec. 10, 1890. Her parents were Gerrit (born Oct. 3, 1861 – died Oct. 20, 1948) and Anntjie Postma Marinus born Jan. 25, 1862 – died July 22, 1927. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Anna had two sisters and one brother: Freda born (Mar. 3, 1893 – died Aug. 23, 1981, and married to Peter Breen); Kate born Dec. 11, 1896 – died Nov. 21, 1961, and married to Ben Jansen); Henry (born Jan. 17, 1895 – died Feb. 21, 1971 and married to Agnes Beintema).

John and Anna had eight children. Cornie, born Jan. 18, 1914, married Florence Bogaards. Angeline, born Apr. 4, 1915, married Henry Ryke. Marie (born Aug. 1, 1916 – died Aug. 11, 1967) married John Davis. Gertrude (born July 24, 1918 -died Aug. 22, 1980) married John Weyers. Elmer, born Oct. 31, 1920, married Cornelia De Jong Oct. 19, 1941. Freda born Apr. 9, 1923, married Harold Vander Hart. Elizabeth, born Apr. 25, 1926, married Charles Erlandsen (divorced) and later Faye Wagoner. Catherine Ann, born Nov. 29, 1929, married Donald Holt. John and Anna were farmers in the Otley area. All their children except Cornie were born on a farm west of Otley. They went to Pleasant Grove School and Otley Christian Reformed Church. Anna died Oct. 6, 1940. John moved to Otley in 1941 and he died Sept. 13, 1963. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery north of Pella.

by Cornelia Tukker

TUKKER, ELMER AND CORNELIA

F509

We met one Sunday evening in Pella when we were on a double date, but not paired with each other. We dated for six months and married Oct. 19, 1941. We worked for three farmers as married hired hands for $50 a month. June 15, 1943 our daughter Linda Lee was born. In March, 1944, we rented the farm where Elmer was born and his dad had farmed for several years. We lived there 13 years during which our son Kenneth was born Oct. 1, 1948 and our daughter Eileen Ann, Aug. 22, 1951. This farm was three miles west of Otley. Linda went to Pleasant Grove School one year, then the school closed and the children went to Otley school. We attended the Otley Christian Reformed Church.

In March, 1957, we moved to a farm south of Otley. Our children went to Liberty Corner School and then to Pella Christian Grade and High Schools. In May, 1958, Otley church closed and we joined with Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella. In 1960 the owners of our farm bought some extra land with a nicer house on it and combined the two places. We moved to that farmstead. At first Elmer worked during the winter months in the open pit coal mine next to us.

In 1961, Linda graduated from Pella Christian High and in June of that year moved to an apartment in Pella. She worked as a waitress and as a cashier at the Super Value Store. On Mar. 14, 1963, she married Larry Olivier at our home. They lived east of Pella and then moved to an apartment in Pella until they built their home at 308 Maple. They were blessed with two children: Lowell Dean born Mar. 17, 1965, and Lana Kay born Sept. 1, 1969. Both Linda and Larry are employed at Rolscreen Company.

We quit farming in 1967, had a dairy cow sale at the Pella Sale Barn Nov. 28, and a farm equipment sale Dec. 8. We bought a lot in Pella and had a house built at 1217 W. Third. We moved Jan. 13, 1968. Elmer worked at a sawmill east of Pella for a while; then he went to work at Van Gorp Mfg. for the next ten years. He quit working in 1980 because of his health. I started working at Rolscreen Company Feb. 26, 1968 and retired Mar. 23, 1984.

Kenneth graduated from Pella Christian High in 1965. He worked at various jobs and attended Drake University, Des Moines, Ia. for a short while. He was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1968 and served until 1970, 13 months of which were spent in Korea. On Oct. 8, 1971, he married Helena Hoogendoorn. They were blessed with two boys and two girls: Kristopher born Jan. 10, 1975; Jodi Lynn born Aug. 8, 1976; Shane born Oct. 28, 1981; and Jill Suzanne born Sept. 9, 1983. They live east of Monroe, Ia. on an acreage. Helene (she changed the spelling of her name) works part time as an LPN and Ken and Helene own a distributorship for Voortman cookies.

Eileen graduated from Pella Christian High in 1969, and attended Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich. for a short time. She then worked at Rolscreen Company. On Aug. 7, 1970 she married Richard Earl Burns. Rich had entered the U.S. Army Jan. 1970. Eileen joined him in Kaiserslautern, W. Germany in Jan., 1971, where they were blessed with a son, Scott Earl, born Mar. 4, 1972, at Landstuhl Military Hospital. They were sent to Ft. Carson, Colo. in May, 1972, where another son, Eric T. was born May 23, 1973, at the army hospital. In 1975, they returned to Iowa and purchased a home in Prairie City. Richard is a farm implement mechanic and Eileen is employed in the transportation industry.

Now we have been married 45 years and enjoy participating in the activities of church and community. We have learned to put our trust in our Lord always and look to him for all our needs. We know from experience that He will provide abundantly.

by Cornelia Tukker

TURNBULL, GLENN AND LILA

F510

Glenn Elliot Turnbull and Bruce Gordon Turnbull, identical twins, were born at their home in Berkeley Heights, N.J., Sept. 27, 1946. Their older brother, James Williams, was born Dec. 11, 1943, in Newark, N.J.

Glenn served four years in the navy upon completion of high school. He was stationed in Panama City, Fla. as a gunner's mate. One of his missions on a minesweeper took him to the Mediterranean area. After the navy, Glenn worked in Kansas City for a short time before attending Hawkeye Institute in Wat-

erloo, Ia. Glenn graduated from the automechanic program there and was employed in Waterloo as a mechanic.

Glenn's paternal grandfather, William E. Turnbull, was born Apr. 3, 1880, in Brooklyn, N.Y. He lived most of his life in Garden City, N.Y., where he was involved in the business of importing and exporting textiles. He married Elizabeth Margaret Reif April 16, 1906. Elizabeth, of German descent, taught piano and worked for the Red Cross during World War I. She was a member of the New York City Garden Club, and won a $500 gold plaque for the best flower garden in Garden City. The Turnbulls also had a beautiful summer home in Wardsboro, Vt., where they later retired. William played organ at the Riverside Episcopal Church in New York City, and also taught organ and composed music. In later years, following a personal healing experience, he became a Christian Science practitioner. William and Elizabeth were very formal and proper, and she always referred to him as "Mr. Turnbull."

Glenn's father, Alan Clifford, the youngest of William and Elizabeth's three sons, was born July 20, 1913. He was first violinist in the orchestra at the University of Michigan, and graduated there with top honors with a major in design engineering. He taught mechanical drawing, radio electronics, drafting, and English, in Newark, N.J. It was at the Presbyterian Church there that he met Oriole Grabau. They were married Dec. 26, 1942.

Oriole Graubau Turnbull was born Nov. 6, 1921. Her parents were Frederick William and Hazel Margaret Bauersach Grabau. Frederick was an electrical engineer and designed and laid out Memorial Park in Summit, N.J. He was a Mason and was active in the Lutheran Church. Hazel, of German descent, loved to play the piano and sang in the church choir. Oriole was their only child and attended grammar school in New Jersey. She earned an award for a poster submitted to the 1933 World's Fair; during high school she exhibited art work at the New York Museum of Natural History. She has had a variety of jobs, including working as a dental assistant, doing accounting for an insurance company, working in real estate, and as a supervisor for a publishing company in New York City. She now resides in Forked River, N.J., where she moved after the death of her husband in June, 1968.

Lila Joy Steenhoek Turnbull (see Naldo Steenhoek and Hubert Van Gilst entries for Lila's history) graduated from Pella High School in 1970, and continued her education at Hawkeye Institute at Waterloo in the interior design program, graduating in 1972. It was here she met Glenn, and after graduation, both were employed in Phoenix, Ariz. where they were married on Oct. 20, 1972. In Phoenix Lila worked as an interior designer and Glenn as an auto mechanic. In 1974, they moved back to Cedar Falls where their first two sons were born: Hanson Elliott, Jan. 30, 1975, and Travis Nelson, Nov. 23, 1976. In 1978 they moved to Pella. Lila was employed at local furniture stores and Glenn at Vermeer Mfg. In 1978 they moved to their present home in Mahaska Co., which, in 1982, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Glenn and Lila are restoring the home and are developing an upholstery and interior design business from their home, which they call "The House by the Side of the Road."

On Aug. 13, 1985, the Turnbull's third son, Seamus Levi, was born. The Turnbulls enjoy their large country home and neighborhood. Hanson and Travis attend Pella Public Schools. Glenn is presently employed at Rolscreen Company and serves in the navy reserves. He is attached to the battleship *USS Iowa*.

by Lila Turnbull

TYSSELING FAMILY
F511

Hermanus P. Tysseling

Evert Tysseling came to America in 1861 with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hermanus P. Tysseling, and his six brothers and sisters: Albertus, Teunis, Willem, Arie, Antonia, and Willempje. They arrived in America in Mar., 1861 and made their way to Pella via train to Eddyville and then by wagon to Pella.

In the Netherlands the Tysseling family operated a mill on a site one-and-one-half miles north of Ede, in Gelderland province, off the main road to Lunteren. Their home was back of the mill. This mill was in the Tysseling family for more than 200 years and still stands, being preserved as a landmark. It is undoubtedly 500 years old. The Tysselings operated it for at least three generations.

On arrival in Pella on Apr. 7, 1861, the Tysseling family stayed with relatives a few days until they could purchased household necessities. After renting a farm for one year, they purchased a farm east of Pella, which stayed in the Tysseling family from 1862 until 1966.

Eventually Evert Tysseling owned the land on the south side of the road just east of Wheat Grow School, and his brother Arie owned the land on the north side of the road. Parts of the farm were sold at various times, the last of the land being sold by the family in 1966. Ed De Jong, grandson of Evert Tysseling, was the last family member to farm land on the original Tysseling farm.

by Fran De Jong

TYSSELING FAMILY
F512

Nicholaas Ten Bosch

Nicolaas Ten Bosch set out to come to America in 1864 with his wife, three daughters, and three sons. One more daughter was born after they arrived in Pella. Nicolaas was born in Beneken, Holland and his wife at Ede. After their marriage they lived in Ede and left for America with their six young children, ages one through ten, in Oct., 1864.

The family spent 16 days on the ocean, during which time the three youngest children, all boys, died of cholera. The first one, Pieter, died Oct. 10 and was buried in the Atlantic Ocean; the second one, Jacob, died Oct. 18, and was buried on Ellis Island. The last one, Willem, died Oct. 25 on the train from New York, but Mrs. Ten Bosch did not tell anyone the baby was dead, holding him in her lap covered by a blanket until they reached Pella, Ia. She wanted to bury her baby in the cemetery in Pella.

On arriving here the Ten Bosch family stayed with the Hermanus Tysseling family who were friends from their days in Ede, Holland. After a couple of days, the Ten Boxhes went to stay with her brother Maas Van Domselaar. After two and one-half years they bought an 80-A. farm four miles east of Pella and a little south. The youngest daughter Pieternella was born while the family was living with the Van Domselaars. The other three daughters were Rikje, Engellina, and Anna.

by Fran De Jong

TYSSELING FAMILY
F513

Evert Tysseling

On Mar. 18, 1874, Evert Tysseling, second son of Hermanus Tysseling, married Rikje, oldest daughter of Nicolaas Ten Bosch at Pella. They lived their entire life on the farm east of Pella. Ten children were born to this couple: Henrika (1874-1946) who married Peter Vander Haar (1875-1958); Elbertha (1876-1941) who married Dirk Van Houweling (1876-1934); Nichalas (1891-1950) who married Nelle Vander Waal (1892-1984); Engelina (1887-1963) who married Cornelius S. Van Hemert (1888-1963); William (1890-1959) who married Julia Van Zee (1890-1982); Anna (1893-1970) who married Jacob G. De Jong (1885-1963); Edward (1895-1972) who married Jessie Heeren (1897-); Pieternella (Pearl) (1898-), who married George Van Dyk (1903-1981). Hermanus (1878-1949) and Albertus (1884-1910) never married. Most of the family members are buried in Black Oak Cemetery a few miles from the Tysseling home.

Evert and Rikje Ten Bosch Tysseling had a total of 20 grandchildren. All of their children lived most of their lives in the Pella-Leighton area, and for the most part were people of the land. However, the next generation went into many different professions and scattered from coast to coast and border to border.

Evert and Rikje Tysseling are my grandparents. My parents are Jacob and Anna Tysseling De Jong. Although both of my grandparents died before I was born, their influence was very much a part of the Tysseling family traditions long after their passing. Grandmother Tysseling was the matriarch of the family and worked very hard at keeping the family together. Christmas and Thanksgiving were always special family gatherings, always at Grandmother's home. The Tysselings were farmers but Grandmother made sure they were exposed to some of the more cultured dimensions of life. Music was an important part of family life. Visitors often enjoyed hospitality in the Tysseling home, sharing experiences and adventures with the family.

Grandfather Tysseling died Jan. 16, 1918, and Grandmother continued to live on the home place until her death June 22, 1933.

My mother, Anna Tysseling De Jong, was one of the last of the family to marry. She

lived at home with her mother and brothers, Herman and Ed, for many years helping to care for other family members who were ill or who needed assistance with new babies born into the family. She married Jacob De Jong Feb. 25, 1925.

by Fran De Jong

TYSSELING FAMILY
F514

Jacob and Anna (Tysseling) De Jong

On Feb. 25, 1925, Anna Tysseling married Jacob De Jong whose family also farmed east of Pella, just south of the Tysseling farm. After a few years of farming near Leighton and New Sharon, Jacob and Anna bought the eastern 100 A. of the original Tysseling farm east of Pella in 1940. This was to be the family home for the next 26 years.

The four children born into the De Joong family are: Audrey (1931), Edward (1933), Frances (1935), and Herman (1938). They attended Wheat Grow Country School and later the Pella Public Schools. Frances and Herman also graduated from Central College in Pella. Audrey married Roy Klein in 1950, and they had seven children: Douglas, Marilyn Hegwood, Connie Boomershine, John, Marvin, Edwin and Troy; and eight grandchildren: Valerie and Victoria Klein, Michelle and Christopher Hegwood, Dustin Boomershine, Rhonda, Jeremy and Jennifer Klein. The family has lived and worked in the Pella area.

Ed De Jong married Barbara Hill in 1968 and they have three children: Mary Kron, Brenda Adkisson and Michael De Jong; and two grandchildren: Michelle Kron and Mindi Adkisson. Ed served as a policeman and chief of police in Pella for 16 years. They then moved to Arkansas and later to Washington, Ia. moving back to Pella in 1986.

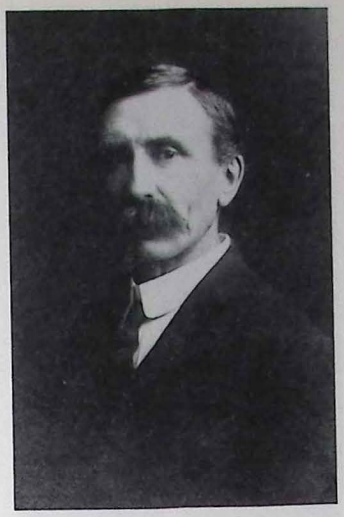
Frances and Herman De Jong both entered the Christian ministry, becoming ordained ministers in the Reformed Church in America. Frances has worked in churches in New York and New Jersey, and since 1970 has served in Campus Ministry, most of that time as chaplain at Central College in Pella. Herman has served as pastor of the Steinway Reformed Church in New York City all of his ministry beginning in 1964.

by Fran De Jong

TYSSELING, GERRIT TUNIS
F515

Children Anna, Anthony and Richard

Gerrit Tunis Tysseling was born Feb. 13, 1855, and died July 23, 1930. He came to the United States at the age of eight in 1863. The United States was engaged in the War Between the States at that time. He accompanied his father, Antonie, three sisters and a brother. The brother, Rikholm, died at the depot in Chicago, Ill., on the way to Pella. The three sisters were: Gertrada, who later became Mrs. P.G. Gaass; Nettie who married Rev. Maurice Nies; and Bertha who taught school and in her later years was a bookkeeper for John Heerema of Heerema's Drug Store.



Gerrit Teunis Tysseling, husband of Nellie Breen and father of Anna, Anthony, and Richard.

Nellie (Breen) Tysseling, mother of Anna, Anthony, and Richard.

The Tysseling home, 1915-1966.

Anna, Richard, and Anthony Tysseling.

Gerrit spent the first few years of his adult life operating a threshing machine. He then managed a general store in Orange City, Ia., where he married his first wife. She died at a young age. Gerrit returned to Pella and operated a flour and feed mill in South Pella. This mill burned in 1900.

Gerrit married Nellie Breen in 1904. To this union three children were born, all of them after their mother was forty-one years old. The children were: Anna, Anthony, and Richard.

Anna was born in 1907 and grew up in Pella. She graduated from Central College and taught music in New Sharon before coming to Pella to teach music. She distinguished herself in music and directed operettas which were presented at Tulip Time. She taught in the Pella Schools until her retirement. She passed away in Pella on Mar. 5, 1975, at the age of sixty-nine.

Anthony was born in 1908 and grew up in Pella, also. After attending Central College, he went into the retail shoe business, buying the Two Vans Shoe Store on the south side of Franklin St. later moving to Tysseling Shoe Store on Main Street just north of the Marion County Bank. He spent thirty-eight years in the shoe business, the last several years in the T and D Department Store. After he sold the business he worked for the State of Iowa as a food inspector.

In 1930 Anthony married Florence Boot. They had two children, Linda and Anthony (Tony). Linda is now living in Nashville, Tenn., and Tony is in Everett, Wash.

Linda has three children: Martin, Alison and John. She is married to Raymond White who has an engineering firm in Nashville.

Tony married Lois Ward and their three children are: Leslie, Kelly, and Amy.

The third child of the Gerrit Tysseling family, Richard, was born in 1909, and lived his early years in Pella where he also attended Central College. He was an outstanding athlete. His first coaching job was in Garden Grove, Ia., where he met and married Pauline

Lovett. They have one child, Helen. "Babe" as he was known, finished his coaching career at Central College and became head of the Admissions Department where he remained until his retirement. They live in Pella.

Florence and Anthony have had a good life, enjoying measures of health and get around well. They pursue the hobbies of golf, bridge, and reading. There are many friends and the two children and six grandchildren are doing well. Florence and Anthony divide their time between McAllen, Tex., and Pella, spending about six months at each place.

God has been good and for that they are eternally grateful.

by Florence Tysseling

TYSSELING, HERMAN A.

F516

The Herman A. Tysseling Family.

Herman A. Tysseling (1885-1960) was born and lived until retirement on a farm four miles east of Pella in Mahaska Co., the oldest son of Arie and Martha (Van Roekel) Tysseling. His grandfather, Hermanus Tysseling, had settled his family on this farm shortly after they arrived in the United States from Ede, The Netherlands, in 1861. The family had been millers in Ede, and owned a mill which had been in the Tysseling family for over 200 years. This mill is still standing and is now preserved as an historic landmark, being over 450 years old.

Herman's father, Arie, was a child of five when they arrived in the United States and also lived all of his life until retirement on the Tysseling farm. He and Martha raised five children, after two had died in infancy. One son, Henry, died in World War I. The only surviving member of the family is the youngest, Alice, Mrs. Gerrit Loverink, who now lives in Denver, Colo.

Herman attended Wheat Grow country school, which had been built on a corner of the Tysseling farm. For many years he served on the school board and held the position of secretary. He married Nellie Borgman, daughter of Evert R. and Jozena (De Geus) Borgman, who farmed several miles away. She attended Flint Ridge country school, and the parties which were held for young adults at these two schools had brought them together. Both were life-long, active members of the First Reformed Church, as were their parents and grand-parents before them. Herman served on the Consistory for many years, as both elder and deacon. The family was also active in the Black Oak Township Farm Bureau.

Herman and Nellie were the parents of three children, all still living in Pella — Arthur H. (married to Lucile Paltzer), the 4th and last generation to operate the Tysseling farm; Evelyn (Mrs. Calvin Joosten); and Marvin H., (married to Myrtle Evers).

by Mrs. Calvin (Evelyn) Joosten

TYSSELING, HERMANUS

F517

Tysseling Windmill – Ede, Gelderland

Hermanus Tysseling, 1814-1883, was the first of his family to come to America. He and his wife Hendrika Van De Haar, and their seven children arrived on Apr. 7, 1861. Hermanus had two brothers, Pik and Anthony and a sister, Celia, who came to this country a year later. In Gelderland, the Tysselings were millers. They had a small plot of ground around the mill. At that time the mill was one and a half miles north of Ede, Gelderland. The home was back of the mill. Their father had turned over ownership of the mill to the three brothers before it left the family's possession before the move to America. it had been owned by the family for over 250 years.

The mill, built in the 1500's, is now a national monument as it is the oldest mill in Holland. It is a post-mill for grinding grain. The farmers would clear grain to have flour made. A horse and cart were housed in the lower part of the mill, and the millers would go through the country to pick up the grain to be milled.

The Tysselings were members of the Reformed Church of Ede. The church had a very fine organ, which was famous in all Europe at that time.

The trip to America took twenty-two days. It was a stormy voyage. The only other Hollanders on the ship were the Van Donselaar brothers. Some earlier immigrants told of poor rations on shipboard, so the Tysselings took along Holland Bisquet and dried beef. However, the food on this ship was good and adequate. They entered the country at New York and took an immigrant train to Detroit and Chicago. Chicago at that time, was described as "not much of a city." From there, they took the Des Moines Valley Railroad to Davenport. They continued on the trail planning to go to Eddyville, which was as far as the railroad had been built. A washout made it necessary to leave the train at Ottumwa. At Ottumwa, they hired teams and wagons to take them to Eddyville where they stayed with Bieshaar relatives of Hendrika. After three days,they bought stoves, beds, tables, etc., and went to a farm which they had rented near Pella. The next year they bought a farm three miles east of pella where they, and following generations, lived until recent years.

In 1863, Anthony and four children, Rick and Celia came to Pella. Rick died in Chicago and was brought to Pella for burial. This was the first Tysseling grave in America and because of incomplete records, no one knows where the grave is. The Tysselings were farmers, millers, and store-owners in and around Pella. Anthony was a skilled book binder and book repairer.

Hermanus and Hendrika were the parents of Teunis Albert, called Albert. He married Egje De Jong. Evert married Rikje Ten Bosch, Teunis married Peternella Pas, William married Harmina Overbergen, Anthonia married Aart Vanderwaal, Arie married Maartje Van Roekel.

(Teunis) Albert and his brothers were great story tellers and spent many happy hours laughing and talking. One cold winter day they had gathered around the front room stove for some conversation and became so engrossed that they let the fire go out. They hadn't noticed what had happened until Egje came into the room to ask why the house was becoming cold.

Albert and Egje were parents of Gysbertje (Mrs. (Brandt Ver Meer), Hendrika (Mrs. J.C. De Bruin), Wilhelmina (Mrs. Steven De Kock), Peter married Wilhelmina Ver Meer, and Herman married Martha Cooper.

Peter and Minnie Tysseling were the parents of Albert (married Edna Van Zante) and Gerrit (married Georgia Roorda).

Albert and Edna's children are Ruth, Orville, and Carl. Ruth and her husband John Vander Hart farm in the New Sharon area. Their children are Edith and Randall. Orville, in sales and public relations at Dayton Power and Light, married Judith Rice. Their children are Susan, Karen, Gretchen, and Jean. Carl married Mary Van Heukelom and they live on the farm east of Pella where Albert and Edna lived. Their children are Laura, Carol, James, Peter (deceased), and Vicki.

Gerrit and Georgia's children are Pauline and Enid.

Albert and Gerrit both farmed east of Pella. Gerrit still lives on the farm where he was born. He continued farming until his 80th year. His daughters continue the care of the flock of ewes.

by Pauline Tysseling

UITERMARKT, KENNETH J. AND FERN L. (DEN ADEL)

F518

Kenneth James Uitermarkt, the second son of Clayton O. and Dorothy (Van Ommen) Uitermarkt, was born July 5, 1936, on a farm near Leighton. He received his education at Centennial School and Pella Community High School. Following graduation he worked at the Veldhuizen Saw Mill, Klyn Tire, Schiebout Tire, and Farmers Co-op Lumber. At the present time he works at Dutch Mill Supply which he started in 1979.

Kenneth and Fern Den Adel were married on Sept. 16, 1959. Fern was born Mar. 29, 1939, to William and Johanna Van Engelenhoven Den Adel. Fern received her education at Bell, Lincoln, Webster, and Pella Community High Schools. She worked at the Pella Co-operative Electric Association following graduation. Later she was employed part-time at First Reformed Church.

Ken and Fern have two daughters. Amy Kay was born Dec. 21, 1968, and Alison Dawn was born June 30, 1971. Amy and Alison are students at Pella Community High School.

The family attends First Reformed Church where they are active in consistory, Sunday School, women's work, and youth fellowship.

Ken and Fern enjoy working with vairous aspects of the Tulip Time festivities.

by Fern Uitermarkt

ULRICH, RUDOLPH J.

F519

Emma and John Ulrich.

The son of John Ulrich Jr. and Emma Van Wyngarden, Rudolph was born in Pella on Sept. 24, 1914. Emma came to Pella from the Lower Grove neighborhood near Lynnville-Sully. Rudolph has one sister, Thelma, who left Pella after graduating from Iowa State University. She married Charles H. Cunningham in 1940. For many years they have lived in East Lansing, Mich.

Rudolph graduated from Pella High School in 1932 and attended Central College for two and one-half years. From there he went to employment with Ulrich Motor Co. which opened for business in May, 1935.

Rudy married Velma A. Patterson from Oskaloosa on Nov. 30., Thanksgiving Day, 1939. The wedding was held at The Little Brown Church, Nashua, Ia.

Rudy and Pat Ulrich

Pat and Rudy have two sons, Jerry L., born Feb. 7, 1941, and Robert J., born Aug. 15, 1944. Jerry is married to Phyllis Walraven, daughter of Harold and Jennie Walraven of Pella. They have two children, Julie and Christopher. Pat and Rudy have one great grandchild, Jessica Anne Mosley. Jerry's family lives in Eagan, Minn. a Twin Cities suburb. Robert, a Vietnam veteran, lives in Cedar Rapids, Ia.

Paternal grandfather is John Ulrich, one of Pella's early founders (1869) and originator of the world famous Pella Bologna. Ulrich's Genuine Pella Bologna is still sold today, using the original copyright recipe of John Ulrich. As a boy, Rudy remembers seeing a letter from Admiral Richard E. Byrd in which he ordered Ulrich's Genuine Pella Bologna to be sent to his expedition party to the Antarctic.

While attending school Rudy was sports reporter for *The Pella Chronicle* , *Oskaloosa Herald*, and *Des Moines Register & Tribute* . At a Central vs Drake football game in Des Moines he was Central's sideline spotter for the WHO play-by-play radio announcer, Ronald "Dutch" Reagan.

During Rudy's early years in business he was active in local and civic affairs. Early Tulip Times were supplied with Ford and Mercury convertibles for the parades by Ulrich Motor Company. When parades resumed following World War II Rudy was asked to represent the "Scissors Sharpener," the role he still does today. He had been in the parade every year and is probably the only person to have done so for fifty-one years at the time this is written in 1986.

Rudy was a charter member of the Pella Kiwanis Club. He served as Club President during his thirty some years as a member and filled in as President for Arthur Bennink who left Pella during his term.

Pella Golf and Country Club became a reality in 1946. Rudy was appointed secretary and served for several years. He has served several terms on the board of directors, many years as club treasurer, grounds committee chairman, and was elected club president at least three terms.

In 1959 Rudy was elected the first president of the newly organized Central Club. A booster club supporting the extra-curricular activities at Central College, it has become one of the most successful small college clubs of it's kind in the United States.

In 1985 Rudy celebrated fifty years with Ulrich Motor Company as dealer principal in sales and service of Ford, Lincoln, Mercury cars, and Ford trucks. From 1939 to 1957 Ulrich Motor was also a dealer in Ford tractors and machinery.

by Rudy Ulrich

VAN DALEN, JERALD AND LUCILLE DIAN (MONSMA)

F520

Christmas 1986 – Van Dalen home. Front, l-r: Kendra and Kim Van Dalen and Benni the dog; back, l-r: Dian and Jerry Van Dalen.

Jerald (Jerry) DeWayne Van Dalen and Lucille Dian (Dian) Monsma Van Dalen were married Aug. 20, 1965, in the First Reformed Church, Sully, Iowa. Jerry was born in the Albia, Ia. hospital to Emmett Ira and Eva Victoria Pickerell Van Dalen on Aug. 8, 1942. He was educated at the Miller Ridge country school in Monroe Co. and Albia High School graduating in 1959. He waited a year before going to college and then attended Centerville Iowa Community College for two years and graduated from Northeast Missouri State Teachers College at Kirksville, Mo. in 1964, receiving a degree in science education. He taught school one year at Sheffield, Ia. Dian was born to Glen Raymond and Wilhelmina Terpstra Monsma in the Grinnell, Ia. Hospital on Apr. 1, 1945, and spent her first 18 years on a farm four miles south of Sully, Ia. She attended Chester country school in Jasper Co. for kindergarten, first, and second grades. That school closed and she then attended Sully grade school. Lynnville and Sully schools consolidated when she was in sixth grade. She graduated from Lynnville-Sully High School in 1963. After graduation she was employed four years by the Maytag

Company in Newton, Ia. as an audit clerk in the payroll department.

After their marriage in 1965, Jerry taught a year at Colfax, Ia. and a year at Prairie City, Ia. It was that year, 1967, he enlisted in the air force and was accepted into officer training school. After his commission, they moved to Gulfport, Miss. where he attended one year of communications training.

On May 8, 1968, their first daughter Kendra Jo was born at the Kessler Air Force Base Hospital in Biloxi, Miss. Kendra was baptized at the Sully Reformed Church on June 9, 1968. From there they moved to Selfridge Air Force Base north of Detroit, Mich. On July 11, 1970, their second daughter Kimberly (Kim) Ann was born at the St. Joseph's Hospital in Mt. Clemens, Mich. Kim was baptized on Sept. 13, 1970, at the First Presbyterian Church in Mt. Clemens, Mich.

After four years and a few months, Jerry was honorably discharged with a rank of captain from the air force. He was offered a job in the Pella school system teaching sixth grade math. They moved to Pella in the summer of 1971. This move gave Jerry his first opportunity to build a house, which eventually turned into his business of today, Van Dalen, Inc. The houses he has built in the order of construction are located at: *1337 E. Third; *317 Cedar; *403 Cedar; 410 Woodlawn; 406 Woodlawn; 1527 Westwood; *1538 W. Fourth; 1542 W. Fourth; 1541 W. Fourth; *1545 W. Fourth; *1322 E. 7th; 103 Kirkwood; 105 Kirkwood. Those starred were residences of the Van Dalens at one time.

After his discharge from active duty in the air force, Jerry joined the Iowa Air National Guard and is currently Commander of the 132 Communications Flight in Des Moines with a rank of Major.

In Feb. 1979, Dian started working as a secretary at Central College and this remains her place of employment at the time of this writing.

Kendra and Kim were educated in the Pella school system. Kendra graduated from high school in 1986 and was on the 1986 Tulip Queen's Court. She is presently attending Iowa State University in Ames, Ia. Kim will graduate from Pella High School in 1988.

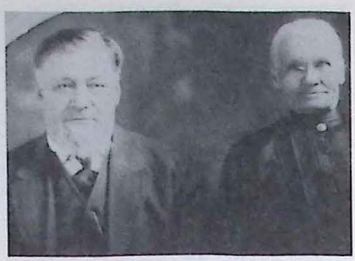
All four of the Van Dalens are active members of the Second Reformed Church in Pella.

by Jerry & Dian Van Dalen

VAN DE LUNE, GERRIT

F521

In 1881 when Gerrit and Rensche Van de Lune came to America, Holland was in the grip of extreme poverty and hunger. Gerrit had made the decision to emigrate but had no money. He wrote to a cousin, Mr. Roorda, and was able to borrow enough money to bring his family to America. Mr. Roorda and his wife Altje, or Ella, were very good to Gerrit and his family, helping them get settled, find work, providing them with food and a one -room log house to live in. Rensche was expecting their seventh child when they arrived in Pella, but they had no money to buy anything for the baby. Mrs. Roorda said if the baby were a girl, and Renshce would



Gerrit Van de Lune and his wife Rensche Pieters Hoogstra.

name the child after her, she would provide clothing for the new baby. No doubt Gerrit and Renshce had some very, very hard years, but eventually he was able to buy a farm and became fairly prosperous.

Gerrit Van de Lune, born June 5, 1844, at Hallum, Friesland, was the son of Aukje Wiegers Van de Lune Hofman. At the time of the census, taken in 1844, Aukje Wiegers Van de Lune Hofman was listed as a storeholder and merchant. Her father, Wieger Pieters Van de Lune, aged 73 years, a retired carpenter, was living with her. Aukje's mother, Akke Hendriks Buma, had died in 1827.

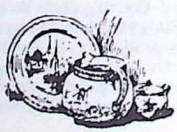
Rensche Pieters Hoogstra, born Oct. 11, 1845, at Hijum, Friesland, was the eldest of the seven children of Pieter Wiemers Hoogstra and Grietje Sijbrens van der Net. Pieter Wiemers Hoogstra was a merchant and a bargeman of Hijum, Friesland. Rensche had two sisters and a brother who also came to America: Juliana, a twin (1858-1937), married Dirk Hugen in Pella; Tjitske (1863-1941) married Bert Hugen in Pella; and Sijbren or Seibert Hoogstra, who settled in Detroit, Mich.

Gerrit and Rensche were married May 20, 1871, at Ferwerderadeel, Friesland. This couple had ten children, five sons and five daughters. They were: Auke (1873-), married to Dicena Hollander; Grietje "Maggie" (1874-), married A.W. Van Houweling; Pieter (1875-1933), never married; Aukje "Annie" (1877-), married Gerrit Andringa; Tjitske "Sare" (1878-), married Charles LeCocq; Bauke "Bert" (1879-); Altje "Ella", named after Mrs. Roorda (1881-), married M.J. Kempenaar; Artje "Artie" (1883-1965), married Herman Fennema; Will (1885-1956), married Lena Vander Wiel; Jan "Reverend John" (1887-). The youngest daughter, Artie, born Oct. 13, 1883, in Pella, later told of the Indians coming to the Van de Lune household to trade beads and other trinkets for food.

On Feb. 15, 1906, Artie married Herman Fennema, youngest son of Harm Fennema and Gietje De Kraaij.

Gerrit Van de Lune died July 31, 1919, at Pella. Rensche lived for several years at the Home for the Aged in Pella and died May 21, 1936, at the age of 90. Both are buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

by Juli Wilson



VAN DE VOORT, WILLEM AND MAARTJE

F522

Willem and Maartje (Wulven) Van de Voort and their six children came to America in 1869 from Lunteren, Gelderland, Netherlands. This move was made after Willem's older brother had a son. Since the farm in Lunteren would be inherited by the heir of the oldest son, Willem decided to take his family to America. Willem, Maartje, and their family arrived in Pella Nov. 2, 1869. The children were Hendrik (Henry), Jannigje (Jane), Cornelia (Kate), Jan (John), Gysbertus (Albert), and Gratie (Greta). They rented a large room in a house on the northwest corner of East Market in Pella. In 1870 a baby named Willem was born. He died when he was 1 or 2 years old. They bought a farm east of Pella on the New Sharon Road, where they lived for 5 years. Two more children were born, named Mientje (Minnie), and Maria (Mary). On Feb. 12, 1872 Willem bought 10 acres of timber from Madison Tice. On March 28, 1874 Willem bought the present farm from Madison Tice. It is the N.E. ¼ of Section 6 in Black Oak Township in Mahaska County. The house on the farm had been built for Mr. Tice by Mr. Ruark. Constructed of walnut it had two big front rooms, a long narrow kitchen, a bedroom and a summer kitchen, also two bedrooms upstairs. The family moved to this farm in March 1876. Their youngest child, William was born in 1878. Father Willem died in 1879. Maartje Van de Voort raised their 9 children here. She had a sale on Feb. 21, 1901 prior to Albert's marriage to Aaltje (Alice) VanderZyl on Mar. 7, 1901. William lived with Albert and Alice, and Maartje and Mary went to live with Maartje's daughter Jane, and her husband, Henry Overbergen. When Mary married Rut Engbers on Feb. 27, 1902, Maartje lived with her daughter Minnie, Mrs. Herman De Bruin.

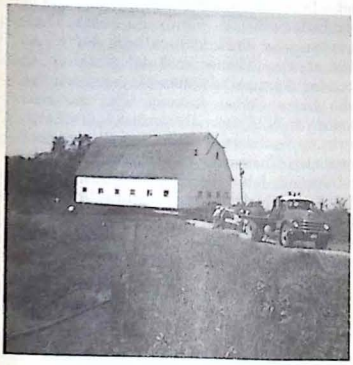
Albert and Alice had a daughter, Wilma Christine on July 18, 1902. When she was a child a new house was built on the farm by Rich Lautenabach. Maartje died on Jan. 6, 1907. On Mar. 27, 1907 Albert and William bought the farm from the heirs. Albert's and Alice's son George William, was born Sept. 21, 1908. A daughter, Martha Ada, was born July 19, 1911. Albert bought William's share of the farm on Jan. 27, 1921 at the time of William's marriage to Dora Van Donselaer. Following Alice's death on Aug. 10, 1938 George continued to live and farm there. He married Doris Brokaw on June 19, 1940. Their children are Jessie Lou, George William, Jr., Glen Brokaw, John Albert, Alice Jeanne, David Alan, and Lee Douglas. Following Albert's death on August 18, 1949 George bought from Wilma and Ada their ⅔ interest in the farm on April 1, 1950. On Dec. 23, 1954 George bought 18 acres of timber from George Pothoven. George and Lee entered into a farming agreement together in 1980. Following George's death on August 23, 1983, Doris and Lee are presently living on the family farm.

by Mrs. George Van de Voort

Children of Willem and Maartje: Back, l-r: Minnie, Henry, Gratie, Gysbertus and Kate; Front, l-r: Jane, John, Mary and William.

VAN DEN BERG FAMILY

F523



In Sept., 1961, John P. Van Den Berg moved his barn from the Red Rock Lake area to south of Pella.

John P. Van Den Berg was born Mar. 19, 1905, son of Peter and Jennie. He was married Nov. 27, 1930, to Margaret Klein, (born Mar. 19, 1904 at her parents home south of Monroe). Her parents were Gerrit J. Klein (born Sept. 19, 1870 in Province, Gelderland, died Jan. 23, 1945) and Mary (Rosenberg) Klein (born Feb. 23, 1894, north of Pella and died May 8, 1960, at Pella).

John worked at United Food Store located at 824 Main St. They moved to the family farm at Fifield in 1932, and bought the farm from his father in 1944. They continued farming here until 1961, when they were forced to sell out to the Federal Government for the construction of Red Rock Lake. This farm was located on the south side of the road of Roberts Creek Lake.

They bought the former Marion Van Dusseldorp farm southeast of Pella where they moved their farming operation including a 36 x 50 foot barn, corncribs, and other smaller buildings. This barn was constructed of native timber which was cut and sawed by the Van Den Bergs in 1944 at the Van Den Berg's sawmill previously mentioned in the Peter Van Den Berg story. They continued farming until they sold this farm, retired, and moved into their new home at 814 Jefferson St. in Pella.

Three sons were born to this union: Marvin Eugene (born Oct. 13, 1931, at Pella); Kenneth Wayne (born Feb. 5, 1933, at Fifield), and Phillip Glen (born Jan. 17, 1942, at Oskaloosa). They attended White Breast rural school at Fifield and Pella High School.

Marvin graduated from Central College and from New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1956 with a divinity degree. He was married Sept. 3, 1955, to Saundra Hope Ecker (born Oct. 29, 1936). They had two children, Scott Keith (born May 9, 1957) and Robin Lynn (born Feb. 25, 1960). Marvin died Aug. 30, 1964, following an accident with a train while on a visit from New York, where he was pastor at the Dutch Reformed Church in Newburgh, N.Y.

Scott Van Den Berg graduated from Central College. He was married June 12, 1982, to Peggy Velma Johnson. Their two children are Grant Altherton (born Aug. 8, 1983) and Tanna Camere (born July 3, 1986).

Robin Lynn Van Den Berg married John Downing Sept. 12, 1979.

Kenneth Wayne Van Den Berg was married June 10, 1955, to Arla Jane Van Doorninck (born May 24, 1935). Kenneth received a chemical engineering degree from Ia. State University in 1955. He has been employed with Ia. Power for 30 years and resides in Ankeny. Their three sons are: Mark Thomas (born Mar. 1, 1958) who is a third year surgery resident at Lehigh Medical Center, Allentown, Pa.; Eric Steven (born June 7,1960) who works as a computer engineer for George A. Hormel Co. in Austin, Minn., and married Deborah Jolene Lutton July 31, 1982; Jack Timothy (born Jan. 26, 1964) who is a senior computer engineering student at Ia. State University.

Phillip Glen graduated from Central College and in 1967 from Drake University with a pharmacy degree. He was married June 6, 1964, to Kathleen Ann Gosselink (born July 22, 1944). They have three children: Chris Phillip (born Jan. 9, 1969); Chad Martin (born June 11, 1970) and Kelly Ann (born

Front: John P. Van Den Berg and his wife, Margaret Klein; Back: their sons, Reverend Marvin, Phillip, and Kenneth. Taken June 6, 1964 at Phillip's wedding.

May 14, 1975). Phillip is a pharmacist and lives in Peoria, Arizona.

John P. Van Den Berg died Nov. 13, 1981, at Pella Community Hospital of a heart attack. His wife Margaret still resides at the family home.

by Mrs. John P. Van Den Berg

VAN DEN BERG, DELOS AND ANGELINE

F524

Front, L-R: Marge, Carolyn, Angie, Gary; Back, L-R: Beverly, Patty, Martha, Delos, Arlene, Cathy

Delos, Bill to his family, was born on Nov. 8, 1919, near Otley, Ia. He was the second child born of eight to Joe and Alpha Den Hartog Van Den Berg. He attended Fair Oaks Country School near their farm.

Due to the illness of his father, Delos took the responsibility of farm work while still a young man, having learned as a boy to farm with horses. He rented farmland near Dunreath in the Des Moines River bottom prior to his marriage.

Angeline Groenendyk was born near Tracy, Ia. on Feb. 5, 1921, the second of three children born to Dick and Josie Van Haaften Groenendyk. She received her education at the Tracy Consolidated School about four miles from their home. The children were picked up at their home by what was called the "Kid Wagon." It was a black-covered wagon with a board along each side to sit on with windows all around to see out of and to open if it was warm. An older man drove the team of horses pulling the wagon and when the roads were muddy the team couldn't pull, so they would have to get out and walk part of he way. In the winter a bobsled was used on the snow, the bottom covered with straw and a canvas covered the top. Mother would heat bricks in the oven and wrap them in newspapers to keep their feet warm. They wore heavy coats and a long dark flannel scarf around their heads to keep warm. Of course, they also wore long underwear!

As young people, they made confession of faith, Delos at the Otley Christian Reformed Church and Angie at the Tracy Christian Reformed Church. They were married Sept. 8, 1943, in the country home of her parents and started married life on the farm near Dunreath, Ia. Delos and Angie started farming with a cow, a team of horses, and a few chickens. He bought a used Allis Chalmers tractor to do field work but corn planting was done with horses. Their farming consisted of grain and hay; with cattle, sheep, hogs, milk cows, and chickens. A large garden was always grown. They had no electricity until 1947 so washing, ironing, and cooking were done with gas. Groceries were bought with egg and cream money. (Tears were once shed when a corner was taken too fast and the cream can upset in the car and there was no money to buy groceries that day.)

The spring after their marriage, Delos and Angie moved to a farm near Otley. Five years later they moved to a farm northwest of Pella. After eleven years there, they bought the Ben Den Adel farm next door and lived there for twenty-three years. In 1982, after farming almost forty years, they retired to their home at 312 Pine in Pella.

When they moved near Pella they began attending the Third Reformed Church. Their love of travel has taken them to forty-three states including Hawaii, parts of Canada, including Nova Scotia, nine European countries and Israel.

Their daughter, Carolyn was born Jan. 2, 1947. After the death of Angie's sister, Mary Ann Roozeboom, on Mar. 11, 1956, they took legal guardianship and raised six of Mary Ann's children: Marjorie (13 years), Martha (eight years), Gary (five years), Beverly (four years), Arlene (two), and Patricia on her first birthday. Another daughter, Cathy, was born to Delos and Angie Aug. 28, 1962.

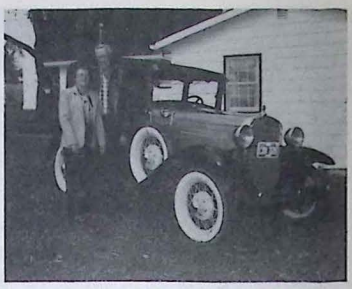
Carolyn is now married to Larry Menninga, son of Nickolas and Ella Ver Meer Menninga and they have a daughter, Terri, and a son, Alan. Marjorie married Loren Steenhoek, the son of Walter and Anna Van Zee Steenhoek, and their daughters are Lori and Daphne. Martha married Robert Verschuure, son of Tunis and Cornelia Tibboel Verschuure and their three children are: Jeffrey, Susan, and Kristen. Gary married Georgana Culp, daughter of Dean and Betty Culp — their children are: Amy, Robert, and Billy. Beverly married John Wisse, son of Ralph and Freda Hoeksma Wisse and their three children are: Patrick, Alison, and Julie. Arlene married Ron Bogaards, son of Gerald and Mattie Olivier Bogaards and they also have three children — Jennifer, Andrew, and Jordan. Pattie is married to Darrell De Nooy son of Fred and Goldie Van De Hoog — their two daughters are Lyndsay and Haley. Cathy married Michael L. Veenstra, son of Wilbur J. and Sarah Meinders Veenstra and their son is Jesse.

by Delos Van Den Berg

VAN DEN BERG, EVERTT AND JEANNETTE (KALDENBERG)

F525

E. Jerry Van Den Berg was born on a farm three miles south of Pella on November 24, 1914. He moved with his parents John Jr. and Mary Van Ryswyk Van Den Berg in 1917 to the farm ten miles north of Pella where he now lives. On October 12, 1940 he married Jeannette Kaldenberg, daughter of Rutt and Sadie Sjaardema Kaldenberg. Jeannette was



Jerry and Jeannette Van Den Berg

born in Sully on September 29, 1919. Jeannette spent her early years in Sully and met Jerry when she came to teach at the Rose Hill School on the Van Den Berg farm. The first five years of their marriage were spent in Newton where Jerry was employed as a welder at the Parsons Co. While living in Newton they had Judy – born July 12, 1941 and Jerry Lee – born April 12, 1943. After spending some time in the shipyards at Bremerton, Wash., they came back to the home place, and Jerry's parents moved to Pella in February 1946. Three more children were born to them there: Jim – April 9, 1947, Janet – March 22, 1950 and Joan – March 8, 1960. Jerry continued welding at Parsons, John Deere of Ankeny and VAn Gorp Mfg. of Pella. They continued operating the farm until 1965. Jeannette worked for her sister and husband at Van Den Bergs after the children were mostly grown and the farm land rented out.

Judy married Sid Holden on July 23, 1965 and is living in Spokane, Wash. where Sid is a probation officer and Judy is a nurse. They have two sons: Jim and Jonathan. Jerry Lee lives at Des Moines and is working at Economy Forms while unemployed from the John Deere Co. at Ankeny. Jim married Janice Van Willigan on December 5, 1969 and works at Vermeers at Pella and Janice is a beautician. Their children are: Jennifer, John and Jessica. Janet married Mike Chapman May 2, 1970 and Janet is a nurse at Pella Hospital and Mike is a trucker for Boomsma. Sean, Jason and Amy are their children. Joan is a social worker in Iowa City, Ia.

by E.J. Van Den Berg

VAN DEN BERG, JOHN, JR. AND MARY (VAN RYSWYK)

F526

John Van Den Berg was born on August 30, 1884 to John Sr. and Minje Vander Zyl Lubberden. Not a great deal is known of John Sr. He came to America from Holland as a grown man and had been in the Dutch army as a veterinarian. Minje came from Holland with her parents: Mr. and Mrs. Geike Vander Zyl in 1866. Minje's first husband was Peter Lubberden who was a teacher. Minje and Peter had one son George who went to California, presumably as a soldier in the Spanish-American War and was not heard

John and Mary Van Den Berg on their wedding day.

from again. John Sr. and Minje had seven children: Eva, Maggie, John, George, Gerrit and two who died young: Jennie and Minnie. Minje died in 1891. John Sr. then married a Mrs. Brink who had two sons by a previous marriage: John and Bill Jansen. John Sr. and his wife (Mrs. Brink) had three children: Joe, Cornelious and Minnie.

On Dec. 10, 1913 John Jr. married Mary Van Ryswyk. Mary was born to Jurrian and Anna Marie Olivier Ellerbroek at Orange City, Ia. on July 2, 1887. Both her parents came from Holland to the Pella area with their parents in the 1860's. Anna Marie lost her mother and her fiance while sailing to America. Several of that group died of an epidemic and were buried while enroute.

Mary's early life was traumatic; she lost her mother at the age of seven who died from cholera. She was the youngest of seven children: Ann, Peter, Jacob, John, Gerrit, Matt and Mary. The family moved a great deal; one of the moves was to Texas to farm, which was a poor investment. Mary was very lonely and homesick there so she and a brother came back to Iowa. At the age of ten she came to live with her cousins, Pieter and Syhe (Sarah) Vender Wilt Van Ryswyk, in the Leighton area. Pete and Sarah later adopted her. She worked two years at the Pella Overall Factory.

After John and Mary's marriage they farmed three miles south of Pella for three years and then bough a farm ten miles north of Pella where her son and wife still reside. Two children were born to them: E. Jerry and Minnie Kaldenberg now of Slater. They moved to Pella in 1946 where John worked in the tomato fields. John died October 1, 1954 and Mary on June 14, 1972.

by E.J. Van Den Berg

VAN DER BEEK, JAN
F527

Gerrit Van Der Beek, who worked as a guard at the queen's palace, and Teuntje Gobel are parents of Jan Van Der Beek (Nov. 28, 1846-July 28, 1909) who married Helena De Pender (Feb. 22, 1851-Aug. 7, 1930) on July 4, 1871. They were born in Almkerk, North Braband, The Netherlands and came to America in 1889. They settled first in Alamosa, Col. where they farmed, but the land had been sadly misrepresented to them, so they moved to Marion Co., Ia. and lived near Pella. Ten children were born to this couple, six sons and four daughters.

Gerrit Annes (Feb. 9, 1873-July 14, 1955) married (Mar. 9, 1899) Aaltje De Zwarte (1878-1954). They adopted Marie (Dec. 18, 1908-Oct. 30, 1978) who married Nicholas Geurts on Feb. 14, 1935.

Hendrikus (Mar. 2, 1874-Apr. 23, 1961) married (Mar. 1, 1900) Elizabeth Geomaat (Aug. 6, 1879-June 1, 1960). Their two sons were: John H. (Dec. 27, 1900-May 16, 1973) who married Wilma Rouw (Sept. 4, 1903-May 10, 1976) on Jan. 17, 1924; and Abraham (June 23, 1903-July 30, 1981) who married Hattie Grootveld (Sept. 6, 1901- Aug. 21, 1980) on Feb. 2, 1927.

Helena (Sept. 30, 1875-Oct. 24, 1949) married (Mar. 4, 1897) John Gosselink (Dec. 18, 1870-Sept. 6, 1964). Their children were: Gerrit Jan (Dec. 20, 1897- May 2, 1918); John Hendrik (May 25, 1900-Sept. 5, 1985) who married Kathryn Keuning (Jan. 7, 1901) on Feb. 7, 1923; Dick William (July 14, 1902-Apr. 12, 1978) who married Theresa Keuning (June 20, 1905-May 14, 1983) on Feb. 28, 1925; Leonard (Feb. 10, 1905) married Mary Hiemstra (Apr. 2, 1907-Sept. 21, 1974) and later married Jeanetta Neels Elsloo (Mar. 7, 1912) on June 21, 1975; Henry Gradus (Apr. 19, 1906-July 15, 1971) married Anna Mae Vande Noord (Aug. 17, 1914) on Mar. 4, 1938; Helena Lillian (Apr. 22, 1908) married John Hiemstra (March 13, 1905) on Jan. 1, 1931; Frederick G. (July 20, 1910-Sept. 24, 1918); Dorothy (Jan. 19, 1912-May 26, 1981) married Fred Veenstra (July 24, 1904-July 28, 1981) on June 19, 1934; Jennie (Mar. 14, 1915) married Albert John De Bruin (Dec. 5, 1908) on Mar. 4, 1936; and William George (Feb. 22, 1917) married Ardella Grandia (Feb. 3, 1918) on Sept. 14, 1939.

Teunis Jan (Mar. 17, 1878-Nov. 22, 1952) married (Jan. 1, 1902), to Hattie Johanna Meinders (Dec. 1, 1879-Aug. 17, 1921). Their children were: Cora (Jan. 15, 1903-Sept. 1903) and twin Helena Elizabeth (Lena) (Jan. 15, 1903) married Bastejaan Vander Wilt (Nov. 22, 1904-Jan. 9, 1982) on Mar. 6, 1929: Hendrina Marie (Mary) (June 23, 1905) married Edward E. Brand (May 6, 1903) on Aug. 6, 1930; Corie (May 21, 1908-June 17, 1908) and twin Henry (May 21, 1908-May 19, 1985) married Olive Mason (Feb. 25, 1915) on Apr. 20, 1935; and Howard (June 8, 1917) married Grace Alena Taylor (May 4, 1916-Mar. 25, 1975) on Dec. 19, 1945. Teunis Jan married Elizabeth Vander Waal (Dec. 10, 1891-Sept. 27, 1969) on Oct. 27, 1928.

Govert John (Jan. 29, 1882-June 5, 1944) married (Dec. 29, 1914) Cornelia (Kate) Van Reulder (Feb. 16, 1886-Jan. 19, 1962). They had one daughter and two sons. Walterena (July 8, 1916) married Anthony John Ver Meer (Oct. 12, 1912-Nov. 15, 1951) on Feb. 18, 1936; Ray (Mar. 9, 1920) married Verda N. Ver Steeg (Jan. 3, 1922) on May 13, 1941; and Elmer (May 19, 1922) married Janet W. Hol (Oct. 23, 1922) on July 8, 1943.

Bastejaan (John) (Dec. 14, 1884-July 24, 1963) married Ella Hoeksema (May 8, 1891-July 5, 1973) on Apr. 12, 1916. They adopted one son, Lester (July 15, 1921-Sept. 1, 1973) who married Esther Bertha Rouw (Nov. 9, 1922) on Feb. 15, 1941.

Jeneke (Jennie) (Apr. 23, 1887-Apr. 29, 1945) married Peter Heerema (Mar. 21, 1891-Dec. 13, 1961) on Apr. 6, 1911. They had four sons and two daughters: Martin John (June 14, 1911) married Elva May Van Houweling (Apr. 9, 1914) on June 30, 1933; Robert (May 18, 1917) married Viola Kaldenberg (Feb. 14,

The Jan Van Der Beek Family. Front, l to r: Father Jan, Bastejaan, Teuntje, Jeneke, Mother Helena, and Johanna; Back, l to r: Gerrit, Govert, Helena, Hendrikus, and Teunis.

1917) on Aug. 6, 1940; Ruth (Dec. 31, 1918) married Darwin Glenn Squibb (June 4, 1918-July 8, 1974) on Dec. 25, 1940; Fred (Feb. 17, 1921-July 11, 1975) married Pauline Halterman (Nov. 14, 1922) on July 8, 1942; Ralph (Oct. 1, 1926) married Frances Bielema (Feb. 23, 1929) on June 23, 1948; and Bernice (Aug. 22, 1928) married Charles Lee Vander Ploeg (Sept. 14, 1928) on Sept. 2, 1949.

Jan (June 25, 1889-Dec. 21, 1892).

Teuntje (Tunie) (July 21, 1892-Aug. 25, 1947) married Maarten Van Helten (Apr. 10, 1886-Sept. 7, 1964) on Feb. 11, 1913. They had one son and four daughters: Tony (Apr. 14, 1914-June 16, 1978) married Nellie Mae Mattix (May 29, 1918) on July 21, 1936; Helen (Aug. 18, 1916) married Walter Carl Walker (July 3, 1913) on June 18, 1936; Martha (May 23, 1919-Feb. 24, 1985) married Tunis Aalsburg (Feb. 22, 1919) on May 27, 1944; Pauline (Oct. 6, 1925) married Pearl Kenneth McDonough (July 24, 1923) on Jan. 3, 1946; and Laberta (Sept. 7, 1932) married Merle DeWayne Brown (Sept. 25, 1927) on Mar. 23, 1951.

Johanna (Apr. 15, 1895-Jan. 30, 1956) married Arie Schilder (May 3, 1892-June 17, 1948) on Feb. 24, 1916. They had three daughters and one son: Helen Faye (Feb. 12, 1918-Nov. 7, 1935), Leona Mae (Mar. 27, 1920) married Chester Duco Zylstra (Jan. 22, 1919) on Jan. 24, 1952; Harriet Lucille (Oct. 6, 1922) married John D. Geurts (Oct. 29, 1920-Oct. 8, 1981) on June 17, 1947; and Rudolph John (Feb. 20, 1925-Apr. 28, 1944).

by Mrs. C.D. Zylstra

VAN DER GARDE FAMILY

F528

Gerret Van Der Garde family. Front: Ethel and Gerret; Back, l-r: Sarah, Mintie, Margaret, and Bess.

Gerret Van Der Garde and daughter Mintie

Gerret's family and father, Johannes Van Der Garde (1822-1869), came from The Netherlands in 1869 when Gerret was seven years old. Their baby died enroute to America. Johannes' wife, Niesje Vanden Berg, died a short time later. After Johannes, a shopkeeper and baker by trade, reached Pella he planned to open his own bakery. In late November or December, 1869, Johannes was reported to have died from the grief of his lost loved ones and was buried in Graceland Cemetery. The First Reformed Church cared for his five children. For a few years the children lived in an orphanage in Council Bluffs. Later, the church placed the children with area families.

For a relatively short time as a boy, Gerret stayed with the Dirk De Jongh family in Nebraska. Then Gerret moved back to the Pella area. In his youth Gerret spent the winter months with a Pella widow, Mrs. Klein or Mrs. Van Houweling (name not sure), performing household tasks such as carrying wood, polishing the stove, doing chores, etc. in exchange for room and board. This lady really appreciated his help and companionship. One winter Gerret stayed with the S.J. Jelsma family doing winter household chores. As a young man Gerret worked as a hired man for area farmers, such as Langerak.

In 1890, Gerret Van Der Garde and Sarah Jelsma were united in marriage. Gerret farmed on his father-in-law's farm (located in Sec. 25, Twp. 77N, Range 19W). Daughters Margaret and Bess were born while they lived on this farm. In 1902 he moved to his own farm (located in Sec. 6, Twp. 76N, Range 18W). A daughter Mintie was born on June 28, 1902, after they moved to their own farm in March. Seven years later, a fourth daughter Ethel was born. Gerret was a typical diversified farmer with two pastures, raising corn, oats, and hay. The livestock consisted of hogs, dairy cows, and chickens. Gerret was very proud of his new hog shed, hand built around 1915. Sarah enjoyed helping deliver and sell their farm-fresh butter, cream, and buttermilk to the Scholtes, Kruideniers, and other Pella families. The trip to Pella was made by horses and a spring wagon. The surplus cream went to a Pella creamery. Once the lid came off the churn while Bessie was churning, the spilled cream making an awful mess.

On Feb. 28, 1917, Gerret died of stomach problems. He was laid to rest in Oakwood Cemetery. For a few years Sarah and her daughters farmed the family farm until their mortgage was repaid. Around 1920, Sarah moved to her purchased house in Otley. The house was located on the north side of the White Way (main highway) on the far east side of Otley. Sarah lived in this house until she passed away on July 15, 1939.

Since the Van Der Garde family experienced great tragedy on their arrival in America, the young children did not maintain contact with their relatives and friends in Holland. In 1982, Betty Van Zee Vander Peut, a granddaughter of Gerret, re-established family contact while on a visit to Holland. She obtained a current family genealogy with many relatives.

On Apr. 26, 1984, a Van Der Garde family reunion was held in Zaltbommel, Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands. Approximately two hundred relatives participated in this event. There is slight variation in the spelling of the name by different families. Four descendents of Gerret Van Der Garde attended. Their names are: Mintie Van Der Garde Kaldenberg, Ronald Kaldenberg, Alvin Vander Peut, and Henry Boender. Mintie Van Der Garde received the honor of being the oldest relative in attendance. The all-day reunion started with a social visitation, lunch, and a tour of the historical Van Der Garde homes, businesses, and church. A special Van Der Garde historical display was featured on the second floor of the local historical museum. The event was memorable and enjoyable for all.

by Dr. Ronald Kaldenberg

VAN DER STREEK, HERMAN AND MARTHA

F529

Herman (1894-1955) was the son of Louis and Willempe "Emma" Verrips Van Der Streek. His youth was spent on a farm south of Pella near the no longer existing Prairie Lake on the Washboard road, now the farm of Elmer Dykstra.

Brothers and sisters were: Johanna (Mrs. Hugo Steenhoek), 1889-1975; Gertrude, unknown-1914; Arthur, unknown-1920 (dying on what was to be his wedding day during the flu epidemic); John, 1900-1982; and Antionetta O. "Nettie" (Mrs. Hopkins Mitchell), 1905-1977.

Martha De Kock Van Der Streek (1895-1951) was the daughter of Aart and Maggie Van Zee De Kock. Her formative years were spent on a farm near the Porterville Cemetery, now the Arthur De Cook farm.

Brothers and sisters were: Gradus, Minnie (Mrs. Lane M. Van Zante), Anthony, John O., Henry, Nettie (Mrs. Bernie Menninga), Hilda (Mrs. Bert Van Haaften) and Dave.

Children are Verla Mae (Mrs. Carl Wehde) of Crystal Lake, Ill. and Lloyd Gene Vander Streek.

by Nola Vander Streek

VAN DER VEER, CONRAD AND LENA

F530

Conrad Van Der Veer was born Apr. 29, 1883, in Ooltgensplaat, The Netherlands, the son of Jacob and Maria Van Drongelen Van Der Veer. He came to this country with his parents and three older brothers, Simon, John, and Corneles (Case), and little sister, Lena (Mrs. Dirk Goemaat). The family arrived on the ship *Rotterdam* in Nov. 1889. They came to Iowa, and lived at first near Olivet where his sister Johanna (Mrs. Gerrit Samson) was born Dec. 15, 1890. Maggie (Mrs. Henry Visser) and twin brother (who died at birth) were born Dec. 9, 1892. In about 1895 the family moved to land on the Des Moines River near Harvey. This land is known as the Island because years ago the river left the old bed northwest of Harvey and cut a new channel for the main river and rejoined near Tracy leaving land surrounded by the new and old river beds. Conrad helped his father and brothers clear the land of walnut trees and build their house and farm buildings. Their crops were often flooded, and water sometimes came up in the house which stood on ground which was a little higher than the other buildings. The river, through the years, has cut away much of the land. The house stood empty after the flood in 1947 until it was burned down in about 1980. There are no buildings on the Island

now.

Conrad married Lena Leydens, who was born in 1888, the daughter of Rut and Klassje Leydens. They were married in 1906 in Knoxville. They lived near his parents on the Island for about six years. They had one son Jacob who was born Apr. 18, 1907, in their home on the Island. At that time they attended the Dutch Reformed Church in Harvey. When Jacob was five years old they moved to a farm near Lacey, Ia., in Mahaska Co. for a year. Then they moved to a farm southwest of Taintor where they lived for about five years. The family then moved southwest of New Sharon for a year, then south of Taintor for a year. After World War I, Conrad sold a farm he had purchased south of Taintor and made a profit. The family then moved to a farm two miles northwest of Monroe where they farmed for a year. Then Conrad rented a farm seven miles east of Monroe on the Draper Road where they lived for seven years. About 1920, Conrad and Lena started going to the Pentecost church in Harvey. His brother Case, his wife Angelina, their sister Maggie, and her husband Henry Visser also converted to that faith.

While the Van Der Veer's were living near Monroe, Jacob met Marguerite Hoagland. They were married on Oct. 14, 1925. She was born July 30, 1906, at Fairmount, Ia., the daughter of James and Laura Hoagland. Jacob and Marguerite lived in Monroe for four years, then rented a farm south of Pella near the Wabash railroad bridge. After three years they moved to a small farm on the Des Moines River located on the Knoxville to Pella road.

Jacob and Marguerite moved to Pella in 1934. He worked as a truck driver for a time. Later he and a partner dug ditches and basements. He served in World War II. Jacob and Marguerite have one daughter Maxine (Mrs. Virgil Bloodsworth) who lives in Des Moines. She has two daughters: Judith (Mrs. Joseph Fadrowsky) who lives in Hawaii and Candice (Mrs. Sausman) who lives in Cal. Jacob and Marguerite Van Der Veer now live at 123 Oskaloosa St. in Pella. They have been married over 61 years.

Conrad and Lena Van Der Veer moved to a farm near Evans, Ia., between Leighton and Oskaloosa where they lived for a year. Then they moved three miles east of Pella to a farm located on Muscahanic Creek where they lived five years. Then they lived on a farm between Albia and Lovilia for three years. They bought a small farm about two miles northeast of Pella where they lived until 1948 when he sold the farm and retired at age 65. They purchased the house at 1012 Union St. where they lived for many years. Conrad worked for a time at oil stations.

Conrad and Lena Van Der Veer were active members of the church of the Open Bible. They were very devout people. Conrad is remembered as a soft spoken man who loved the Lord and witnessed of his faith in Christ. Lena was a good homemaker and hostess. They had a well-kept garden behind their house. They were very kind and gentle people, and well loved.

When Lena's health failed, at about age 82, she became a resident of Pella Community Nursing Home. Conrad visited his wife faithfully every day. He moved to Fair Haven. Conrad and Lena Van Der Veer celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary Aug. 26, 1973, with a party at the Pella Nursing Home where she had been living for three years. At age 91 he enjoyed good health and good eyesight and never wore glasses. He still drove his car twice each day to visit his wife who was 85 at the time of their 67th anniversary.

Conrad lived at Fair Haven for two years before he died Jan. 1, 1974, at age 91 years, eight months, three days. Lena continued to live at Pella Community Nursing Home until her death in Feb., 1976, at 87 years of age. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery at Pella.

by Joanne Pennock

VAN DER VEER, CORNELES AND ANGELINA

F531

Corneles "Case" Van Der Veer was born Sept. 26, 1880, in Oolgensplaat, The Netherlands. He was the son of Jacob and Maria Van Drongelen Van Der Veer and came to this country with his older brothers Simon and John, younger brother Conrad, and baby sister Lena (Mrs. Dirk Goemaat). The family sailed on the ship *Rotterdam* arriving in this country in Nov., 1889. For a short while they lived near Olivet, Ia., where his sister Johanna (Mrs. Gerrit Samson), was born Dec. 15, 1890. His sister Maggie (Mrs. Henry Visser) and twin brother who died at birth were born Dec. 9. 1892, at Olivet. The Van Der Veer family moved around 1895 to the Island near Harvey where Case helped his father and brothers clear the land which was covered with walnut trees. He helped his father build their house and farm buildings of native lumber.

Corneles "Case" married Angelina Visser who was the daughter of Engle and Johanna Visser of Harvey. For a time they lived on the Island but soon moved to Bussey, Ia. They were the parents of eight daughters and one son. Their nine children are: Marie; Lena; Engle; Johanna; Margaret "Maggie"; all born at Bussey, Ia., and Jacoba "Coby"; Cornelia "Neil"; Minnie; and Jean; born at Harvey, Ia.

Their oldest daughter Marie was born Sept. 26, 1902. She married John Batey. They had five children: Sherman, Lena, Bud, Phil, and Hank. She lived in Milwaukee, Wisc. at the time of her death at age 59.

Lena was born Nov. 5, 1904. She married Ralph Kersey. They have seven children: James, Edith, Violet, Ruth, John, Tom, and another son. Lena is a widow and lives in Portland, Ore.

Engle Van Der Veer was born Dec. 26, 1906. He married Fay Beaver. They had four children: Lavonne, Jim, Roy, and Violet. That marriage ended in divorce. Later he married Hazel Millage. He adopted her son Wayne, and they had three children: Engle Jr., Patty, and Paul. Engle served in the army in World War II when he was 38 years old. Also, three of his sons were in the war. Engle died Feb., 1984.

Johanna was born July 18, 1908. She married Ralph "Speck" Hoagland on Mar. 21, 1927. They had four children: Lauraine (Mrs. Cy Shirner), who died in 1970; Marilyn (Mrs. Delbert Lamp); Karen (Mrs. Richard Rankin); and Ralph "Bud" Hoagland. Ralph has been at a nursing home in Newton since suffering a stroke which left him paralyzed in 1973. Johanna and Ralph bought their home at 915 N. York in Monroe in 1937. She has lived there 50 years.

Margaret "Maggie" was born May 3, 1910. She married "Red" Lash. They had five children. He died several years ago. She lives at 306 S. Attica Road in Knoxville, Ia.

Case and Angeline and their children moved back to the Island near Harvey after his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Van Der Veer, retired and moved to 504 Oskaloosa St. in Pella.

Jacoba "Coby" was named after her grandfather Van Der Veer. She was born Oct. 3, 1912, on the Island. She married Marion "Mink" DeReus. They had one son Marvin. They divorced. Later she married Linn Harvey. She died Mar. 1980.

About 1920, Case and Angelina, along with Conrad and Lena Van Der Veer, and Henry and Maggie Visser, converted to the Pentecost Church in Harvey.

Cornelia "Neil" was born May 22, 1922. She married Jack Miller. They had four children: Louise (Mrs. Snow); Jim; Arlene (Mrs. Goemaat); and another child. They divorced. She later married again, but is widowed and lives in northern Mo.

Minnie was born May 17, 1924. She married Robert Reed. They have no children. They live in Albany, Ill.

Jean was born May 14, 1930, on the Island. She married Larry Riggan. They have three children and live in Waukegan, Ill.

Case and Angelina Van Der Veer lived on the Island until Angelina lost her sight in 1941 at which time they moved into Harvey. She lived nine years longer and died Mar. 21, 1950, at the age of 74. Case had a stroke after her death. His son Engle and his family lived across the road from him. They moved to his house to help him. His health improved, and a couple years later he married Angelina's sister, Jane Visser Sents. She was the widow of Leonard Sents and the mother of 12 children: Cora, John, Angie, Abraham "Bruce", Jennie, Wilma, Clara, Tunis, Jim, Lena, and Paul.

Case died in Mar. of 1955. He and Angelina are buried at Eureka Cemetery west of Harvey.

by Joanne Pennock

VAN DER VEER, JACOB AND MARIA

F532

Jacob Van Der Veer was born Apr. 25, 1851, in Ooltgensplaat, South Holland, The Netherlands. He was the 12th of 13 children born to Siemon and Johanna Van Rossum Van Der Veer, who lived on the Island of Overflakkee, where it often flooded. Jacob married Maria Van Drongelen at Ooltgensplaat on Mar. 12, 1876. She was born July 15, 1851, the daughter of Jacob and Maria Van Drongelen. Maria had one brother and four sisters. Her sister Dirkie and her husband Bastion Goemaat were the first to come to America. When a family came they needed a sponsor. The Goemaats probably sponsored her sister and husband, Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer,

Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer family of Harvey, Ia. Picture taken around 1896. Front, l-r: Jacob, Lena, Maggie, Johanna, and Maria; Back, l-r: Simon, Corneles (Case), John, and Conrad.

who came to this country, sailing on the ship *Rotterdam* in Nov. 1889, at a cost of about $400. Later the Van Der Veers sponsored another of her sisters, Klaasje and her husband, Rut Leydens, when they came to America. The Van Der Veers came with their four sons: Simon, John, Corneles "Case", and Conrad "Coon", and baby daughter Lena. They had another son who died in The Netherlands after a brief illness at the age of five years. When they came to America they lived near Olivet, Ia. and had three more children: Johanna, and twins Maggie and a son, who died at birth. The Van Der Veers didn't farm very long near Olivet, Ia., before they moved, about 1895, to pioneer land near the Des Moines River at Harvey, Ia. Jacob and his sons cleared the land they wanted to farm and cut many of the walnut trees which were used to build their house. They had plenty of fuel and logs for fences as they cleared the land. They piled up walnut trees and burned what wasn't needed. They had a big orchard and a large garden. They had their own cured meat, fresh milk and eggs, and garden produce which was homecanned or dried. They didn't have electricity, refrigeration, or indoor plumbing. They ordered their clothes and supplies from Sears and Roebuck in Chicago. The orders included 100 lb. bags of flour and sugar, huge quantities of oatmeal, coffee, cocoa, and other staple food supplies. They even ordered their pot-bellied stove with isinglass windows so you could see the flame. All the things they ordered would arrive on the train from Chicago. Their land became known as the "Island" when the river left the old bed northwest of Harvey and cut a new channel for the main river and rejoined near Tracy. When the river flooded, the water would cover their land, and they had to lead their animals to higher ground which was the railroad tracks. The trains stopped running until the water went down so the animals were safe and would stay there until the water receded. The Van Der Veers built their house on ground which was a little higher, but it still flooded at times. The family would have to take a boat from their house to the railroad tracks and then walk on the tracks into Harvey. The boat went right over the top of fences which were all under water. When the river flooded his corn, wheat, and oats, he would plant shorter maturing crops like millet, beets, and turnips, to have feed for the animals. Jacob must have been accustomed to water ruining his crops from the years they lived in The Netherlands, as he knew how to survive. When asked about the flooding problem, he said if he could get one good crop in three years that he could make a living. The Van Der Veers attended the Dutch Reformed Church in east Harvey where Rev. Henry DeVries was one of the pastors. There were a few other families on the Island. Two of the Van Der Veer children married children of the Engle and Johanna Vissers who lived on the "Sandhill". Corneles "Case" married Angeline Visser, and Maggie married Henry Visser. Henry and Maggie Visser lived on the Island when they got married, and, later Case, Angelina and their children moved back to the Island and lived where his parents had lived. Case lived on the farm until 1941 when he sold it. In 1947 when the flood waters were very deep, the house was abandoned and stood empty for many years. Around 1980 someone set the house on fire. There are no buildings on the "Island" now.

When Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer retired from farming (about 1916), they moved to the house at 504 Oskaloosa St. in Pella. Mr. Van Der Veer raised a garden and wore wooden shoes outside which were left at the door. He helped neighbors with their gardens, also. He didn't own a car, so he would walk several miles to the Island near Harvey. He would help their son Case on the farm or visit their son Simon, whose family lived in a house he owned northeast of the Harvey School. Their daughter, Maggie and Henry Visser, and family also lived near Harvey at this time. Jacob owned a pair of dogs which were used as models when the sculptor made the stone dogs which recline at each side of the steps on City Hall on Main Street in Pella.

When Jacob Van Der Veer was nearly 90 he still enjoyed good health and often walked to the Pella square which was almost a mile from his home. He was known to be a hard working, honest, godly man and was always very punctual. He was an independent man, but was considerate of his wife and consulted with her when making decisions. Mrs. Van Der Veer was a quiet, gentle Christian woman who had diabetes for many years which she controlled by watching her diet. In her last years, she was confined to bed or sitting in a chair. Mr. and Mrs. Van Der Veer celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary with open house in 1937, with over 100 relatives and friends attending. She died at their home Feb. 21, 1940, at the age of 88 years, seven months and eight days. He was one of Pella's oldest citizens when he died July 19, 1942, at age 91 years, two months, 24 days. They are buried in Graceland Cemetery in Pella.

by Joanne Pennock

VAN DER VEER, JOHN
F533

John Van Der Veer was born July 22, 1878, in Ooltgensplaat, The Netherlands, the son of Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer. He came to this country with his parents and brothers and baby sister in November 1889, sailing on the ship *Rotterdam*. They lived near Olivet, Ia. for a short time and then moved to the Island near Harvey, Ia. John had a hard case of the measles when he was a boy. When he was recovering, he ran outside in the cold without a coat in the winter to see his mother who was working outside. He had a "setback" with an extremely high fever. The doctor said he probably wouldn't survive. He lived, but the high fever did its damage and he wasn't able to complete school and never married. He stayed like a child in his thinking. His mother told the younger children that he had been as normal as they were until this happened. It was a misfortune that happened to him that could happen to anyone. She said it was unkind to make fun of his simple ways and wouldn't permit it. Mrs. Van Der Veer admonished them to be thankful for a sound mind and healthy body which were a blessing from God. John attended the Dutch Reformed Church with his family in Harvey.

John moved with his parents to Pella when they retired from farming. He had an elaborate train set in an upstairs bedroom of their house at 504 Oskaloosa Street. He enjoyed running it, and his nieces and nephews were often entertained and fascinated with the trains running, while their parents visited with their grandparents. John also had an old cylinder record player he enjoyed playing. John was gentle and childlike and seemed to enjoy visitors. He always reached up in the kitchen cupboard and offered the children a lemon drop from the container kept there. He had time to walk with them outside and show them the garden and peonies which grew in a row beside the walk to the door on the side of the house. He liked to ride his bicycle around Pella. His parents never owned a car, so it was his means of transportation all over the city and to Harvey where they lived when he was younger.

After his father died in July 1942, he lived at Fair Haven Old Folks Home and visited his brothers and sisters. His oldest brother Simon was a widower and lived in Harvey. His brother Corneles "Case" and his wife

Angelina had lived on the home place on the Island but were living in Harvey at this time. John had a brother Conrad and his wife Lena, who lived on Union St. in Pella, whom he often went to see. His sister Lena (Mrs. Dirk Goemaat) had lived on a farm south of Pella, but later moved into Pella where she still lives. She is 98 and in the Pella Community Nursing Home at the hospital. John's sister Johanna (Mrs. Gerrit Samson) lived on a farm eight miles northeast of Newton. He would go to visit her for a length of time. His youngest sister Maggie (Mrs. Henry Visser) lived on a farm south of Pella. She is 94 and has lived for some time at Hilltop Manor on Jefferson St. in Pella.

One day when John decided to ride his bicycle to Harvey to see his relatives, he was walking his bike over the railroad bridge at Harvey and was hit by a train. He suffered severe injuries from the accident, but survived and lived a long time after that. His bicycle was ruined. The boy scouts bought him a new bicycle. Their names were inscribed on a plaque placed on the frame.

John had an electric shaver given to him as a gift. He liked to carry it in his pocket and take it out and show it to people. He described it as making a noise "just like a bumble bee."

John lived at Fair Haven in Pella for a long time. Later he was in a nursing home in Oskaloosa. He died there Sept. 9, 1962. He is buried near his parents in Graceland Cemetery near Pella.

by Joanne Pennock

VAN DER VEER, SIMON AND LOTTIE

F534

Simon Van Der Veer was born June 4, 1876, at Ooltgensplaat, Holland. He was the oldest son of Jacob and Maria Van Der Veer, who

Simon and Lottie Van Der Veer of Harvey, Ia. (Picture taken about 1905).

lived in Pella until their deaths in 1942 and 1940. He came with his parents and three younger brothers John, Corneles, and Conrad and a baby sister, Lena (Goemaat), to this country in Nov., 1889, sailing on the ship *Rotterdam*. When they first lived in Iowa it was near Olivet where his sisters Johanna (Samson) and Maggie (Visser) were born. In about 1893 the family moved to the Island near Harvey, Ia., where Simon and his brothers helped clear the land which was covered with walnut trees. He also helped his parents build their house and other farm buildings of the navtive lumber.

It is an interesting fact that the day the town of Harvey was plotted was June 4, 1876, the same date that Simon Van Der Veer was born in Holland. When he moved there as a teenager he had no idea of the coincidence. Harvey, Ia., was incorporated in 1903.

While a young man Simon became a railroad employee. He worked for the Rock Island and Wabash Railroads of Harvey for a total of 37 years.

Simon was united in marriage to Charlotte ("Lottie") Mable Millard, Nov. 29, 1905. Lottie was born Jan. 21, 1888, near Lyons, Kan., in Rice Co. She was the oldest daughter of John Harvey & Ollive Arbelle Millard. Her younger brothers and sisters were Leroy, Gertie Pearl, Sylvester, Luellen, Sarah, Silvia, Bessie and Lizzie. The Millard family moved to Harvey around 1898.

Simon and Lottie Van Der Veer lived in Harvey, Ia. They had seven children: Clarence, Mary, Josephine, Sylvester, twins Agnes & Gladys, and Lawrence. Mary and Gladys died in infancy. All were born in Harvey. They all attended the Harvey school near their home.

Clarence Harold Van Der Veer was born Sept. 28, 1906. He married Mabel Brock Aug. 1, 1930. They lived in Harvey for several years where he worked for the railroad and at the brickyard. Then they moved to 1110 Washington St. in Pella where he worked for Rolscreen until he retired in Jan., 1971. They had five children: Kenneth, Mildred (Mrs. Robert Marsh), Harry, Carl and Robert. Clarence died Feb. 21, 1985.

Mary was born Aug., 1908, and died July, 1910.

Helen Josephine was born July 23, 1911. She married John Brock in 1930 and had two children, Daisy and Marion. They were divorced after a few years. Later Josephine married Arlie Babberl and had two more children, Arlene and Gary. Arlie died in 1956. She still lives at 403 N. A Street in Albia. Her youngest daughter, Arlene, died Nov. 8, 1985.

Sylvester Van Der Veer was born May 2, 1914. He married Alice Van Der Martin Nov. 21, 1936. They lived at University Park southeast of Oskaloosa for awhile. Then they moved to Beacon where they still reside, having recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. Their children are Lloyd, Elsie (Mrs. Jack Chravareo), Coleen (Mrs. Dick Rullman) and Mark.

The twins, Agnes Katherine and Gladys Maxine, were born July 4, 1919. Gladys died the next day. Agnes married Daniel ("Boone") Willemson and lives at Attica, Ia. Their children are Larry, Phyllis, Donna, Judy, and Denny.

Lawrence Harvey Van Der Veer was born Dec. 28, 1922. In 1923 the entire Van Der Veer family had typhoid fever when their family well was contaminated and condemned. Mr. Van Der Veer suffered a sunstroke on July 23, 1934, (on his daughter Josephine's birthday). Because of his health Simon's job for the railroad ended. Later, when he recovered, he worked at other jobs. When Lawrence was a senior in High School his mother became ill with cancer. Because of her illness she wasn't able to go to Lawrence's graduation in May of 1939. So on the night of graduation the entire class of three boys and three girls went to the Van Der Veer home so she could see them. Lottie Van Der Veer died June 14, 1939, at age 51. After his wife's death Simon helped look after Lottie's mother, Mrs. John Millard, who was a widow and in her own home and she provided some homecooked meals and mending for him. They helped look after each other as both were alone.

In Jan. 1940, Lawrence had a serious injury to his right eye while sledding on old brickyard hill north of Harvey. His father had their house wired for electricity in 1941. Lawrence worked at various jobs before he began working for the Green Colonial Furnace Company in Des Moines in 1945. Lawrence and Velma Culver were married at The Little Brown Church at Nashua, June 25, 1955. They live at 814 E. Douglas. When Green Colonial cut back their employees in 1975 Larry was laid off after working there 30 years. In 1976 he went to work for the Des Moines Public School system where he worked until he retired in 1985. Lawrence and Velma have no children. They have cared for her mother, Rosa Culver, for a number of years.

In 1947 after his mother-in-law Grandma Millard died, Simon visited occasionally with his married children but kept his home in Harvey. He died at his home June 8, 1953, of heart trouble at the age of 77 years. Funeral services were at the Methodist Church in Harvey. Simon & Lottie Van Der Veer are buried in Eureka Cemetery near Harvey, Ia.

by Lawrence Van Der Veer

VAN DOMSELAAR FAMILY

F535

Maas Van Domselaar was born in Ede, The Netherlands. In 1861, when he was 21 years old, he came to the United States with two older brothers. He settled in Pella and on July 4, 1873, he married Anna Maria Van Zante when she was 16 and he was 33. Anna Maria was the eighth child of 13 of Aaart Bentum and Mariea Van Zee Van Zante, who came to Pella in 1853.

Maas and Anna Maria had 13 children: Rikje (Rachel) 1875-1944, Aart Bentum 1877-1944, Peter 1879-1895, Marie Gertrude 1881-1963, Dora 1883-1887, Cornie 1885-1887, Cornie 1887-1945, Harry 1888-1890, Dora 1890-1986, Harry 1893-1895, Mabel Blanche 1896-1971, Harriet 1897-1938, and Earl 1898-1978. Only eight of their children grew to be adults. Two children, the first Dora and the first Cornie, died during one week in 1887. The second child called Dora was born on the day that the first Harry died. She lived to be 96.

They always lived in the area east of Pella. Maas enjoyed horses and always drove a "well matched" team to town each day to pick up

Anna Marie (Van Zante) Van Domselaar, 1857-1943.

Maas Van Domselaar, 1840-1916.

the mail from Chicago, St. Louis, and Minneapolis, as this brought news of grain and livestock markets. On returning from town, Maas would often stop at a needy family's home and drop off a sack of flour and a sack of sugar or other staples. The family was always very generous.

Maas also went on train trips to Chicago when he sold cattle. He enjoyed bringing his wife special gifts, especially when the cattle prices were good. In later years, Maas' rheumatism became rather severe, and Anna Maria would help him dress and would always put on a tie. It's interesting to note that Maas never wore a tie before.

Maas did purchase a lot of farmland and had a farm for each of his living children when he died in May of 1916. A newspaper clipping read, "The funeral of Maas Van Domselaar was one of the largest ever held in the neighborhood, nearly 100 automobiles, some of them from a considerable distance, were in the procession."

Of the surviving children, Rachel married John Van Zante and moved to Oregon; Aart Bentum and Cornie married and remained in the area; Marie married J.B. Grandia and they had three children, Murray, Leta Mae, and Lora; Dora married William Vande Voort and they had 5 children, Willis, Mary Jane, Martha, Artis, and Wayne, who died at one month; Mabel Blanche married Rev. Reuben De Haan and their 5 children were Ruth, Ray, Wayne, John, and a baby, who died in infancy; Harriet stayed at home and died in 1938. The youngest son, Earl, stayed on the home farm for a time and in 1920 married Anna Vander Linden, the youngest daughter of Dirk and Christina Vander Wilt Vander Linden. They had three daughters; Ruth, Blanche, and their first daughter died at two weeks of age.

It is interesting to note that Anna Maria was one of 13 children, she and Maas had 13 children, and there were 13 living grandchildren when she died, but none of them carry the Domselaar name. Of the three boys that lived to adulthood, only Earl had children and they were both girls. Ruth married Forrest W. Fisher and lives in Des Moines. They have one child, Debra, Mrs. Norman Giertz. Blanche married Wayne Deal and now lives in Pella and teaches in the public schools. They had two children, Steven Deal and Nancy, Mrs. Howard Roorda, who lives in Bellevue, Neb.

by Blanche L. Deal

VAN DONSELAAR, AALBERT AND GIJSBERTJE

F536

Aalbert and Gijsbertje, Van Donselaar

Aalbert Van Donselaar was born Aug. 14, 1829. His generation name was obtained on Apr. 20, 1826, having previously been Peterzen (zoon of Peter). He came to the United States from Ede, the Netherlands, as a young man and worked as a farm hand for John Voorhees. He helped dig clay and make bricks for the "Big Brick House" east of Pella on Highway 163. The house was finished in 1871, as recorded on the roof. When the Civil War was brewing in the United States, he returned to his homeland, supposedly in 1860.

He married Gijsbertje Jensen in The Netherlands and raised a family of seven children. The oldest son, Peter A. came to the United States in 1886, ahead of the rest of the family, to work and also to acquire a farm for the family. A daughter, Rikje, passed away in Ede in 1895. The next year the family moved to the United States and lived on a farm two miles southeast and almost two miles south of Pella, Iowa. The farm is presently occupied by Mrs. Albert Wanders.

Children in the family were: Peter A. (1865-1954), Willem (1867-1940), Rikje (1869-1895), Bertha (Mrs. Bart Wanders) (1877-1965), Jan Derk (1879-1958), and Marie (Mrs. N.T. Meinders) (1882-1967).

Aalbert died Apr. 22, 1911, and Gijsbertje died Nov. 26, 1920. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery, Mahaska County.

by Leona Ver Meer

VAN DONSELAAR, ALBERT P.

F537

Cornelia and Albert Van Donselaar.

Albert P. Van Donselaar, the son of Peter A. and Jennie (Verros) Van Donselaar, was born southeast of Pella, Ia., on Jan. 26, 1903. He attended rural Valley School, but that was not his favorite occupation. He enjoyed trapping more. He was a champion gopher trapper, catching 64 gophers in one season. He farmed in partnership with his father until his marriage, when his parents moved to town.

Albert P. was married to Cornelia M. Gosselink on Feb. 25, 1937, at the home of the bride's parents, John M. and Sarah (De Geus) Gosselink, northeast of Pella. Cornelia had her eighth grade education at Plainview rural school. She walked two miles to town every day while attending Pella Public High School. Later she taught rural schools in Marion and Mahaska Counties for ten years, prior to her marriage. They continued farming on the same farm where Albert was born.

They also raised purebred cattle and some hogs and chickens.

Their family consists of two boys, Donald and Dale and their wives and four grandchildren. Donald lives in Denver, Colo., and Dale in Pella.

Albert is a train fan and every time they visit their son Donald in Denver they're sure to go by Amtrak. He also likes to run errands with his Farmall "B" International Tractor, 1941 Model. Cornelia enjoys making jams and jellies for farmer's market and making quilts for missions.

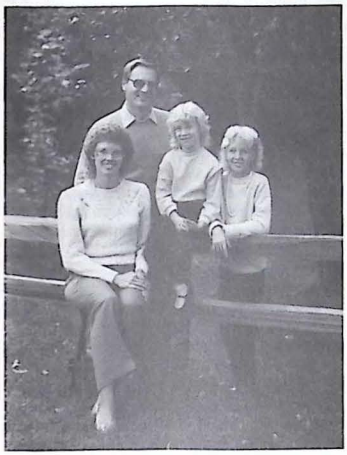
At Tulip Time and Harvest Festival, Albert works at the mill at the Historical Village and Cornelia serves as hostess in one of the other rooms of the Village and sells her jams and jellies as well.

Upon retirement, they continue to live on their farm a few miles southeast of Pella.

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

VAN DONSELAAR, DALE AND BETTY

F538



Dale Van Donselaar Family "1985". L-R: Betty, Dale, Sara, Brenda.

A lifelong resident of the Pella area, Dale Van Donselaar was born Mar. 4, 1947, to Albert P. and Cornelia Van Donselaar.

Raised on the "home place" three miles southeast of Pella, Dale attended country through the seventh grade, graduating from Pella Christian High School in 1965. He then worked at Vermeer Manufacturing Company for a half year before returning to school.

Following graduation from Dordt College, Dale began fulltime employment in the Drafting and Advertising departments at Vermeer.

On Mar. 6, 1970, Dale was married to Betty Van Gorp, daughter of Paul and Doris Van Gorp of Prairie City.

Betty's "home place" was a half mile north of Caldwell Feed Mill, about five miles west of Prairie City. She lived there from the time of her birth on Sept. 29, 1947, until she and Dale were married. Betty attended Prairie City Christian Grade School and graduated from Prairie City High School in 1965.

A month after Dale and Betty met in July, 1967, they were separated by 800 miles, he at Dordt and she at Reformed Bible College, which she attended for two years. During the school year, they got acquainted via the U.S. Postal Service. But the summer vacation made up for their separation as Dale would drive the 32 miles from his home to Betty's and back three nights a week.

Dale and Betty have two daughters. Brenda Marie was born on Apr. 1, 1974, and Sara Lynn was born June 7, 1978. Both girls attend Pella Christian Grade School. Brenda enjoys being one of the junior high cheerleaders. Sara is progressing well in her piano lessons.

In addition to being an excellent homemaker, Betty loves to use her seamstress skills making clothes for the girls and wall hangings to decorate the house.

After 15 years of employment at Vermeer, of which eight were spent doing photography, film making, and video production, Dale left there in Feb., 1985, to go into his own photographic business as a partner in de Fotograaf. Since photography is also Dale's main interest, he has enjoyed building his business and improving his photographic skills.

The Van Donselaars reside at 607 W. Second in Pella, having lived there since 1972.

by Dale Van Donselaar

VAN DONSELAAR, DONALD A.

F539

Lara, Mike, Carolyn, Donald A. Van Donselaar.

Donald A. Van Donselaar, oldest son of Albert P. and Cornelia (Gosselink) Van Donselaar, was born Feb. 23, 1938, at his parents' home a few miles southeast of Pella. He attended Valley and Pleasant View rural schools, and then graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1956. He worked on road construction and at the Chevrolet Garage in Pella, before enlisting in the U.S. Air Force. He received his basic training at Lackland Air Force Base at San Antonio, Tex., and then was transferred to Lowry Air Force Base near Denver, Colo., before leaving for Yokota Air Force Base in Japan, where he spent two years. He finished his service at Orlando, Fla.

It was while serving at Ft. Lowry, that he met his wife-to-be, Carolyn Haan, while visiting the Second Christian Reformed Church in Denver. They were married soon after his return from Japan. They lived in Orlando, Fla., while Don was finishing his term in the service, and then moved to Denver, Colo., where they continue to live.

They have two children: Michael Scott, who is a senior at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.; and Lara Dawn, who is a senior at Denver Christian High School.

Donald works for MOuntain State Bell Telephone Company and, while the company was on strike, he traveled to different states, including New Mexico, Kansas, California, and New Jersey to take inventory of the company's warehouses.

Don's wife, Carolyn, is director of Pre-School, which is an outgrowth of the Second Christian Reformed Church in Denver.

by Cornelia Van Donselaar

VAN DONSELAAR, PETER A. AND PIETERNELLA JENNIE VERROS

F540

l-r: Van Donselaar, Peter A. and Pieternella Jennie Verros – wedding picture

Peter A. Van Donselaar was born in Ede, The Netherlands on Jan. 15, 1865. He came to the United States in 1886, ahead of his family to work and acquire a farm for the family. Ten years later the family moved to America.

Jennie Verros was born Aug. 23, 1871, and married Peter A. Van Donselaar Mar. 4, 1897. The wedding day was rainy. After the ceremony at her parents home at Broadway and Liberty, they loaded up a stove, bed, kitchen table, two chairs, and some groceries on a spring wagon drawn by horses. Under an umbrella, they plowed mud to a farm situated

along now Highway 163 between Leighton and Oskaloosa. How's that for a honeymoon?

They had seven children: Albert (died in infancy 1898), Annie (1899-1985), Albert (lived three weeks 1901), Albert P. (1903-), Grace (1904-1981), Edward (lived five months 1908), and Leona (Aug. 26, 1910-).

Peter's occupation was farming. He also loved to travel. At the age of 85, he joined a sightseeing excursion to Alaska. This tour was sponsored by Radio Station KMA, Shenandoah, Ia. He spent the last ten years of his life with his son Albert and family on the family farm. Peter and Jennie Van Donselaar died in 1954, and 1943, respectively and are buried in Black Oak Cemetery in Mahaska Co.

by Leona Ver Meer

VAN DORT, WILLEM
F541

Willem Van Dort as a young man in 1908.

Willem and Emma Van Dort at home in 1958.

Harold and Wilma Den Besten in 1984.

Van Dort home from 1948 till 1973, known as Welle Boarding House from 1905-1947.

Den Besten apartment house built in 1973, replacing old home at 832 Franklin St.

Willem (Bill) Van Dort (1882-1971), was born in Zwolle, Province of Overijsel, The Netherlands, to Willem and Machteltje Niemeyer Van Dort. His mother died early in life. His father remarried and half-sisters Gay and Wilhelmina were born.

Bill Van Dort's parents operated a hotel and restaurant in Zwolle and it was here that Bill completed his education. He soon became involved in politics, and held the position of registrar and was assistant to the mayor. Outside the office Bill enjoyed a challenge and as such achieved recognition in figure skating and prominence in motorcycle racing. His love for classical music inspired him to join the Zwolle orchestra. While he played the cornet with that orchestra, they went on to attain a national ranking.

After some years Bill became disenchanted with politics and decided, with two buddies of like mind, to come to America in 1907. Arriving in Pella Bill resided at the popular Welle Boarding House at 832 Franklin, an address which again became that of Bill's family in 1948 as a private home. The early years in the States were unsettling for Bill. He did enjoy playing in the Pella band and also the church band, but the language barrier made employment difficult and necessitated a change in lifestyle.

On Feb. 3, 1911, Bill married Emma Vander Beek Branderhorst of Pella. To this union two daughters were born. The first passed away in infancy, and the second daughter Wilma married Harold Den Besten of Pella in 1960. There were no grandchildren. After doing some day labor, Bill tried his hand at farming for some years but that was not for the "city boy". After farming he spent some years at the Rolscreen Company but illness terminated his employment there. Later he was employed as bookkeeper for Van Roekel Plumbing and then Van Sittert Plumbing from which he retired. An interesting history of the Vander Beek-Branderhorst family with many pictures and their involvement with Dominie Scholte in the Netherlands cane be found in the Pella Public Library.

It was during World War II, after his family suffered heavy losses in the Netherlands, that Bill began to fully appreciate the U.S. His sister Wilhelmina and husband Gerrit Uit den Bogaard owned an electrical appliance factory near the German border and during one of the bombing raids it was completely leveled. Devastation in The Netherlands was widespread and as the reports came back Bill realized more deeply how good it was being a citizen of and living in the greatest country on earth.

Bill Van Dort made a return trip to The Netherlands in 1970, accompanied by his wife Emma and daughter Wilma. His parents and sister Gay were deceased by that time but seeing the widowed sister Wilhelmina after 63 years was quite a reunion. He was also privileged to see the building where he used to have his office. The hotel and restaurant were gone and replaced by a new freeway through the city of Zwolle.

In 1948 Bill, wife Emma, and daughter Wilma moved into the former Welle Boarding House at 832 Franklin, which was now a private dwelling and was again home for the next 23 years until his death in 1971. Daughter Wilma was married in the home and wife Emma lived there until 1973 when daughter Wilma and her husband Harold demolished the old house to make way for an apartment building. Mrs. Van Dort lived in one of the apartments until her death in 1985. Wilma and Harold Den Besten continue to live at 832 Franklin as of this writing.

The history of the Welle boarding House is a story all its own and can be found in cross reference of these books.

by Wilma Den Besten

VAN DUSSELDORP, ARLAN AND SONJA

F542

Arlan and Sonja Van Dusseldorp were married in First Baptist Church, June 23, 1979. It was the second marriage for both.

Sonja Valdes arrived in Pella in 1965 with her first husband Luis (originally from Cuba) and three children: Tanya, five; Kristine (Tina), three; and Ricardo Luis, one and one-half. Professor Valdes had just received his Ph.D. at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, after the family spent a year in Sao Paulo, Brazil, studying the politics of that country. Luis and family came to Pella because he had a job at Central College as head of the Political Science Department. He was handed a box and told that that was the Political Science Department. In the next five years he established a three-man department with several student assistants.

In 1967 Sonja accepted a part-time position at the high school teaching art in what was then, an English room. As the art enrollment increased, clay equipment was added to the boiler room. Eventually there was a "sit in" by the science department and art teachers in Supt. Whitney's office. This was to convince the superintendent that a new art room was just as important as a new wrestling facility. The science department wanted the old "art room." The art teacher was challenged to design an art room "big enough" so that there would never be another need for additional space. It was suspected that the superintendent hoped that the school board wouldn't accept the plans if they were too elaborate. The school board passed the entire proposal. An architect eventually added bathrooms and additional office space and Pella's art department grew to one and one-half teachers. Art students often contributed signs and floats for tulip time.

Sonja also helped organize the Pella Art Association as a subsidiary of the Recreation Commission. Art exhibits and classes for all ages were held above the old Gambles store in the late 60's. Later they were able to use the building which now houses Strawtown Inn. Eventually the organization died because there weren't enough members or time to sustain a long-term commitment.

Arlan Ralph Van Dusseldorp left Pella in 1951 to join the Navy. After basic and tech school in San Diego he was assigned to the USS *Breckinridge*, a troop transport sailing out of San Francisco. His ship was given special recognition by Chang Kai-Shek for bringing the first American Advisors to Taiwan after he had left mainland China. Arlan made 24 trips from San Francisco to the Far East during his three-year Navy hitch. In 1954 he was discharged from the Navy but reenlisted in the Air Force in 1957 and completed 22 years of military service. Arlan married Beverley Scott from Alberta, Canada, in 1962. They had two children: Marty and Sandra. The family was stationed overseas in the Philippines and Spain. While in Spain, Arlan was instrumental in the layout, operation, and training of the first high speed communications center in Europe. In 1968 Arlan volunteered for a tour of duty in Vietnam. He was assigned to Da Nang Air Base and arrived the first day of the Tet Offensive. Arlan retired in Reno, Nev., in 1975 and was divorced in 1977. He now works at the Rolscreen Company in the Production Control Department.

Sonja and Arlan reside in the house that Bill Van Dusseldorp and his sons built after Bill retired, on East 3rd and Peace. It is marked by the unique stone lighthouse that Bill made out of agates, marbles, and old street bricks. Their collective children continue the family tradition of world travel and adventuresome living.

Marty spent a year in Korea with the Army. Tina has spent four years in Venezuela. Tanya married Dan De Vries and lives on Red Rock Lake with thier two boys, Ryan and Cory. Sandra is married to Doug Foremaster, Reno, Nev., where they live with son Richard.

Sonja completed a Masters of Divinity degree from Central Baptist Theological Seminary in time to perform the wedding of her son Rick and Sotoko Sakai from Nagasaki, Japan. They now live in Seattle, Wash.

by Arlan Van Dusseldorp

VAN DUSSELDORP, SIMON AND MAAIKE

F543

Farm home three miles southwest of Sully. The house had formerly been a Stage Coach Station. L-R: Maggie Van Dusseldorp (Bogaard) with her dog. Mother Maaike, Aart, Koen Van Dusseldorp.

Simon Van Dusseldorp was born in Herwynen, Gelderland, The Netherlands, in 1841. Maaike Blom was also born in Herwynen, Gelderland, in 1846. They were married in 1865, and came to America where they were welcomed and accommodated by the Ver Ploegs, south of Pella, as were many newcomers from Holland. That year brought the birth of Aart (1866) and an unusual amount of rain. Depressed by the Iowa mud and difficulites of adjusting to such primitive conditions the little family decided to return to Herwynen. There three girls and seven more boys were born. For 35 years the boys farmed with their father and the girls helped their mother do all the housework, cooking, and cleaning the muddy wooden shoes on Saturday nights while the men folk had their weekly night on the town.

The small house was becoming very crowded with ten children upstairs in one room and another baby (William) sleeping in the living room with his parents in a bed hidden in the wall. The only other room downstairs (besides the kitchen) was used by a couple of older boys as a tailor's shop. At the turn of the century Simon could see that there wouldn't be enough jobs to support all of his boys. He insisted that they all accompany him and his wife back to the United States. The children were not too happy about that as several of them were engaged and had decent jobs. The only person who escaped the forced emigration was the oldest daughter, Engeltje (1867-1939) who married and moved away.

So in 1901 they came to America again, first living in the house on the corner of East Second and Independence and then to a farm four miles east of Pella which at that time was known as East Prairie. With them were eight sons, Aart, Coenraad (Koen), Arie, Lambertus, Gysbert, Engle, Simon, William and two daughters, Tuintje and Maaike. Six years later Simon died and Maaike moved with the younger children to a farm in the Sully area.

Since Maaike considered staying on the farm, she sent for her oldest daughter to come from Holland to help her. A black surrey was used to meet the train in Newton. Trunks were loaded up and the trip back to Sully began. Suddenly a wild turkey flew up and frightened the pair of horses. The tongue on the hitch broke and the surry tipped over into the ditch, belongings scattered all over. Engeltje was not very impressed with America and soon went back to Holland. Maaike then moved to Pella and lived in the house at 511 South Main, which is still standing today. She lived there until she was unable to care for herself and died in 1918 at the farm home of her daughter Maggie Van Dusseldorp (Bogaard).

Aart and Koen never married and continued with their tailoring under Saks, the Tailor. Eventually they set up their own shop in the red brick house on the corner of East Third and Huber. Aart, Koen, and Engle, who died quite young, are buried with their parents in the Porter Grove Cemetery. The other stories are found elsewhere in this book.

by Arlan Van Dusseldorp

VAN DUSSELDORP, WILLIAM AND RACHEL

F544

William and Rachel Van Dusseldorp lived in and around the Pella area all of their lives.

William (Bill) was born in Herwynen, Gelderland, The Netherlands, in 1891. He came to America with his parents, Simon and Maaike, and his seven brothers and two sisters in 1901. The family consisted of Koen, Arie, Lambertus, Aart, Gysbert, Engle, Simon, Tountje, and Maaike. Bill worked on his parents' farm in the Sully area as he was growing up and hired out to other farmers as well. On Jan. 19, 1913, he married Grace De Jong. They had three children: Simon Carl, Bernice, and Fred Marion who died in infancy.

Grace died in 1920 leaving Bill to raise his two children until Sept. 1922, when he married Rachel Kolenbrander. Bill and Rachel then had four sons and one daughter: Gerald, Margery June, Wilbur, Elmer, and Arlan, who were all born in a ten-year period. During the depression of the 30's Bill and Rachel farmed west of Otley. As was common

Family Picture "1959". Front, l-r: Rachel Kolenbrander Van Dusseldorp, William (Bill) Van Dusseldorp; Middle, l-r: Margery June, Elmer, Simon Carl, Arlan, Bernice; Back, l-r: Gerald, Wilbur.

during that period, the sheriff served Bill with an eviction notice and forced sale of all grain and livestock. The news spread quickly and soon many neighbors and relatives appeared with rope in hand, ready to hang the sheriff when he came back. Cooler heads prevailed, however. Instead, all the neighbors and relatives filled their wagons with the corn, oats, hay, and livestock and took this to their respective farms. They also took the harrow, disk, plow, and anything else they could pull. When the sheriff came to "sell out" Bill, there was nothing left to sell.

Rachel worked as a cook most of her life after the family moved into town in 1941. She worked at Central Park Cafe and later at the Pella Hospital. Patrons of Central Park will well remember her homemade pies and excellent roast beef. During the late 40's and early 50's, Bill and Rachel owned a small cafe called the Taste Rite which occupied the north side of the present Marion County Bank building.

Bill and Rachel were proud of all of their children. Bill was especially proud of the fact that four of his sons served in the military. He wrote to an Iowa Senator in Washington, D.C. bragging of this. The Senator was so impressed he sent Bill an American flag. Bill proudly displayed this flag at every opportunity.

Bill worked for the City of Pella for 25 years prior to his retirement. Bill was especially proud of keeping the streets clean in Pella. His responsibility included the maintenance and operation of the first motorized street sweeper. He usually operated it at night and every night during Tulip Time so that the visitors would see Pella at her best. He died in 1981 at the age of 89. Rachel died in 1984 at the age of 91.

by Arlan Van Dusseldorp

VAN ECK FAMILY

F545

All dressed up in front of their garden in 1927. L-R: Rena Van Eck Klyn, Jennie Alma Van Eck Schippers, Anna Van Eck Van Engelenhoven, Cora Van Eck Leydens.

Jennie Leydens Van Eck and Arie Van Eck and Children

If you like the "Little House on the Prairie" stories by Laura Ingalls Wilder, you will enjoy knowing about the Jennie Leydens Van Eck and Arie Van Eck family. Like Ma and Pa Ingalls, Mom and Pop Van Eck were farmers and had four lively and interesting little girls.

Unlike the Ingalls, the Van Ecks had been born and raised in Ooltgensplaat, South Holland. There they had to work very long and hard to earn enough for even a little food. Mom especially wished for eggs; so when her brother Matt wrote from America, "Just come over, Jennie; you can eat all the little white balls you want here", she agreed with Pop that they should go.

In 1903 they sailed across the Atlantic and ten days later landed on Ellis Island. From New York they traveled by railroad to Harvey, Ia., where Pop got a job working for one of the three railroads. In a rented house next to the railroad track, Rena was born in 1904 and in 1906 Cora was born.

In 1908 Pop began working as a hired hand and learned how to farm with horses. In Holland, where he and Mom had farmed, they did everything by hand. In 1911 Mom, Pop, Rena, and Cora moved to a 120-A. farm five miles northeast of Otley, Ia. The house was very old and small, but all around it stretched acres of flat, fertile land. Beyond the farm were more acres of flat land which continued until it reached the high pasture hills rimming the valley. Only to the northeast were the hills hidden by the trees marking the Skunk River. It was this view that Cora and Rena loved best.

Sometimes, when fog obscured the hills, Mom and Pop thought that the flat land looked a lot like Holland. But unlike the old country where the water was kept off the fields by dikes, here each spring the river rose out of its banks and crept close to the hog shed. Although it never came to the house or covered much cropland, the pasture was flooded yearly.

Although the Iowa summers bothered Mom, she and Pop found that they could have plenty of food for their labor. Of course, they had lots of chickens so Mom had all the eggs she wanted and lots to trade for groceries and dress material. Sometimes Pop took the eggs to the store in Otley, but in the summer, when the huckster came each week, Mom traded them for material or groceries she selected from his high wagon.

Shortly after moving to the farm, Mom told the girls they had to go to school. Rena was seven and had never been to school. Despite their tears, Mom insisted they go. The next morning the little girls walked the one-fourth mile down their lane to the straight main road where they continued another mile to the Valley School. When they got there, the other children ran and hid. Soon the teacher came out and spoke to Rena and Cora in Dutch, for she knew that neither of them understood a word of English. "Come with me," she said, and led them to the outhouse where she gave them a quick English lesson. Soon Rena and Cora could speak English with the other children and enjoyed going to school. At home, though, they continued to speak Dutch.

Often the roads would be bad in the winter and Pop would take them to school by sleigh. In the evenings Pop and the girls played dominoes, carom, or flinch while Mom darned socks. Sometimes neighbors would sit by the kitchen stove and visit or Pop would go to see them. Once in a while their landlord, Bill Vriezelaar, came to visit. Although he would pull icicles from his gray beard in the kitchen and frequently talk to himself,

On their 50th Wedding Anniversary in 1953: Jennie Leydens Van Eck (1881-1961) and Arie Van Eck (1880-1966)

everyone was happy to see their soft-spoken landlord. Bill helped Pop with the chores and never refused to buy wallpaper or paint that Mom wanted for the house. Rena and Cora loved to ride his beautiful gentle little horse, Dan.

In 1918 Bill had two new bedrooms built for them. The little house grew just in time, for that year Annie was born. How Rena and Cora enjoyed playing with their golden-haired little sister! But there was sadness in their lives too. Mom, who always was frail, was growing less well, so although Rena loved school, she had to stay home and help work. A couple of years later, Cora also was taken out of school after the sixth grade.

There was no much work to do. The house must be kept spic and span. There were sewing, canning, baking, gardening and chores to do. There was also a new sister in 1920, named Jennie Alma. Jennie, who had beautiful brown eyes and a beguiling laugh, was a wonderful playmate for Annie.

All four girls often visited neighborhood children. Sometimes they took the buggy up the steep hill to the Scheelers; and in a fairyland orchard, picked their fill of early and late apples, Juneberries, pears, and sweet black mulberries. The Sheelers said they were glad the fruit didn't go to waste. The girls also loved to pick the wild roses that grew thickly in the fence rows and along the road, and to see the intensely blue spider worts and pale buttercups. In the evenings after Cora and Annie learned to play their piano, the family would sing. Like Pa Ingalls, Pop Van Eck loved music.

When Rena and Cora were 14, they began working as hired girls. While one worked out for $1.25 a day, the other helped at home. The girl who was working out always shared her wages with the one staying home. Once, after working out, Rena brought home a little tan puppy. She called him Wiggle because his stubby tail could really move. Like the Ingalls dog, Jack, Wiggle was a joyful, yet sensible dog.

Wiggle really missed Cora and Rena after they got married in 1930 and 1931. It was hard for Mom, Pop, Annie, and Jennie, too, because they'd all been so close. Another change came in 1938, when Bill died and his heirs rented the farm to another family. After briefly renting the Synhorst farm, the Van Ecks moved to town. Here Pop and the girls worked at the Rolscreen factory.

Although Rena, Cora, Annie, and Jennie now have homes and families of their own, they love to talk about the time they were together in the little house in the bottom. It seems that they can still see it standing beneath the towering maples and hear the wind whispering in the leaves of the two great cottonwoods beyond the yard. Even the hard times are spoken of fondly, because, like the Ingalls, the Van Ecks were successful in finding meaning and beauty in life.

by Norma Leydens

VAN EKEREN, HENDRICK AND KATRINA (VISCHER)

F546

Hendrick Van Ekeren, son of Michael and Pieternella Van Ekeren, born Dec. 2, 1838, in Kleendert, Noord Brabant, Holland, died 1898 at Otley, Marion Co., Ia. He had two sisters and two brothers. (Names unknown). Married 1863 in Holland to Katrina Vischer, daughter of Cornelius and Maria Vischer (born Oct. 21, 1838, in Holland, died Feb. 2, 1919 at Pella, Ia). She had one sister, Adrianna Vischer Sille.

Hendrick and Katrina were buried in Price Cemetery south of Otley. They came to Pella, Ia. in 1867 with two small daughters, then moved to Otley. Religion: Dutch Reformed. Was a workman in Holland and farmer. Farmed southeast of Otley. Children:

1) Pieternelle Van Ekeren (born Feb. 5, 1864, in Holland, died Aug. 5, 1919 at Corsica, S. Dak.) married May 18, 1883, in Marion Co. Ia. to William Muilenberg — Children: William Muilenberg, Jr. (born July 18, 1884, at Pella, died Mar. 4, 1938, at Pella) married Cary Ten Hagen — two children – one died and Kristina Muilenberg Browning; Katharine Muilenberg (died at birth); Katharine Muilenberg (born May 18, 1887, at Pella, died Nov. 30, 1939 in Douglas Co., S. Dak.) married Feb. 22, 1912 to John Zomers — one child – Herman Zomers, married Nellie Bass; Henry Muilenberg (born Feb. 2, 1889, at Pella, died Sept. 7, 1936, in Douglas Co., S. Dak.) married Hannah Scholten — had three children: Nellie married John R. Star; Margaret married Claude Taylor; William married Vera Smith.

2) Maria Van Ekeren, (born Sept. 30, 1867, in Holland, died May 16, 1939, in Corsica, S. Dak.), married Gysbert Meurs — Children: John Meurs; Henry Meurs; Clara Meurs, married Albert Scholten — Children: Betnardus Scholten married Janet Hannick; Gysbert Scholten married Ada De Waard; Mary Ann Scholten married Leonard Peters.

3) Michael Van Ekeren (born Oct. 7, 1871, at Otley, Marion Co., Ia., died Feb. 13, 1936, at Iowa City, Johnson Co., Ia.) — One child: Henry M. Van Ekeren (born Dec. 1, 1903) married Ida Ver Steeg — Had five children: Martha Jane Van Ekeren VandeVoort; Katie Mae Van Ekeren Stepleton; Judy Kay Van Ekeren Vander Pol; Betty Jeanne Van Ekeren Conklin; and Linda Joanne Van Ekeren Husted.

4) Cornelius Van Ekeren (born Jan. 9, 1873, at Otley, died 1936, in Marion Co., Ia. married Maria Freeken on Apr. 27, 1898, in Marion Co. — Children: Katharine (born 1898, died 1923); Dirk (born 1901, died at six mo.); Dirk (Dick) (born Mar. 13, 1904, died June 28, 1982) married Edith Hoagland — Children: Ramon Earl Van Ekeren; James Hoagland Van Ekeren; Norma Jean Van Ekeren Celania; Philip Theodore Van Ekeren; Henry Van Ekeren (born July 30, 1906, died July 24, 1936), married Mary Callahan — Children: Mary Louise Van Ekeren Roberts; John Henry Van Ekeren; Sylvia Ann Van Ekeren; William Cornelius Van Ekeren.

5) Dena Van Ekeren (born May 8, 1875, at Otley, died Apr. 29, 1958, at Knoxville, Ia.) married William Scott on Dec. 6, 1894, at Knoxville, Ia. — Children: Bessie Jane Scott (born Apr. 11, 1896, died Nov. 28, 1964, at Knoxville) married Kenneth Adams — Children: Lewis Pearl Adams; Helen Louise Adams Gedding; Kathryne Scott (born Jan. 13, 1898, at Otley) married Alan Cade — One child: Charles William Cade. Later she remarried to Gail Cooper; Edgar William Scott (born Dec. 29, 1900, at Otley) married Myldred Reynolds — Children: Harold LeRoy Scott. Later Edgar remarried to Bessie Mohrling (had two children die at birth). Third wife Lorena Wainscott; Jaunita Matilda Scott (born Sept. 21, 1904 at Knoxville, died Aug. 1986) married Basil Spaur; later married Orville Smith – One child: Mary Joan Smith McGlothlen Williams Bingham.

6) Frank Van Ekeren (born Dec. 16, 1878, at Otley, died Oct. 15, 1945, at Corsica, S. Dak.) married July 22, 1899, in Marion Co., Ia. to Trina (Kate) Poelstras — Children: Catharine Van Ekeren (born Dec. 27, 1903, at Otley) married Jacob Schryvers — Children: Irene Schryvers Vanden Hoek; Loretta Schryvers Van Genderen. John Van Ekeren

(born Jan. 21, 1908) married Hilda Westra — Children: Doris Van Ekeren Kriediet; Donna Mae Van Ekeren Borman. Henry Van Ekeren (born Feb. 25, 1910) married Margaret Nelson — Children: Charles Franklin Van Ekeren; Mary Jane Van Ekeren Kaspers; Douglas Lee died at birth. Richard Van Ekeren (born Sept. 13, 1912, in Douglas Co., S. Dak.) married Fannie De Vries — Children: Delmar Edwin Van Ekeren; Dennis Lloyd Van Ekeren; Carol Van Ekeren Noteboon.

7) Henry Van Ekeren, Jr. (born Mar. 18, 1882, at Otley, Ia., died Sept. 29, 1958, at Pella) married Nellie Abie Koopmans on Feb. 23, 1905 — Children: William Van Ekeren (born Jan. 11, 1906, died Dec. 28, 1978) married Mary Nickola — Children: Lorraine Van Ekeren Miller; Dorothy Van Ekeren Howlett; Luella Van Ekeren Hendrick; Donald Van Ekeren; Marvin Van Ekeren; Thomas Van Ekeren. Eva Jane Van Ekeren (born Feb. 19, 1907, at Pella) married Henry Petersma — Children: Delmar Ray Petersma; Betty Irene Petersma Vander Werff; Joyce Ilene Petersma Lammey; Melvin Petersma. Henry Van Ekeren, III (born June 11, 1909, at Pella) married Margaret King – no children, adopted brother William's son, Thomas. Garret Van Ekeren (born Dec. 16, 1911, at Pella died Apr. 22, 1962, at Fairfield) married Bernice Ross — no children. Florence Mae Van Ekeren (born Apr. 3, 1916, at Pella) married Alford Taylor – Children: Beverley Taylor Vonk; Jerry Taylor; Robert Taylor; Sandra Taylor Minter; Jack Taylor. Clifford Van Ekeren (born Nov. 20, 1919 at Pella, died June 29, 1954, at Oskaloosa) married Darlene Fry — One son – Danny Ray Van Ekeren. Alvin Van Ekeren (born May 22, 1921, at Pella, Ia., died Jan. 29, 1986, at Pella), married Mildred Jo Riggs — Children: Ronald Van Ekeren; Gloria Jean Van Ekeren Nossaman.

by Mrs. Dick Van Ekeren

VAN GENDEREN, GERRIT

F547

Gerrit Van Genderen, born Aug. 11, 1823, a farmer in Leerbroek, Zuid Holland married Maaike De Jong in 1854. She was born Feb. 15, 1832 and died Jan. 5, 1917. Gerrit had preceded her in death Dec. 9, 1907. They had emigrated to the United States in 1856, starting the trip with two children, Lena and Cornelia. Lena died on the boat when they were near New York City and Maaike would hold the dead child in her arms when the shipmaster made his daily inspections of the passengers and she would say, "Het kind is nog siek"; interpreted the child is still sick. This she did to prevent burial at sea. From New York Maaike and Cornelia went ahead to Keokuk with the other immigrants and Gerrit came later, after Lena's burial.

From Keokuk Gardens the immigrants came to Pella with oxen and wagons. The Van Generens settled near the Des Moines River south of Pella, then moved to a farm three miles south of Pella now owned by Halblooms. They next moved to the Sandridge area and Maaike's obituary indicated she was a member of the Granville Church which was located about four miles west of Taintor in Mahaska County. Gerrit and Maaike were accompanied in their migration by Gerrit's mother, Cornelia, his brothers Arie and Cornelius and his sister Maria. Maaike was also accompanied by her father Pieter De Jong and two sisters, Mary and Jennie. Jennie died of smallpox after arrival.

Gerrit and Maaike had eleven children and one adopted son. Lena died on the boat; Cornelia, born Jan. 15, 1856 died Mar. 4, 1915 and was married to Cornelius Slykoord on Nov. 15, 1871. (See Slycoord History). There was Pieter, born Sep. 18, 1858 who died June 1, 1940 and married Mary Ver Dught on Feb. 18, 1886. He farmed near Pella. Next was Wilhelmina Christina, also known as Neeltje but best as Lena, who was born May 2, 1860, died July 31, 1942 and was married Oct. 12 1881 to Jacob Vandersyde. (See Vandersyde History). Their next daughter, Janna, also known as Jane or Jennie, was born July 9, 1862, died June 10, 1949 and was married to John Steenhoek on Oct. 11, 1883. They farmed in the Anamosa, Iowa area.

Next was John, born May 17, 1864 and died in 1949. He was married Dec. 23, 1886 to Susannah Vos who was born April 27, 1865 and died July 29, 1941. They had seventeen children in Iowa before moving to western South Dakota in Oct. 1911. Due to poor farming conditions they moved east 275 miles to New Holland and then Jourbert in southeastern South Dakota where they farmed until retirement. Next was Mary who was born Jan. 16, 1867 and died Dec. 31, 1962. She was married to Rhine Eysink on Mar. 8, 1894. (See the Eysink History). Willem, (Will) was born Apr. 3, 1869 and died on Aug. 21, 1943. He was married to Annie De Hoag on May 16, 1889 and farmed in the Lynnville-Sully area until retirement. The next child Dirkjie was born May 9, 1871 and died Aug. 21, 1943. She was married to Wouter Van Peursem on Jan. 30, 1890. They moved to Ocheyedan, in northwestern Iowa to improve their economic status and continued to farm in that area until retirement. The tenth and eleventh of Gerrit and Maaike's children, Arie and Cornelius, died at ages four and three. Gerrit and Maaike adopted John Gezel when he was about four years old, due to the death of his parents. John was born June 26, 1881 and died June 16, 1953. John remained in the Pella area where he had a family of one son, six daughters and one adopted son.

Due to space limitations an attempt to list more descendants, who number in the hundreds, is not attempted here. A Van Genderen History is in the formative process and could be printed within the next year.

by Jacob Brom

VAN GENDEREN, GERRIT AND MAAIKE (DE JONG)

F548

The following letter my mother, Deborah Terpstra, received on July 6, 1983, from the Central Bureau of Genealogie, Holland, on my great-great-grandparents Gerrit and Maaike De Jong Van Genderen.

In de passagierslijsten van Prof. Swieringa

Picture date unknown: Gerrit Van Genderson (1823-1907) and Maaike (Maggie) de Jong Van Genderen (1831-1917).

hebben we do volgende informatie gevonden: Gerrit van Genderen, arbeider, vertrok naar Noord Amerika in 1856 samen met zinj vrouw en 2 kinderen. Hij was 32 jaar toen hij emigreerde om zich met jijn vrienden of familie te verenigen. Het gezin kwam uit Leerbroek, Zuid-Holland, en ze behoorden tot de Hervormde Kerk.

Uit de registers van de Burgerlijke Stand van Leerbroek bleek dat Cornelia van Genderen werd geboren in Leerbroek op 12 januari 1856. Ze was de dochter van Gerrit van Genderen (geb. 8 augustus 1823 to Leerbroek) en van Maaike de Jong (geboren te Leerbroek op 16 februari 1831) die op 7 december 1853 in Leerbroek waren gehuwd.

Translated: The passenger lists show Gerrit van Genderen, laborer or workman, left for North America in 1856 with his wife and two children. He was 32.

It states that Cornelia Van Genderen (my great-great-grandmother) was born Jan. 12, 1856, Leerbroek, the daughter of Gerrit Van Genderen born Aug. 8, 1823, Leerbroek, and Maaike de Jong born Feb. 16, 1831, Leerbroek.

This coincides with family tradition which states my great-great-grandmother Cornelia was only a few months old when she came to America.

It also states that Gerrit and Maaike were married Dec. 7, 1853, in Leerbroek which is in Zuid-Holland (South Holland).

Gerrit and Mrs. G. Van Genderen, Lina (family tradition states she died on the boat but was buried in New York), and Cornelia Van Genderen are listed among the arrivals from The Netherlands (1856) in the History of Pella Iowa, 1847-1922.

Family tradition states that they landed in New York and traveled to Keokuk, Ia. They came to Pella with oxen and wagons.

Records at Knoxville, Ia., Marion Co., show Gerrit Van Genderen becoming a citizen of the United States on the 12th of December 1861.

On July 21, 1980, we received a letter from the First Reformed Church of Pella, Ia. which

listed the baptized children of Gerrit and Maaike de Jong Van Genderen. Children numbers three thru twelve were listed in the church records. The children are as follows: Lina, Cornelia, Pieter, Lena, Jane, John, Mary, William, Dora, Arie, Cornelis, and John Gezel – adopted.

The first child, Lina or Lena, died enroute from Holland. One source says she died on the boat and was buried at sea. Another source says Maaike kept her wrapped up in a blanket and did not tell the ship master she died. When the one in charge checking the passengers came to great-great-great-grandmother holding the dead child, she replied "Het kind is nog ziek" translated "The child is still sick". She did this since they were very near shore. This source says the child was buried in New York.

The second child Cornelia Van Genderen, born Jan. 12, 1856, my great-great-grandmother, married Cornelis Slykoord (Slycord). They had thirteen children. (See Slycord Story.)

The third child Pieter (Peter) Van Genderen, born Sept. 18, 1858, married Feb. 18, 1886, to Mary Ver Dugt.

The fourth child Wilhelmina Christina (Lena) Van Genderen, born May 2, 1860, married Oct. 12, 1881, to Jacob Vander Syde.

The fifth child Janna (Jane or Jennie) Van Genderen, born July 9, 1862, married Oct. 11, 1883, to John Steenhoek.

The sixth child Jan (John) Van Genderen, born May 17, 1864, married Dec. 21, 1886, to Susan Vos.

The seventh child Maria (Mary) Van Genderen, born Jan. 16, 1867, married Mar. 8, 1894, to Rhine H. Eysink.

The eighth child Willem (William) Van Gendren, born Apr. 3, 1869, married May 16, 1889, to Annie Hoog.

The ninth child Dirkje (Dirkie, Dora) Van Genderen, born May 9, 1871, married Jan. 30, 1890, to Walter Van Peursem.

The tenth child Arie Van Genderen, born Oct. 12, 1873, died Feb. 28, 1877, at age three.

The eleventh child Cornelis Van Genderen born Mar. 14, 1876. No information, may have died as a young child.

The twelfth child Jan (John) Gezel, born June 26, 1882, was adopted. He married Feb. 8, 1905, to Katie Zylstra.

The Van Genderen's settled around the Des Moines River south of Pella. From that settlement they moved to a place about three miles west (one source said south) of Pella now owned by Halblooms. Their third (Peter) thru ninth (Dora) children were baptized: Oct. 6, 1872; Arie, June 7, 1874; Cornelis, June 3, 1877; Jan Gezel was baptized Sept. 2, 1899. The family left the First Reformed Church for the "Sandrige" neighborhood and lived in a home now owned by Peter Zwank. They moved one more time to a place which was located west of Boot's near the Elk Creek. Gerrit Van Genderen died Dec. 9, 1907, Pella, Ia., and Maaike (Maggie) de Jong Van Genderen died Jan. 5, 1917, New Sharon, Ia. (A probate was found on Maaike Van Genderen in Oskaloosa court house.) Gerrit and Maaike are buried north of Pella, Ia., at Graceland Cemetery.

by Russel Stuart Terpstra

VAN GILST, BASTIAN AND TANEKA (DE HAAN)

F549

The following excerpts from letters written by the Van Gilsts give glimpses of their experiences in coming to America. These letters were given to some Van Gilst relatives a few years ago when they were visiting in the Netherlands. The letters were translated as follows:

March 4, 1893. The 4th of March, quarter till three in the afternoon, we took ship from Rotterdam with the plates on the table for dinner. The dinner was soup, bread, potatoes, meat, and applesauce. At five o'clock we were out of the river and the pilot left the ship. (At this point the captain took over.) At six o'clock, nothing but water and sky.

March 6. Beautiful weather and we enter the big ocean. Many people are seasick, among them my wife and Pieter.

March 15. Was a little rough during the night. At 6:30 this evening the pilot boarded the ship and at nine o'clock we saw land. Lay at anchor overnight.

March 16. At nine o'clock in the morning we left the ship and waited the day in New York till eight o'clock in the evening when we boarded the train. I cannot give you a description of New York. I can write you that it is not very busy in Rotterdam in comparison to New York, and the same goes for Chicago. We were in the train for 36 hours — two nights and one day.

We arrived and had a good welcome here and have to see today that I get work, but that will go all right, and also have to look for a house. It is not easy to give an account of the trip overland. But thou seest no Dutch farms. The horses and milk cows are walking outside, but they can eat hay whenever they want.

February, 1903. We have earned pretty good this winter with hauling coal. We live close to the stockpiles where Pieter loaded them and hauled them to town. You can buy coal here for six cents a bushel (80 pounds) and you get eleven cents in town. A big difference with Holland where the price is 70 to 75 cents a bushel.

Maria, our oldest daughter, hired out in town for $2 a week. Francina is going to work for $1.50 per week, also in the city of Pella . . . The Lord willing and we are living, field work for Pieter and me is at the door again, and we live in the hope that the Lord will give His blessing so that we may gather in a crop so we can provide for our large family. Instead of selling corn and hay, we had to buy for the horses and the cattle.

April, 1903. (Tana is writing) I myself can really feel that I am almost 42 years old already and I am sometimes very tired of all the working, and am also skinny but still somewhat happy by the pleasure of nine children. They are very well spoken of in Pella and that does your heart good as a parent.

February, 1908. Herewith do we let you know that the Lord has blessed our household with the birth of a daughter on February 10. Mother and daughter are relatively well considering the circumstances . . . The letters we are getting from The Netherlands lately are open most of the time. The envelopes are not strong enough for the big trip.

January, 1916. By God's goodness are we all healthy. Can you notice also that your ability and strength are diminishing? It would not be surprising for the days of old age and malfunction are almost here for us as for you. It could be that the time would not be long anymore here for us in this vale of tears. But as we have security for our soul, then departing from this earth with all her sorrow will not be hard . . . It is Wednesday evening and our children are gone to catechism class. It is very cold at present. It takes them an hour with the team to Pella and catechism class starts at 7:30, so it will be ten o'clock before they will be home . . . Two weeks from tomorrow our Heiltje is going to get married with a John Menninga. Heiltje is 21 years old, and we hope to have a wedding party, the Lord willing and we are living, for that is the custom in America . . . Our Huig is the tallest of our family and is fifteen years old.

Living children of this family are: Mrs. Case (Liz) Kloosterman; and Hubert Van Gilst, both of Pella. Others who have passed on are: two who died in infancy; also Peter; Matthew; Francis, Mrs. Gerrit Van Ee; Helen, Mrs. John Menninga; Bertha, Mrs. Gradus De Cook; Anna, the youngest, who was afflicted all her life with blindness. Many descendants of this family still live in the Pella and Oskaloosa area.

by Wilma Kaldenberg

VAN GILST, EDWARD AND KATHRYN

F550

Edward and Kathryn are relative newcomers to Pella, having moved there in July of 1976. However, all their grandparents and some of their great-grandparents spent parts of their lives in or near Pella, and Edward's life began there on Nov. 4, 1922. He was the first of three children born to Matthew and

Kathryn and Edward Van Gilst. 40th Wedding Anniversary.

Allie (Menninga) Van Gilst at their farm home five miles north of Pella and was named Bastian Edward after his grandfather Bastiaan Van Gilst. His paternal grandparents, Bastiaan and Tanneka (De Haan) Van Gilst had arrived in New York from Rotterdam on Mar. 16, 1893, and, after a brief stay in the Chicago area, moved to Pella with their four oldest children. Their son Matthew, born in 1897, was the first of six children born to them after their arrival in the Pella area. Bastiaan was a farmer and lived on farms in the area for many years with his large family.

Allie (Menninga) Van Gilst, Edward's mother, was born to Sjolle and Jantje (Cuperus) Menninga in the Pella area in 1898, the fifth of six children born to them. The Menninga and Cuperus families were among the early arrivals in Pella from Holland. Sjolle and Jantje lived for a time in a log cabin. They settled on a farm five miles northwest of Pella.

Kathryn was born on Feb. 25, 1924, to William and Gertie (Heslinga) Stek at their farm home 11 miles northeast of Oskaloosa, the third of five children born to them. Her paternal grandfather, Jan Stek, born in 1854, had arrived in Pella with his mother and stepfather, Mr. and Mrs. Jan Tukker and his two sisters from Meerkerk, The Netherlands, in 1870. He met and married Henrietta De Wild, who was born in Pella in 1857, to early settlers, Jan Henry and Marie (Stomphorst) De Wild. The young couple moved to Kansas in a covered wagon in 1879, a year after their marriage, and homesteaded in a sod house, using buffalo chips for fuel. They returned to Pella in 1880, living in the area until they moved to Michigan in 1891, where William, Kathryn's father, eighth of twelve children, was born. In 1897, the family returned to the Pella and Sully areas where they raised their four sons and eight daughters. Jan worked at various jobs and finally took up farming.

Kathryn's maternal grandparents, Gjalt and Klaaska (Molenaar) Heslinga, immigrated to Pella from Beetgum, The Netherlands, in 1893, the same year the Van Gilst family arrived. Gjalt and Klaaska worked for a year, and then were married in Nepasta, Colo. where they had settled. Here their daughter Gertie, Kathryn's mother, and three other children were born. After finding life very difficult in Colorado, they moved to Pella in 1899, then to the Lynnville-Sully area where their fifth child was born. They moved again in 1904 to a farm near Lacey, Ia. where their sixth child was born. There they raised their family.

In 1935 Edward's parents moved their family to a farm five miles northeast of Oskaloosa, where they attended the Christian Reformed Church. It was there that Edward and Kathryn became acquainted as young teen-agers. Kathryn's family also attended there. A three-year courtship culminated in their marriage on Dec. 2, 1943, in a wedding in the home of the bride's parents at rural Oskaloosa.

They began their life together on a farm, the farm where Edward's parents had moved to in 1935. Five children were born to them there: Richard (1945), Dorothy (1947), Joan (1948), John (1950), and Shirley (1955). The family moved to a farm south of Leighton in the spring of 1959. The children now transferred from the Oskaloosa Christian School to the Pella Chirstian School. In 1865 a move was made into Leighton while Edward continued to work on the farm. After the youngest child married and left home, Edward and Kathryn moved into Pella where they reside at 117 E. 13th.

At present their five children and 14 grandchildren live in five states. Richard and his wife Judy and two children live in St. Louis, Mo., where Richard teaches in Westminster Christian Academy. Dorothy and her husband Rob Johnstone and four children live in Rockford, Ill. Dorothy is a court reporter and Rob works for a textiles firm. Joan and her husband Arley Bouwma and three children live in Grand Haven, Mich. Joan works in sales and Arley teaches in Muskegan Christian High School. John and his wife Becky and two children live in Prior Lake, Minn. They own and operate a Vermeer equipment store in Burnsville, Minn. Shirley and her husband Paul Van Donselaar and three children live at Wright, Ia. where they are engaged in farming.

Edward and Kathryn have experienced God's leading and faithfulness in their lives in many ways. Through His directing their ancestors to Pella "The City of Refuge", He enabled them to meet and spend their lives together. Today they are enjoying all the benefits of that lovely "City of Refuge".

by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Van Gilst

VAN GILST, HUBERT AND GERTRUDE

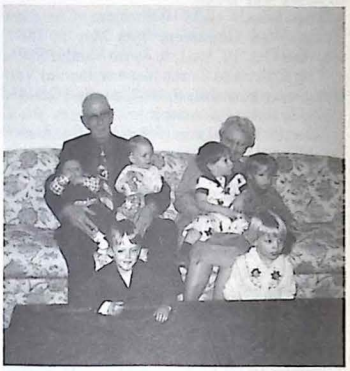
F551

Hubert and Gertrude Van Gilst with their four daughters left to right: Tena Mae Van Roekel, Bernice Vander Schel, Wilma Kaldenberg, Dorothy Vander Linden (1977).

Hubert and Gertrude Vander Pol Klyn Van Gilst were married June 7, 1955. On that day Gertrude "adopted" a whole family as she became the loving stepmother and stepgrandmother of Hubert's four daughters and nine grandchildren, whose biological mother and grandmother, Dora Van Ommen, had been called Home to be with her Lord in 1953 after several years of failing health. Gertrude's first husband, John Klyn, had passed away in 1951.

Hubert and Gertrude made their home at 613 East First St. in a cozy home that Hubert had purchased after leaving the farm in the early fifties.

Grandchildren of Hubert and Gertrude Van Gilst (1959). On the couch, left to right: Kyle Steenhoek, Lila Steenhoek, Donna Van Roekel, Phyllis Vander Linden and Harley Van Roekel. Standing, left to right: Charles Vander Linden, Kenneth Van Roekel, Darl Vander Linden, and Marlene Van Roekel.



Great grandchildren of Hubert and Gertrude Van Gilst (1977). By the table, Shawn Van Roekel, son of Kenneth and Linda Van Roekel, who went to be with Jesus at Christmas time in 1979, and Jason Van Roekel. On their Grandfather's lap are Travis Turnbull and Tomi Van Roekel. On Grandmother's lap are Hanson Turnbull and Kevin Steenhoek. Jason and Tomi are children of Harley and Kathy Van Roekel; Travis and Hanson, of Glenn and Lila Turnbull; Kevin of Kyle Steenhoek. Great-grandchildren who joined the family later are Vicki and Jeffrey Steenhoek, children of Ron and Marlene Steenhoek; Michael, son of Kyle Steenhoek; and Seamus Turnbull.

Hubert worked at the Wagon Factory for some time, located where Country Kitchen stands today. After it was destroyed by fire, he worked for the Pella Creamery and later as a custodian at the Pella Junior High School until his retirement. He and Gertrude continued to make their home on East First St. until 1980 when they moved to the new Fair Haven East, where they reside today. Hubert has reached the golden age of 87 and Gertrude, 83. They praise God for the many years He has blessed them with health and strength, and they look forward to the glory that awaits the people of God in the life hereafter.

Hubert's first wife, Dora, was the daughter of Barend and Dirkie Fransen Van Ommen, who immigrated to America during the late 1800's. She was a schoolteacher in Mahaska Co. schools before she and Hubert were

Pictured with their youngest child, Bernice, is Hubert's first wife Dora.

married in 1923. They lived on farms southeast of Pella until the time they moved into town in the early fifties. Dora was a loving mother and a loyal servant of her Lord.

by Wilma Kaldenberg

VAN GORP, DOROTHY (NOLLEN)

F552

Marion and Dorothy Nollen, 5 and 7 years old.

My parents were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Nollen. My grandparents were Mr. and Mrs. Herman Nollen. My grandfather, Herman Nollen, was born in Deidam, the Netherlands, and came to America in 1854. I, Dorothy Nollen, was born west of Pella where my parents and grandparents lived. My brothers were Marion, Herman, Elmer, and Myron Nollen.

Can you picture life on an Iowa farm without electricity, power machinery or running water for household use, or for the animals? All farm work was done with horses, both in the fields and hauling in the crops. Well, that's the way it was in the early 1900's.

First of all in our homes, we had kerosene lamps for light; wood and coal-burning stoves for heat and cooking. This meant that my brother Marion and I had to see that the woodbox on the backporch was to be filled with wood every day. My father was busy all winter cutting down trees for posts used for fences and wood for the stoves: a cook stove in the kitchen and a heater in the living room. A fire had to be made in the cook stove every morning, summer and winter.

Water was pumped from the well to start our breakfast and the other meals as well. Many a bucket of water was pumped every day for washing clothes, bathing, and cooking, as was also for the cattle, hogs, and chickens. It was carried to the troughs for the animals as the need arose.

On laundry day, water was pumped in pails and carried to the wash boiler on the stove. The washing machine was also run by handpower. A handle had to be worked back and forth, a monotonous job, but Mother helped us. Then we skipped out. Later Mother called for us to gather cobs in order to heat more water. I don't know which we hated the most, running the washing machine or picking up cobs.

Early in the 1900's, a deep well was drilled, and by gravitation, the water was run through pipes that were laid deep enough to be frost free. These pipes led to hydrants, and the water tanks were governed by floats. The windmill pumped the water into an elevated tank. Mother also had a hydrant in the house. A galvanized tub was used for bathing. The water had to be heated on the stove. We didn't know about showers, but used the tub for bathing in the summer in the washhouse, and in the winter by the kitchen stove.

What did we do for recreation? We made our own. In the summer, we enjoyed going to the creek, a short distance from the house, to wade and play in the water. We had toy wagons and a few other toys. When we were old enough to read, we read books, thanks to our great-uncle Henry Nollen who kept us in books. Marion and I spent hours reading and playing school or church.

On Sundays, weather permitting, we went to church with the carriage and a team of horses. There were no gravel roads. We walked to school through dust, mud, and snow. A country school, namely East Silver Grove, was one-half mile from where we lived. At school we played all kinds of games both summer and winter. We had lovely teachers who taught all eight grades. During the noon hour in the spring before vacation, they would take us on a nature walk in the timber a short distance from the school. Yes, we had a good education in our country schools. Those pupils measured up to the children in the Pella schools.

One morning when we were walking to school, when Marion and I were six and eight years old, we had our first auto ride in a one-seated car without doors or top. We were beside ourselves, when we arrived in school that morning. We really had something to talk about!

Our father purchased his first car in 1911, an E.M.F. Studebaker, two-seated, no front doors, no lights, and the top was held by straps leading to the front of the car. Now we had transportation to church and for business in town in the summer, but in the winter months the car was put on blocks in the garage, so back to horses. Neither the roads nor the car were fit for travel during the winter months.

These are just some of the memories of my childhood. We had a lovely time. We of course did not know about the modern conveniences of today, and were a happy pair of youngsters, my brother Marion and I. Marion Nollen, my late brother, died at an early age. He was a minister of the gospel beginning in Lafayette, Indiana, and was serving the Presbyterian church in Combria, Wisconsin, where he died. I married John R. Van Gorp in 1929 and we lived on the farm north of Pella for over 30 years, and later moved to Pella. He died ten years ago.

by Dorothy Nollen Van Gorp

VAN GORP, ED AND PEARL

F553

Ed and Pearl Van Gorp; 50th wedding anniversary

When Pearl and Ed celebrated their Golden Anniversary, they sent out a little brochure for a keepsake for their friends. In it was written a "Reflections of the Year 1920", which was historically interesting.

It reads: "The main event in the life of Pearl and Ed Van Gorp was their honeymoon in California. On Sept. 17, 1921, their son Norman Foster was born. We now have two grandsons.

"Woodrow Wilson was President (former President Theodore Roosevelt died)."

On this 50th anniversary of that year, we remember that 1920, is a significant milestone in our lives. The Prohibition Amendment was ratified. Thirty by three inner tubes sold for $1.85. Model T Fords sold as low as $365.00 for a roadster. Ear phones were used to hear the radio. Mary Pickford was playing small girl parts in movies. Hogs were $10.50 to $11.50, cattle $6.00 to $12.00, corn $1.00 to $1.25 per bushel. The first beacons

for night flying were installed in Hounstone, England. Oregon was the first state to tax gasoline, 1 cent per gallon. Hem lines were 8 inches above the floor. Buses were keen competition for street cars, and the underpaid conductors were collecting six fares and ringing up five.

In the roaring 20s, $1.00 would buy quite a few things. Haircuts were 25 cents, shaves 10 cents, with neck shaves 15 cents. Choice meat was 35 cents a pound. Liver was called barber steak. The butcher would give you some for nothing.

We saw this town (Pella) grow from a population of 2,435 in 1888 to a modern city of about 7,000.

I have often thought that if Pearl would have had any idea that she would have to put up with me for 50 years, she might have been reluctant to say yes, but she did and we made it."

Their Golden Anniversary was celebrated at the First Baptist Church on Sunday, Jan. 25, 1970. Both Ed and Pearl are deceased.

by M. Kooi

VAN GORP, JACOB AND BERNICE

F554

Jacob Van Gorp family picture taken on Julie Van Gorp and Brian Vande Ree's wedding day – June 26, 1982. Front, l-r: Laura, Bernice, Julie; Back, l-r: Jim Nieboer, Mark, Jacob, Brian Vande Ree.

Jacob Van Gorp was born July 12, 1929, the oldest child of John and Dena (Kloosterman) Van Gorp. His parents lived on their farm on the south edge of Peoria in Richland Twp., Mahaska Co.; this was his birthplace.

Bernice is the second daughter of Francis and Agnes (Walraven) De Geus. She was born on her parent's farm — four miles west of Pella in Summit Twp., Marion Co.

Jacob spent his boyhood years helping on the farm and attending the Peoria Christian grade school. He was baptized in, and became a member of, the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

In April of 1951, he was drafted into the army during the Korean War. He received his training at Camp Gordon, Ga., with the U.S. Army Signal Corps. Following this he was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone. There he served as a radio and teletype operator until his discharge in April, 1953. He returned home to Iowa and started farming in partnership with his father.

Bernice attended Silver Grove School, a rural school located three-quarters of a mile south of her home. At that time television was not widely used for entertainment; therefore, one of the big events of the school year was the annual Christmas program given by the students. Weeks were spent in preparation and anticipation; the school was filled with parents, relatives, and neighbors when the big night finally arrived.

Bernice graduated from Pella High School with the Class of 1953. Following graduation she worked as a secretary at the Pella Rural Electric Cooperative. She was a member of the 1954 Tulip Time Court. In the summers she played in the city band when they gave their Saturday night concerts in the bandstand which was located on the north side of Central Park.

She had been baptized in the First Reformed Church of Pella; and later she became a member there. This is where she and Jacob were married on Feb. 24, 1956. Following thier marriage they lived on the family farm near Peoria which they purchased in 1970. They are the parents of Laura Beth, Julie Kay, and Mark Jay.

Laura was born on Feb. 25, 1958, at Mercy Hosptial in Oskaloosa, Ia.; Julie was born on Feb. 28, 1961, at Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa; and Mark was born on Oct. 15, 1965, also at Mahaska Hospital. All three children were baptized in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where they later became members. They all attended Peoria Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School.

Laura graduated from high school in 1976. She was a member of the Tulip Time Court that year. She attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and received her B.A. degree in 1980. On June 21, 1980, she was married to James Nieboer, son of Nicolas and Ann Nieboer, of Kalamazoo, Mich. They were married in the Calvary Christian Reformed Church where they are now members. She has been a teacher in the Lansing, Ill., and Pella Christian Grade Schools. She and Jim and their son, Jesse Daniel, live at 1103 Peace St., in Pella. Jim teaches biology and science courses and is a coach at Pella Christian High. Jesse was born on Mar. 1, 1985.

Julie graduated from high school in 1979. That year she also was a member of the Tulip Time Court. Following graduation she attended Calvin College and Blodgett Memorial School of Nursing in Grand Rapids. She received her R.N. degree in 1982. Julie and Brian Vande Ree were married in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella on June 26, 1982. Brian is the son of Cornelius and Helen Vande Ree. She worked in St. Luke's Hospital in Davenport, Ia., before they moved to Hoquiam, Wash., in 1985. Brian is a Doctor of Chiropractic and practices in Hoquiam. They are members of the Evergreen Christian Reformed Church of Olympia, Wash. They have two sons: Cameron Brandt, whose birthdate is Dec. 29, 1984; and Jamison Michael, who was born on Aug. 26, 1986.

Mark graduated from high school in 1984. He was chosen by the Pella American Legion to be a representative to Boys State in 1983. He was very active in sports during his high school years. He is presently attending Calvin College where he is a junior, majoring in math. He is a resident advisor in his dorm.

Jacob and Bernice still reside on the farm near Peoria. Jacob has served on the Peoria School Board and Peoria Church Consistory. He is a corn and pork producer; he has always been interested in soil conversation methods and uses these methods in his farming operation. When time permits he enjoys restoring the antique tractors he has collected.

Bernice works part-time in the Controllers Office at Central College. She enjoys growing flowers, reading and doing handwork. She is a member of the Pella Area Quilters Guild.

by Bernice Van Gorp

VAN GORP, JOHN AND DENA

F555

Sept. 14, 1902, was the birthdate of John Van Gorp and his twin sister, Sadie. Their parents were Jacob and Jacoba (Maas) Van Gorp. They were born on the parental farm located six miles northeast of Pella in Mahaska Co., Richland Twp., near the Warren River bridge. There was an older child, Marinus, in the family.

Dena was the second of four children born to Dan and Minnie (Bennink) Kloosterman. She was born on July 17, 1903, at her parents farm which was between Peoria and New Sharon in Mahaska Co., Prairie Twp.

On Mar. 22, 1906, Jacob Van Gorp (John's father) met with a fatal accident caused by a circle saw when they were sawing wood. John's mother remained on the farm. Charlie Stuursma worked for them and then married Jacoba in 1907. Five more children were born to this family. They bought a farm on the south edge of Peoria in 1915. The family lived in a rented house in Peoria while the house, barn, and other buildings were built on the new farm. They moved to this farm in 1917.

John received his education in the Warren and Peoria Christian Schools. He attended the Peoria Christian Reformed Church where he was baptized and later became a member. On Dec. 28, 1922, his mother died; the following year his stepfather moved the family to Denver, Colo., to seek relief for his asthmatic condition. In Denver, John worked on his stepfather's dairy farm for about a year. He returned to Iowa and worked for various farmers in the Peoria area until 1926 when he and his brother, Marinus, bought the farm from Charlie Stuursma.

Dena received her education in the Lunt, Green Hill, and Garden Hall rural schools. She was baptized in, and became a member of, the Peoria Christian Reformed Church. On Feb. 23, 1927, she and John were married at her parent's home. They lived on the farm near Peoria. A few years later John purchased his brother's share of the farm. Their four children are: Jacob, Daniel, Clara Mae, and Gerlene Joy.

The three older children were born on the family farm and attended Peoria Christian Grade School. Gerlene's birthplace was Mercy Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. She attended both the Peoria and Pella Christian Grade Schools. All the children were baptized in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

Jacob was born on July 12, 1929. He served in the army from 1951-1953. Following his training at Camp Gordon, Ga., he was stationed in the Panama Canal Zone where he was a radio and teletype operator with the

John Van Gorp Family. Taken in 1951 before Jacob left for the Army. Front, l-r: Gerlene, Dena, John,; Back, l-r: Jacob, Clara, Daniel.

U.S. Signal Corps. On Feb. 24, 1956, he was married to Bernice De Geus in the First Reformed Church of Pella. They live on, and operate, the family farm which they purchased in 1970. Their children are: Laura Beth (Nieboer), born Feb. 25, 1958; Julie Kay (Vande Ree), born Feb. 28, 1961; and Mark Jay, born Oct. 15, 1965.

Daniel was born on Feb. 16, 1933. He graduated from Pella Christian High in 1950 and served in the U.S. Army from 1953-1955. He was stationed at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Tex., where he was assigned to work in the hospital. He attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich., and then Central College in Pella where he received his B.A. degree in 1958. He received his M.A. from the University of Iowa and did post-graduate work at Colorado State, Drake, and Cornell Universities. He and Grace Tamminga of Denver, Colo., were married in the First Reformed Church of Denver on Aug. 21, 1963. Dan first taught in the Newton High School; they then moved to Denver and he has taught for several years in the Cherry Creek High School where he is presently head of the biology department. Grace operates a preschool in Denver. Their son, Jon Daniel, was born on June 12, 1969.

Clara was born on Oct. 10, 1937. In 1955 she graduated from Pella Christian High and then attended Calvin College. She taught in the Moline Christian Grade School in Michigan. On Oct. 18, 1957, she married Marvin Huizenga of Allendale, Mich. They were married in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella. They are residents of Michigan — first of Grand Rapids and now of Jackson. Clara is employed as a teacher-assistant of adult education and Marvin works for Michigan Bell. Their children are: Ronald Alan, born Mar. 12, 1960; Michael Wayne, born on Feb. 10, 1962; and Cheryl Lyn, born Sept. 30, 1964.

Gerlene was born on July 6, 1945. After graduation from Pella Christian High in 1963, she attended Dordt and Calvin Colleges; she received her B.A. from Calvin in 1967. She was married to Verne Meyer of Renville, Minn., at the Calvary Christian Reformed Church in Pella on June 24, 1966. She taught in the Michigan grade schools of Jennison and Elk Rapids. They also lived in Racine, Wis. At the present time they live in Sioux Center, Ia., where Gerlene is employed in the Dordt College library. Verne is a professor in the drama department there. Their sons are: Nathaniel Amiel, whose birthdate is Nov. 13, 1968; and Benjamin Allyn, who was born Mar. 30, 1972.

John and Dena moved to their new home at 616 Madison in Pella in 1956. Dena was active in the Pella Christian High and Fair Haven Auxiliaries and the Calvary Willing Workers Society. John had served on the Peoria School Board and in the consistories of both the Peoria and Calvary Christian Reformed Churches. He continued to help on the farm and was employed by the City of Pella to help in the maintenance and beautification of the city parks.

Dena passed away on Jan. 23, 1983. John moved to Hilltop Manor in 1984, where he resides today. He enjoys visiting with his family and friends.

by Bernice Van Gorp

VAN GORP, MARVIN F.

F556

Due to great religious persecution in Holland about the year 1850 there were a number of emigrants who came to this country. Many settled in Pella, Marion Co., Ia. Among these settlers were four Van Gorp brothers, sons of Matthew Van Gorp. Matthew was my great-great-grandfather who lived and died in Holland.

My great-grandfather's name was Jacob Van Gorp the eldest of the four brothers, namely; Jacob, Frans, Peter and Henry. The last count of descendants was taken in 1936 and at that time there were over 700 Van Gorp descendants from the four brothers. That count in 1987 is probably in the thousands. Great-grandfather Jacob was born in Zuid Beierland, Holland in 1817, migrated to America with his wife and family in 1870, died in Pella, 1901. My great-grandmother's maiden name was Minnie De Hister, also born in Holland and died in Pella, 1906.

Front, l-r: Greta Van Gorp Lundy, Marvin F. Van Gorp, Arlene Jellema Van Gorp; Back, l-r: Timothy L. Van Gorp, Michael W. Van Gorp.

My grandfather's name was Willem Van Gorp. He did not come to America with his father, Jacob, but came later with his own family. He was born in Holland, 1842, died Nov. 2, 1927, at Pella at 85 years of age. My grandmother's name was Janigje De Koning, born in Holland, 1847, died Oct. 28, 1918. Both are buried in Pella. Their last residence was Goudzwaard, Netherlands. They boarded the vessel *SS Maasdam* at Rotterdam, Holland and arrived in New York, June 10, 1891. They came with part of their family and were destined for Pella, Ia., to join their parents and two of their children who had come to America earlier. Their decision to come to the United States was delayed a few years because my grandmother's mother was ill and she was torn between staying there with her and the longing for two of her sons who had come to America earlier. Their transportation ticket was sent to them by my great-grandfather, Jacob, who had come to America in 1870. Upon their arrival in New York they suffered many hardships on their way to Pella. They spoke no English and waited for several hours in the train station until they finally found a man who could speak some Dutch. Since they had nothing to eat, he collected food from other waiting passengers for them. He also guided them to the train departing for Eldon, Ia. However, the train was destined for some other location and after several delays they finally arrived in Pella at the last house on the north side of the west end of Washington St. That house is still there today and it was at that house that they had their first meal.

My father, Peter W., was seven years old when he came to the U.S. My grandfather started farming northeast of Pella which my father always referred to in Dutch as the East Prairie. He attended Flint Ridge through the fifth grade. Other children often mentioned by him who also attended were the Tysselings and Vogelaars. Later they moved to the Walnut Grove farm southeast of Pella on the old airport road. That farm was owned by Peter G. Gaass and is still in the Gaass family today. My grandfather acquired 100 acres from that farm and erected a homestead on

that property which has now been in the Van Gorp family for nearly 100 years. It is located south of Wal Mart's, adjacent to the railroad tracks. My father bought the farm from my grandfather when he was married, Mar. 14, 1912, and my grandparents moved to 904 Liberty St. in Pella and retired. My mother's maiden name was Josephine De Wit. Her mother's maiden name (my grandmother) was Maggie Van Gorp, a descendant of Franz Van Gorp, the second eldest of the four brothers.

My parents had four children all born and raised on the aforementioned farm. William C., born Jan. 5, 1916, a building contractor in Newton, Iowa for nearly forty years and still active today. Nickolas E., born June 25, 1918, (deceased June 14, 1950). Janetta M., born Feb. 12, 1921, married to Jacob m. Vander Hart, now residing at 900 Liberty St., next door to where my grandparents retired 75 years ago. Marvin F. was born May 18, 1925.

My boyhood years were spent attending Pella Christian Grade School and graduating from Pella High School in May, 1942. Thereafter, I worked at Rolscreen until I was drafted in the Second World War in 1943. I was sent to Camp Gruber, Okla., for basic training and served two and one-half years in the 232nd Infantry Regiment of the 42nd Rainbow Division. I went overseas to the European Theatre and served under General Patch in the 7th Army and General Patton in the 3rd Army during the Battle of the Bulge. I was discharged Jan. 31, 1946, at Jefferson Barracks, Mo. to come home to enjoy the freedom of being a civilian once again. I worked at Central College, Kuypers Music House and Buerkens manufacturing for a few years and in 1949 decided to train for and start a railroad career on the Rock Island Railroad. That lasted 31 years and was all in station service until the Rock Island's demise, Mar. 31, 1980. I retired from the railroad at age 60 on May 1, 1985.

On July 13, 1956, I married Arlene Jerllema at Pella. She was born at Doon, Ia., Nov. 25, 1934, and moved to Pompton Lakes, N.J. at age one. At age twelve she moved to Pella, attended the Pella Christian schools and graduated from High School in 1952. She was active in a number of activities including basketball and was a team member on the Pella Christian team of the state tournament filed in 1952. We started out our married life at Waverly, Ia., where I was, at the time, station agent for the Rock Island Railroad. We moved and lived in several communities during my railroad career. We moved to 908 Hazel St. in Pella, May 30, 1967, and still reside there to date, 1987. I commuted to railroad jobs in the area for several years before the Rock Island closed in 1980.

We raised three children, two boys and a girl. Timothy Lyle, born Sept. 17, 1958, in Waverly, Ia., attended LaPorte City, Ia., Pella Christian Grade schools and graduated from Pella High School in May, 1977. He has worked for his uncle in the construction business in Newton most of his life after graduation from high school. He married Sue Rietveld July 11, 1986. Greta Sue, born Feb. 7, 1960 in Newton, Iowa, attended Pella Christian Grade School, Pella High School and graduated in 1978 and from Central College in 1985, with a degree in systems management. She is employed at Pella Company in West Des Moines, Ia., and married Chan Lundy, Oct. 20, 1979, also employed at Pella Company where he is a salesman. Michael Wade was born Feb. 12, 1963, in Newton, Ia., attended Pella Christian Grade, Pella High School, graduating in 1981 and from DMACC in 1983, with a degree in business management. He is single and also employed at Pella Company as a salesman in West Des Moines, Ia.

This geneology spans six generations and is, to the best of my knowledge from earlier accounts, accurate. I trust that it will be continued by future generations of the Van Gorp family.

by Marvin F. Van Gorp

VAN GORP, PETER R. AND CORNELIA

F557

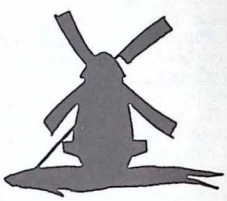
Peter Rus Van Gorp and Cornelia Zylstra were married at twelve o'clock noon, Feb. 11, 1932, at the home of the bride's parents, at 315 Washington St. Pella. Pete and Cornelia are the parents of four children: Donna Mae King (deceased); Bette Colleen Kelderman; Esther Lucille Beimers; and Robert Paul Van Gorp. They have nine grandchildren: Arlan John De Zwarte; Kathy Jo King (deceased); Jayne Lee De Zwarte; Eric Todd Kelderman; Christopher Ray Kelderman; Thomas Wayne Beimers; David Lee Beimers; Dawn Marie Van Gorp; and Jacquelyn Noel Van Gorp. They have two great-grandchildren; Robby King and Chareal Jennifer De Zwarte.

Pete's parents were Dirk W. Van Gorp and Cornelia Pieternella Rus Van Gorp. His sisters and brother are: Janet W. Van Gorp; Allie Van Gorp (deceased); Minnie Julia Dahm; Cornelia Pieternella (Cora) De Ronde; Wilma Dorthy Vander Baan; and Donald John Van Gorp.

Cornelia's parents were Martin Gerben Zylstra and Bertha Schuttinga Zylstra. Her brothers and sisters are: Gerben Zylstra (deceased); Ann Zylstra (deceased); Rienk Zylstra (deceased); Paul Zylstra (deceased); Gerald S. Zylstra; Cornelius Zylstra; Alyce Margie Ver Meer; Martha Alma Zylstra; and Chester Duco Zylstra.

Peter R. and Cornelia Van Gorp "1932"

by Cornelia Van Gorp



Front, l-r: Peter R. Van Gorp, Cornelia Van Gorp, Bette, Donna; Back, l-r: Robert Paul, Esther.

VAN HAAFTEN FAMILY

F558

Arie and Johanna (De Wit) Van Haaften

On Christmas Day in 1825, Arie Van Haaften was born to William Van Haaften and his wife in The Netherlands. Arie was the third son. He came to Pella in 1854 at the age of twenty-nine.

The woman Arie was to marry was born in The Netherlands on July 12, 1840, and was the sixth child of Henry De Wit and Tillie Ver Steeg, who had come to Pella in 1856. They named this daughter Johanna.

Arie and Johanna were married in 1859 and lived in the Sandridge neighborhood. Johanna had fifteen children, seven of whom died at an early age. Living to adulthood were: Henry, Maarinus, Minnie, Tunis, William, John, Nickolas, and Mary. Two sets of twins were among the children, the only one surviving birth was John.

At the age of seventy-five, Arie died on Mar. 1, 1895. In 1902 Johanna sold the farm to her son Marinus and moved to East 3rd, Pella, Ia. near Oskaloosa St. Johanna married a second time in 1899 to Jurrien Ellerbroek who was born Mar. 8, 1844. As the farm was sold, Johanna and Jurrien built a new home at 705 East First St. and later lived with a daughter. Johanna died June 27, 1930, at the age of ninety. Burial was at Graceland.

After Johanna's death Jurrien moved to Sibley to be near the children of his first marriage. He died there Aug. 23, 1935, and is buried there.

by Margaret Van Haaften

VAN HAAFTEN FAMILY

F559

Marinus and Mary (Hoksbergen) Van Haaften

Marinus, son of Arie and Johanna (DeWit) Van Haaften, was born Mar. 9, 1869. He married Mary Hoksbergen on Feb. 24, 1897. They moved to a farm near Olivet, a little town of a few houses, a store, church, and depot. Three of their children were born there: Josie on Dec. 12, 1897; Louis on July 24, 1899; and Arie on July 23, 1901.

In 1902 they moved to Sandridge to his mother's 80-acre farm seven miles from Pella. Five children were born here: Roy on Mar. 3, 1904; Henry on Sept. 30, 1905; Emma on Jan. 2, 1908; Minnie on Nov. 9, 1909; and Lester on Oct. 1, 1916.

Marinus bought another farm from John Massen in 1917 and rented the other place.

Josie married Dick Groenendyk June 16, 1919; Lou married Carrie Brom on Jan. 31, 1922, and moved to the farm his father owned.

An unusual event happened Dec. 26, 1926, when many members of the family professed their faith and joined Third Reformed

M.A. Van Haaften family. Front, L-R: Mother (May), Lester, and Father (Marinus); Middle, L-R: Josie (Groenendyk), Emma (Dieleman), Minnie (Vos), and Roy; Back, L-R: Louis, Henry, and Arie.

Church, Rev. Gerrit Menning being the minister. Those joining were Lou and Carrie, Arie, Henry, Emma, Minnie, Roy, and Clara Duinink who later became Roy's wife.

Roy and Clara married on Jan. 6, 1928. Arie married Grace Vander Leest on Feb. 5, 1930. On Jan. 14, 1931, Emma became the wife of Elmer Dieleman and a few weeks later, on Jan. 28, Henry married Elizabeth De Goey. Minnie married John Vos Feb. 24, 1932. Later Lester married Junella Van den Berg. Their wedding was Feb. 4, 1938.

Mother Mary, died after surgery on June 3, 1934. The funeral was in the Sully Reformed Church and burial was in Graceland Cemetery in Pella. Marinus died on Nov. 2, 1947, at the age of seventy-eight with the funeral at Second Christian Reformed Church with burial in Graceland.

by Margaret Van Haaften

VAN HAAFTEN FAMILY

F560

Louis and Carrie (Brom) and Margaret (Vos) Van Haaften

Louis was born to Marinus and Mary (Hoksbergen) Van Haaften on July 24, 1899. He first married Carrie Brom, daughter of Frank and Maggie (Vander Zyde) Brom. The wedding was Jan. 31, 1922. They farmed in the Sandridge area, buying land and later built a new house in 1960.

Marvin Louis was born to them Mar. 9, 1945, a blessing after 23 years of marriage.

They were active in the Second Christian Reformed Church where Lou was on the consistory.

Marvin married Joyce Brand born to Ray and Harriet (Stek) Brand on Mar. 16, 1946. The marriage was Jan. 10, 1964. Their

Louis and Margaret Van Haaften

children are: Sharon Jean (Oct. 24, 1964), David Mark (Aug. 23, 1966), Lois Joy (Oct. 13, 1968), Mary June (Sept. 12, 1970), and Esther Joan (July 18, 1973).

Carrie was operated on at Iowa City on Nov. 16, 1967 and died of cancer on May 23, 1968, at age sixty-four. She is buried at Graceland Cemetery in Pella.

Lou's second marriage was to Margaret Vos on Feb. 21, 1970, the first wedding in the new Faith Christian Reformed Church. They bought a house on 120 East 10th. St. in Pella, selling the farm to Marvin.

Lou was one of the first elders elected at Faith Christian Reformed Church. His son Marvin is now an elder in the First Christian Reformed Church.

Marvin was elected Marion County Sheriff in 1984.

Sharon Jean, Marvin's daughter, married Timothy Paul Van Roekel in 1985 and they have a son, Ryan John, who was born Dec. 12, 1986. Marvin's son, David, married Amber Mc Donald in 1986 and they are farming, carrying on the Van Haaften tradition.

by Margaret Van Haaften

VAN HAAFTEN, LESTER

F561

March 23, 1979, Lester Van Haaftens' "40th Wedding Anniversary". Front, l-r: Lester, Junella, Joyce Elaine Kane; Back, l-r: Marvin Alvin Van Haaften, Mary Doris Elsloo, Allen Lee Van Haaften.

Lester's great grandparents were William Van Haaften and wife Marie. They resided in Holland. His grandfather Arie Van Haaften came to America in 1854. He was born Dec. 25, 1825, died Mar. 1, 1895. He married Johanna De Wit in 1859. She was born July 12, 1840 and died June 27, 1930. They lived on Sandridge. Fifteen children were born to them, including two sets of twins. Seven died at an early age. Marinus, Lester's father, was the eighth child; he was born Mar. 9, 1869, and died Nov. 2, 1947. He married Mary Hoksbergen Feb. 24, 1897; she was born Nov. 15, 1876, and died June 3, 1934. They moved to a farm near Olivet, Ia. In 1902 they moved seven miles north of Pella on Sandridge. They both are buried in Graceland Cemetery. Lester was born at Sandridge Oct. 1, 1916. He was united in marriage to Junella Marie Van Den Berg, born July 16, 1918. She was the first child of Johannes (Joe) Van Den Berg, born Apr. 6, 1896, and died Sept. 23, 1950. Jan. 1, 1918, he married Alpha Nell Den Hartog, who was born Aug. 13, 1900, and died June 20, 1983. Both are buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

Lester and Junella's children are: Mary Doris Van Haaften, born Sept. 15, 1938. She is a licensed insurance agent and married Timothy Elsloo In Aug. 23, 1957. He sold real estate before becoming disabled with MS. They live in Pella. They have four children: David Allen Elsloo born Sept. 3, 1958. He married Terry Kamerick Mar. 27, 1978. She was born Mar. 20, 1960. They have two daughters: Kara Lynn born Jan. 3, 1985, and Crystal Ann born Jan. 14, 1987. David is employed at Vermeers Manufacturing and lives west of Pella at Dutchman Landing. Steven Jay Elsloo, born Apr. 28, 1960, married Jennifer Lorraine Avery June 23, 1984. She was born Mar. 27, 1964. He is employed by the Rolscreen Company. They live in Pella. Sherril Lynn Elsloo born Aug. 12, 1963, was married Nov. 4, 1983, to Scott Henry Pothoven born Aug. 27, 1963. Both are Rolscreen employees and they also live in Pella. Craig Dean Elsloo, born Nov. 16, 1964, is employed by boat Furniture Store and married Cheryl Lynn Terpstra Aug. 16, 1986. She was born Mar. 5, 1965. She is employed at Bankers Life Insurance Company. They live in Pella.

Marvin Alvin Van Haaften, second child of Lester and Junella was born Apr. 27, 1940, (twin) married Sept. 1, 1961, Marjorie Marie Van Donselaar. She was born Dec. 2, 1941. He is employed by Van Zee Implement. They live three miles southeast of Pella. They have three children: Brenda Sue Van Haaften, born Jan. 23, 1963, attended Dordt College and graduated from Central College, is employed at Christian Opportunity Center; Brian Van Haafaten born Jan. 10, 1966; and Melissa Dawn Van Haaften born July 6, 1970.

Alva Mae Van Haaften (twin to Marvin) was born Apr. 27, 1940. She died Jan. 8, 1944, and is buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

Joyce Elaine Van Haaften, third child, was born June 5, 1946, and married Sept. 26, 1963, Max Laverne Kane. He was born Aug. 28, 1942. They live in Pella and own and operate Village Cleaners. They have two children: Lori Lynn Kane born April 22, 1964, and graduated from AIB in Des Moines; and Douglas, Vaughn born Mar. 26, 1968.

Allen Lee Van Haaften, fourth child, was born Dec. 31, 1949, and married Beverly Kay Roozeboom Apr. 7, 1972. She was born July 22, 1951. Allen is a postal employee and farmer. Beverly is a medical assistant at Pella Medical Center. They live on Sandridge and have three children: Spencer Allen born Feb. 8, 1975; Kelly Nicole born Aug. 16, 1978; and Miranda Rae born Dec. 16, 1979.

The first year of marriage Lester and Junella lived on Sandridge where Mary Doris was born. In 1939 they moved southwest of Monroe, one-eighth mile from the town of Dunnreath which was a part of the Le Grand ranch, now a part of Lake Red Rock. During the eight years we lived there Marvin, Alva, and Joyce were born. We experienced great sorrow while living there as Alva passed away at the age of three years. Because of health reasons we moved to Pella at 404 Lincoln St. in 1947. We lived there two years. Our children entered Pella Christian Grade School in the old building on Union St. In 1949 we moved on the Muilenberg farm southwest of Otley. It was one mile east of Cordova, which is a part of Lake Red Rock. While living there Lester farmed ground that is now the middle of Lake Red Rock. In 1959 we purchased the Bogaard farm on Sandridge. We lived there 22 years until we retired, in 1981, from the farm and moved to Pella at 710 Brentwood where we are living in 1987.

by Junella Van Haaften

VAN HAAFTEN, TUNIS AND DORIS (DE BRUIN)

F562

Children of Tunis and Dora Van Haaften: l-r: Johanna, Irene, Joseph.

Tunis and Dora (DeBruin) Van Haaften wedding picture taken March 4, 1903.

Tunis Van Haaften was born May 29, 1873, to Arie Van Haaften and Johanna De Wit. Tunis was one of 15 children: William, Nettie, Tillie, Henry, Tillie, Mary, Mary, Marinus, Minnie, Tunis, William, John, Nickolas, Mary, and Nikolas. Seven of these children died in infancy or childhood. The next boy or girl that was born was often given the same name.

Dora De Bruin was born Nov. 21, 1883, to Joost De Bruin and Willempje Gosselink. She was one of ten children: Minnie, Gerrit John, Dora, Jennie, Jacob Martin, Martha, Lizzie, Hattie, Harry, and Cornie.

Tunis and Dora were united in marriage Mar. 4, 1903, by Rev. H.J. Pietenpol at his home. Dora made herself a soft blue woolen dress for the occasion. The next day they moved to their farm northeast of Leighton, in the Black Oak No. 6 neighborhood. They

bought this farm and lived there for sixteen years. Three children were born to this marriage. Johanna was born in 1904, Joseph in 1906, and Irene in 1911. Irene was small at birth, weighing around four pounds. Dr. Ayres of Leighton was the doctor. It was a miracle that she lived, as she was a blue baby. To keep her breathing they had to hold her on their hands and keep folding her up, also dip her alternately in warm and cold water to startle her and make her cry to develop her lungs. They had to do this around two weeks, day and night, in a hot room. It was hard to keep such a small baby alive at home with no conveniences. Dora never left the yard all winter, staying home four months to care for her.

Their travel was by buggy, carriage, or bob sled drawn by horses. Later they got a Model T Ford touring car. The roads were dirt, and when it rained, it was so muddy that some times they didn't get to church for several weeks at a time.

Tunis did his farming with a walking plow pulled by horses. Later he used a sulky plow on two wheels and then the gang plow (two bottom) with four horses. A binder was used to cut the grain. The bundles were piled into shocks until threshing time when the neighborhood threshing gang went from place to place with the threshing machine. Corn husking was done by hand.

Dora had a washing machine with a handle along the side; 300 strokes for each tub of washing. She made all her own soap. Flat irons were heated on the cook stove. She had a Florence Rotary treadle sewing machine and made all their clothes. Kettle cooking was her method of canning. She raised all her own chickens. Broody hens were set on a nest of eggs for three weeks, after which chicks hatched and were fed hard boiled eggs and raw oatmeal. Dora was efficient in all she did and always had a ready hand to help others.

In the spring of 1919, they bought a 120 acre farm about a mile west of Leighton corner. They tore down the old house and built a new one. The cost of building their new home at that time was $800. A few years later the road was paved in front on their house, Highway 163. Soon after that they also got electricity.

The children attended the Black Oak No. 6 School. It was quite a distance from their home, so Johanna and Joe often walked across the fields. In the spring of the year after the winter thaw the creek would be overflowing with water. In order to cross it they would first throw their dinner pails across and then try to jump across themselves, hoping to make it. They also had to cross a pasture which had cows in it. One time a cow which had a baby calf took after them. They were so scared they ran back home and never did go to school that day.

In the early years of married life, they attended the Reformed Church in Leighton. Tunis served several years as deacon. The services were all in the Dutch language. The children learned their catechism in the Dutch language also. They were very strict on Sabbath observance. Later, after moving, they attended the Third Reformed Church in Pella.

On the 4th of July they would spend the day with Grandma Willempje De Bruin on her farm. Dora's brothers and sisters and their families would be there too. This was kept up through the years and is still observed today (1987) as the De Bruin reunion on July 4.

During the 1930's the terrible depression hit and they could not make the farm payments. They let the farm go. Some advised them to take bankruptcy but, as Christians, they did not feel they could do this. They did stay living on the place and rented it. They had the electricity disconnected because it was too expensive. Times were not easy. In 1941 they had closing out sale and moved to 508 Peace Street in Pella. Tunis died of leukemia on Aug. 29, 1950. Dora died suddenly of a heart attack on Sept. 30, 1955.

by Lois Klyn

VAN HAALEN, PETER

F563

Peter Van Haalen was born in this area on Sept. 26, 1876. On Mar. 18, 1897, he was united in marriage to Hattie Vander Meiden, daughter of Gerrit and Heintje Van Ginkle Vander Meiden. She was born Aug. 11, 1874, on a farm three miles east of Pella in Black Oak Twp., Mahaska Co. Hattie was raised and lived on a farm in that area for 75 years.

Johann and Johannis were Peter's brothers. Hattie had one sister, Wilhelmina, and a brother, Albert.

The Van Haalens lived on and farmed the same land for nearly 50 years. It was three miles east of Pella on the New Sharon Road. They moved to Pella in 1948. Donald Van Haalen (grandson) now owns the farm.

Peter and Hattie were members of the First Reformed Church.

Five children were born to the couple: Gerrit (Apr. 13, 1898 – Apr. 10, 1966) married Bess Pipple and had Donald; Henry (Dec. 15, 1903 –) married Eva J. Schippers, dec. and had Donna Mae and Larry; Angelyn died from accidental injuries at age six; Wilma (Aug. 3, 1906) married John Henry Gaass (dec.) and Joe Vande Geeset, (dec.) and had Carl Edwin, Harriett Lorraine, and Eleanor Faye Gaass. Anna (Mar. 23, 1909) married Arie Van Rees, (dec.) and had Kenneth (dec.), Ardis, Ruth, Ann, and Wayne.

Peter preceded his wife in death on Jan. 3, 1949, in Pella, Ia. Hattie also passed away in Pella on Mar. 27, 1967.

by Dorothy L. Gaass

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F564

Cornelius Van Hemert

Cornelius Van Hemert was born in 1789 and died Jan. 30, 1872. He was married to Celia Van Den Berg. Their children were: Kornelia, Marselius, Jan, Anna, Greitje, Pietje, and William.

We know very little of the history of the Van Hemert Family before they came to America, only that they lived in or near the village of Broekum, Province of Gelderland, Holland where most if not all of the children of Cornelius Van Hemert were born.

In 1855 Mr. and Mrs. C. Van Hemert, the ancestors of all the Van Hemerts in and around Pella, came to America with one son and two daughters, namely: Jan, Grietje, and Pietje. One other son, Marselius, came a year earlier with two other young men. The family first lived in Pella at 812 East Second St. where Mrs. C. Van Hemert died only six weeks after arriving in Pella.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F565

(See photo next page.)

Marselius Van Hemert

Marselius Van Hemert was born July 14, 1829, in The Netherlands. In 1854 he came to Pella. He married Lyntje Simmons Feb. 2, 1859. Lyntje was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Simon Simmons. Lyntje was born June 19, 1839. To this union fourteen children were born. They were: Celia born Feb. 27, 1860 – died Jan. 19, 1920; Simon (Sam) born May 5, 1861 – died Feb. 11, 1931; Cornelius born May 5, 1862 – died July 21, 1935; Lena born Mar. 25, 1866 – died Jan. 1, 1932; Peter born May 6, 1867 – died May 29, 1929; Lybert born June 19, 1868 – died Feb. 21, 1929; Kate born Sept. 11, 1869 – died Nov. 11, 1940; John born July 23, 1871 – died Apr. 1, 1952; Maggie born Nov. 29, 1872 – died Oct. 26, 1923; William born Aug. 21, 1874 – died Mar. 8, 1957; Gysbert born Apr. 24, 1876 – died Aug. 11, 1956; Joe born Sept. 17, 1878 – died Nov. 13, 1957; Lizzie born May 29, 1880 – died May 24, 1942; and Garret born Nov. 1, 1881 – died Mar. 20, 1951.

Most of the family stayed around Pella except Celia Van Hemert the oldest daughter. She married and moved to Nebraska. Lena married Neal Veenman and they had two sons. Mr. Veenman died in 1890. Later Lena married Henry Nieuwendorp. They had ten children. They lived in Northwest Iowa near Sheldon. Many of their descendants continue to live in that area. Lybert Van Hemert went to Nebraska as a young man and married there. Later he, with his two daughters, moved to Texas where he and both daughters died. William Van Hemert left Pella for Sheldon, married and made his home there. Gysbert Van Hemert and family lived in Texas. Joe Van Hemert moved to Nebraska. Lizzie Van Hemert married John Van Der Marten and moved to Shelby, S. Dak. where most of the family still resides. Gerrit Van Hemert chose Holstein, Ia. as his home.

The other members of the family who came to America settled near Pella, except Cornelius Van Den Berg, son of Cornelia Van Hemert and C. Van Den Berg. He moved to Armour, S. Dak. in 1902 where they raised a family of fifteen children. The greatest number of the descendants are still living in Central Iowa.

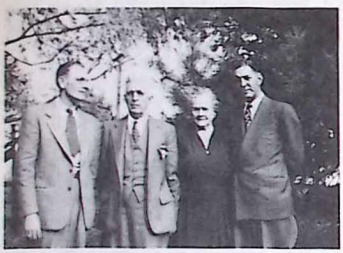
Marselius Van Hemert cleared timber for farmland with Cornelius Van Den Berg for a living in the Fifield area.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

These are the children of the Marselius Van Hemert Family. This photo is a copy of the original.

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F566



Left to Right: Harry Marselius Van Hemert, Jan (John) Van Hemert, Tryentje (Boot) Van Hemert, and J.B. (Jacob Boot) Van Hemert.

Jan (John) Van Hemert

Father Marselius Van Hemert (July 14, 1829 – Sept. 26, 1894) came to America in 1854. A brilliant young man from a family with means, he was delegated by Dutch sponsors to be sent to Pella with enough gold to establish a bank. The money was entrusted to the captain to be placed in the ship's stronghold. When the vessel arrived in America, the gold had disappeared. Disappointed, and too embarrassed to return home and face his sponsors, Marselius chose to continue to Pella where he became a common woodchopper, felling trees for home construction. He married Lyntje Simmons (June 19, 1839 – July 19, 1899) on Feb. 2, 1859. They farmed in the Fifield area. They had 14 children, plus one adopted son.

One son, Jan (John) Van Hemert (July 23, 1871 – Apr. 1, 1952) married Tryentje Boot (Nov. 10, 1869 – Oct. 17, 1959) on Jan. 6, 1897, daughter of Jacob Boot, a farmer. They had two sons: Harry Marcelius Van Hemert (Jan. 19, 1898 – July 8, 1983) named after his father's father; and J.B. (Jacob Boot) Van Hemert (Aug. 26, 1900) named after his mother's father. The family farmed north of Pella before moving to town. He was then engaged in operating a meat market, owned the first Pella Chevrolet-Buick garage, dealt in farm real estate, and after retirement, served as Township Constable until his death.

Harry Marselius Van Hemert (Jan. 19, 1898 – July 8, 1983), a World War I Veteran, married Zora Ione Oberman (Aug. 17, 1901) on May 6, 1923. Zora was from Des Moines, Ia. and was employed at Bankers Life Insurance Company. She had two brothers (Harold and Walter) and one sister (Juanita). Harry was a salesman in Iowa, and later moved to Indiana, where he continued in sales operations for several companies. He was elected County Assessor, and filled that office for several years until his death. He was awarded membership in the Indiana Republican Hall of Fame in recognition of his long-time volunteer work for the Party. They had one child, Douglas Oren Van Hemert (Dec. 10, 1927.

Douglas Oren Van Hemert (Dec. 10, 1927) married Dolores Linda Duval (June 12, 1929) on Apr. 26, 1952. He was a Korean War Veteran. They had three children: Cheryl Lynn (Mar. 18, 1954); Vickie Marie (June 5, 1956); and Grant Douglas (Aug. 8, 1966). After graduating from Notre Dame University, Douglas Oren traveled selling office and school supplies. He later became co-owner of Blair Window Company of Indianapolis, Ind. which he manages. Cheryl Lynn married Gordon Dale Shepperd (Jan. 30, 1949) on July 6, 1974. — divorced Dec. 10, 1981. They had two children: Telina Marie (Nov. 10, 1976), and Julie Lynn (Feb. 9, 1980). Vickie Marie married Larry Metzler (Apr. 1955) on Dec. 26, 1976. They had no children and were divorced Aug. 1981. Her second marriage to John Loveland (Aug. 14, 1948) was on Aug. 27, 1983. They have one child, Erica Duval Loveland (Nov. 6, 1984). Grant Douglas is a sophomore in college.

J.B. (Jacob Boot) Van Hemert (Sept. 26, 1900) second son of Jan and Trientje Van Hemert, married Ota Louise Gladstone (Sept. 28, 1905) on May 29, 1931. They have no children. He is a Veteran of World War I. He attended Central College. He clerked for Wormhoudt and Kempkes Clothing Store, was a traveling salesman for four years for the Pella Overall Company, and traveled for Munsingwear, Inc. for 33 years before his retirement. His hobbies are golfing, hunting, and fishing. His wife Ota Louise, was a career woman, having worked in the Garden City Feeder Company office (for her uncle, Harve P. Van Gorp), was Chief Clerk of Pella Rationing Board during World War II, taught Secretarial Training at Central College, and was Office Manager at Rolscreen Company until her retirement. Born in Pella, her parents were Joseph Sheldon Gladstone (Oct. 3, 1876 – Sept. 7, 1943), and Virgilia (Gillie) Sadler (Jan. 9, 1880 – July 4, 1962), daughter of Rev. and Mrs. R.R. Sadler, who published *The Pella Chronicle* and *The Iowa Baptist Record*. The Gladstones had four children: Wm. Sheldon, Elizabeth Ardelia, Ota Louise, and Nina Josephine. Mr. Gladstone was employed by Herman Rietveld (an avid entrepreneur) in various business ventures. These included The Rietveld Bank (the building now houses the Pella City Offices), The Pella Opera House (the building still stands), and the Pella Brick and Tile Mill (located where Caldwell Park is now). Mr. Gladstone was active in Pella Civic affairs, in fact, while helping with the city's Fourth of July fireworks in 1906, one candle backfired shattering his right eye, compelling him to wear a glass eye the remainder of his life. The family moved from Pella to Des Moines in 1910.

by J.B. Van Hemert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F567

Front, L-R: Peter and Evertje; Back, L-R: Marselius, Nicholas, and Kate.

Peter Van Hemert

Peter Van Hemert was one of fourteen children born to Marselius and Lyntje Simmons Van Hemert. He was born on May 6, 1867, in rural Pella. On Sept. 25, 1888, he married Evertje Schuring. Evertje was born in Pieterzyl, Groningen, The Netherlands on Aug. 17, 1866. She was the daughter of

Nicholas Schurer, Sr. (1833-1920) and Cornelia Vander Post Schurer (1842-1909). The Schurer name later became Schuring.

They lived in Otley, Ia. where Peter made his living by hauling coal with a team of horses and a wagon from the mines to the railroad station. They lived a frugal and simple life. In 1928 they moved to the Home for the Aged in Pella, where Peter died on May 29, 1929. Evertje died on Sept. 25, 1959. They had three children: Kate Cornelia born in 1889, married Gerrit Sneller, Sr. in 1910 and died in 1966; Nicholas born in 1898, died during the flu epidemic in 1918; and Marselius P., born in 1890.

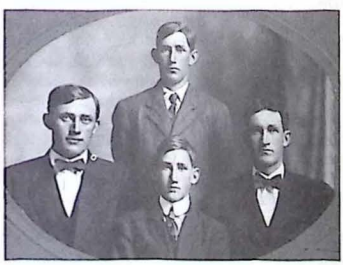
Marselius P. married Katherine Muilenberg (born in 1894) on Nov. 26, 1913. They farmed in the Otley and Prairie City areas before moving to Pella in 1944. Their three children are: Leslie Purl, born in 1914; James Lee, born in 1916; and Mary Jane, born in 1920. Mary Jane married Warren Van Sittert. Marselius P. died in 1968 and Kate died in 1976.

by Mrs. Warren Van Sittert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F568

Anna and Simon (Sam) Van Hemert



Front: Cornelius S., William S., and Marselius; Back: Gerrit.

Simon (Sam) Van Hemert

Simon Van Hemert, a son of Marselius Van Hemert and Lyntje Simmons, was born May 5, 1861. Nov. 19, 1885, he married Anna Peternella De Haai who was born Mar. 7, 1864, and died Nov. 1, 1937. They farmed in the Dunreath and Fifield area until retiring to West Washington St. in Pella where he died on Feb. 11, 1931. They had five sons: Marselius S. born Oct. 5, 1886, died June 27, 1944; Cornelius S. born Sept. 7, 1888, died Sept. 3, 1963; Gerrit born Mar. 1890 and died Aug. 1891 at the age of five months. Another son Gerrit S. born Feb. 14, 1893, died Sept. 15, 1918. William S. born Aug. 9, 1895 and died Dec. 8, 1978.

Their fourth son, Gerrit S. died as a result of wounds received in battle in Norry, France. He was a machine gunner during World War I. He and John Van Veen were the first two Pella boys to make the supreme sacrifice and the local post of the American Legion bears their names, Van Veen – Van Hemert Post No. 89.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F569

William S. Van Hemert

William S. Van Hemert, son of Simon and Anna Peternella Van Hemert, was born Aug. 9, 1895, on a farm, in what is now the middle of Red Rock Lake, and the Coal Port bottom neighborhood, where his parents farmed. He received his education in the rural schools of Marion Co. On June 14, 1922 he married Thelma Secress in Eddyville, Ia. Thelma was born June 1, 1900.

Three children were born to this marriage: Dorothy Darlene, born April 21, 1923, died two days later; Dale Edwin, born Nov. 10, 1926; and Phyllis Anne (Mrs. John Vander Wert) born Apr. 16, 1929. There were six grandchildren: Duane Van Hemert, Belinda (Van Hemert) Stephenson, Randall J. Vander Wert, John W. Vander Wert, Terry A. Vander Wert, and Craig D. Vander Wert. Also seven great grandchildren: Chad, Tiffany, Travis, and Angela Vander Wert; Michelle and Melissa Stephenson; and Jason Van Hemert.

Bill started working for the post office on Oct. 9, 1917, working a five-hour day, six-day week at thirty cents an hour. Following an interruption to serve in the army during World War I, he returned as a city mail carrier. On Oct. 1, 1929, he took over a rural route and was a rural mail carrier until his retirement in Sept. 1965, one month short of serving 48 years in the postal service.

Thelma Van Hemert taught rural schools in Mahaska and Marion Counties and also n the Pella Community Schools until her retirement. She taught at Whitebreast (where Bill first started school), Warren and Valley rural schools, also Webster, Lincoln, and Otley Schools.

William (Bill) passed away Dec. 8, 1978 and Thelma passed away Sept. 1, 1980.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F570

Marselius S. Van Hemert

Marselius S. Van Hemert, son of Simon and Anna Peternella Van Hemert, was born Oct. 5, 1886, in the *Coal Port bottom* neighborhood. He was educated in the schools of Marion Co. On Nov. 30, 1911, he married Eva (Effie) Bieshaar at the home of her parents near Leighton, Ia. This home they later purchased and farmed the land until the time of his death, specializing in buying and selling livestock.

To this union three daughters were born. The oldest daughter died at birth. Hazel (Mrs. Albert Wanders) was born Apr. 8, 1916. Irma (Mrs. Leonard Sents) was born Oct. 29, 1918 and died June 25, 1972.

There are four grandchildren; Diane (Wanders) Plate, Marsha (Wanders) Veldhuizen, Cynthia Sue (Wanders) Newendorp, and Marvin Sents. There are twelve great-grandchildren: Debra (Plate) Rooda, Kimberly, Regin, Russell, Quentin, Kristin, and Brennan Plate; Victoria and Lynnae Veldhuizen, Eric Veldhuizen who died at birth; and Josiah and Lisa Newendorp.

Marselius (Mars) Van Hemert died June 27, 1944, of injuries resulting from a tractor-disk accident. Effie passed away Sept. 20, 1973.

by Hazel Wanders

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F571

Cornelius S. Van Hemert

Cornelius S. Van Hemert, son of Simon and Anna Peternella Van Hemert, was born on a farm in Marion Co. on Sept. 7, 1888. On Mar. 4, 1914, he married Lena Tysseling. They farmed for some years near Otley in the Bethel neighborhood and also near Pella.

After leaving the farm he purchased the Pella Pipe and Tank Factory, later managing the Lynnville Elevator for some four years. He also was a salesman for the Douglas Mains Advertising Company. For twenty years he served as a substitute rural mail carrier for his brother, Bill.

He took an active part in the First Reformed Church serving as an elder and Sunday School teacher for many years.

Neal died Aug. 30, 1963, his wife Lena died June 15, 1963.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F572

Cornelius M. and Ella Van Hemert

Cornelius M. (Case) Van Hemert, son of Marselius and Lyntje Simmons Van Hemert, was born May 5, 1862 in the Elk Creek neighborhood north of Pella. Cornelius and Ella De Heer, daughter of Alewyn and Janet De Zwarte De Heer, born July 2, 1869, were married on Nov. 7, 1887. They established their home on a farm in the Fifield area. The family later moved north of Pella to the Sandridge neighborhood. Cornelius and Ella retired from farming and moved to Pella in 1929. The resided at 1210 Main. Cornelius died on July 21, 1935 and Ella on July 2, 1936.

They were the parents of nine children: Elizabeth born Nov. 29, 1888; Jennie born Apr. 13, 1890; Marce C. born Dec. 28, 1891; Maggie born Mar. 15, 1894; Ed C. born Jan. 25, 1896; Bert C. born May 17, 1898; Cornie C. and Cora (twins), born Jan. 2, 1902; and Corlena born Dec. 25, 1904.

Elizabeth married Neal Kleinendorst, born Oct. 29, 1882. They were the parents of: Cornie born Feb. 9, 1908; John born July 31, 1909; Elsie born Jan. 10, 1911; Josephine born Nov. 29, 1912; Wilma born June 11, 1915; Leona born Feb. 17, 1917; Lester born June 2, 1919; Bernice born Feb. 8, 1921; Faye born Mar. 24, 1923; Bernard born Nov. 2, 1925; Vera Jean born Feb. 4, 1928; LaVonne born Feb. 22, 1930; and Beverly born Apr. 8, 1933. Neal died May 27, 1953. Elizabeth died Aug. 3, 1970.

The typhoid epidemic struck the family with several members contracting the disease. Jennie succumbed to typhoid on Dec. 8, 1913 at the age of 23 years.

Marce C. married Nellie Weyers, born Nov. 21, 1894, on Apr. 9, 1918. They were the parents of: Diverta born July 24, 1918; Reuben and Ruby (twins) born July 19, 1922. Marce C. died Aug. 24, 1963. Nellie died Feb. 14, 1972.

Maggie married Dirk L. Weyers, born Nov. 23, 1887, on July 20, 1912. They were the parents of Diverta L. born Sept. 4, 1912 and Diverta A. born Sept. 14, 1914 (both died in infancy); and Lorena Faye born Feb. 12, 1919. Maggie died Dec. 29, 1966. Dirk died Sept. 9, 1979.

Ed C. married Gertie De Penning, born Aug. 3, 1899, on Jan. 10, 1922. They were the parents of: Elmer born Jan. 28, 1923; Gerdena born June 21, 1927; Raymond born Nov. 29, 1932; and Verna born Aug. 7, 1938. Ed died May 8, 1945. Gertie died Dec. 1, 1975.

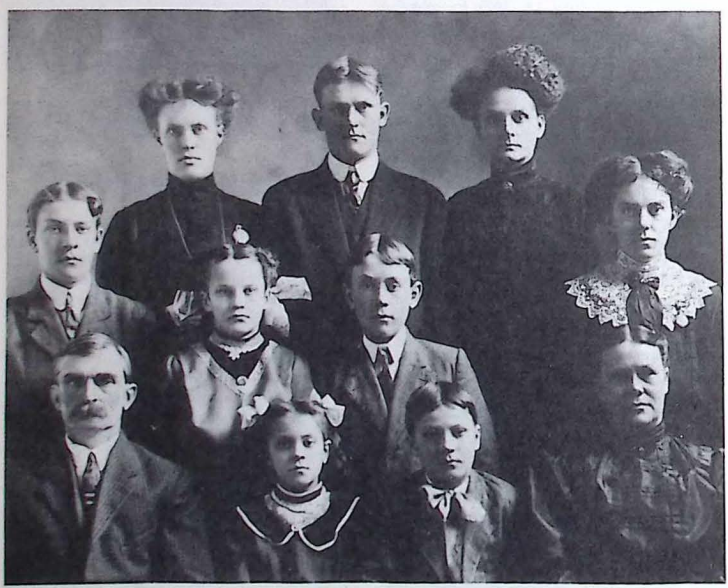
Bert C. married Sarah Ter Louw, daughter of John and Anne Kool Ter Louw, born Aug. 24, 1901, on Jan. 29, 1925. They are the parents of: Robert born Feb. 8, 1927; Alice born Jan. 7, 1930; Donald born Mar. 14, 1934. Bert died Feb. 20, 1984.

Cornie C. married Johanna Vander Pol, born Dec. 21, 1900, on Feb. 18, 1926. They are the parents of: Gerald born Feb. 19, 1927; Wayne born June 4, 1942. Cornie died Dec. 20, 1962.

Cora died July 17, 1962.

Corlena married Fred Rozendaal, born Oct. 7, 1901, on Aug. 21, 1928. They were the parents of: Alma born May 19, 1929; William Clarence born Dec. 31, 1931; and Luella born Dec. 18, 1943. Corlena died Nov. 19, 1983.

by Alice Ver Meer



Family picture of Cornelius M. and Ella Van Hemert taken about 1910. Front, L-R: The father, Cornelius M. Van Hemert, Corlena, Cornie, and the mother Ella Van Hemert; Middle, L-R: Ed, Cora, Gysbert (Bert), and Jennie; Back, L-R: Elizabeth (Lizzie), Marce, and Maggie.

VAN HEMERT FAMILY

F573

Sarah and Bert C. Van Hemert

Bert C. and Sarah Van Hemert

Bert C. Van Hemert, son of Cornelius M. and Ella De Heer Van Hemert born May 17, 1898, married Sarah Ter Louw, daughter of John and Anne Kool Ter Louw born Aug. 24, 1901, on Jan. 29, 1925. They were married at Newkirk, Ia. at the home of the bride's brother, The Rev. John S. Ter Louw with Rev. Ter Louw officiating.

Bert and Sarah farmed in the Sandridge neighborhood. They were active in community affairs with Bert serving on the Sandridge school board. The family attended Bethany Reformed Church of rural Sully. Sarah was a charter member of the Bethany Willing Workers and remained active in the organization for 55 years until its disbandment.

They are the parents of three children: Robert born Feb. 8, 1927; Alice born Jan. 7, 1930; and Donald born Mar. 14, 1934.

Robert married Arvonne Simmons born Dec. 21, 1930, daughter of Cleveland Douglas and Zella Maddy Simmons, of Attica on Sept. 25, 1949, at the Methodist Church in Attica. Robert is manager of the Pella Chamber of Commerce. Arvonne is employed by the Pella Historical Society. They are the parents of Cynthia Elaine born July 2, 1950; Susan Joanne born May 26, 1954; Kenton Robert born July 24, 1959; and Carter Thomas born Aug. 3, 1966.

Alice married Melvin Ver Meer, son of Antonie and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer born June 30, 1928, on June 8, 1949, at Third Reformed Church in Pella. Alice is employed in the office of Career Services at Central College. Melvin is employed at Leydens Chevrolet-Olds. They live at 1015

Main. Their children are: Stuart born Oct. 25, 1950; Ruth born Nov. 22, 1953; and Timothy born Mar. 13, 1961.

Donald married Greta Palmquist, daughter of Olive Palmquist Terrell and the late Jennings Palmquist born Nov. 30, 1934, at Third Reformed Church of Pella on July 31, 1954. Don and Greta reside in Des Moines. Don is employed at the Principal Financial Group (formerly Banker's Life) as a group policy underwriter. Greta is a director of the pre-school program at Meredith Drive Reformed Church. They are the parents of Lorys born Nov. 13, 1957; Jane born July 30, 1959; Nancy born May 21, 1961; Mary born July 7, 1966; and John born Apr. 21, 1968.

Bert and Sarah moved from the farm to Pella in 1957. Bert worked at Vermeer Manufacturing, and Bakker and Rus, until his health required retirement. Upon completion of Fair Haven East in 1980 they established their residence there. Bert died Feb. 20, 1984. Sarah continues to make her home in Fair Haven.

by Alice Ver Meer

VAN HEMERT, J. B. (JACOB BOOT)

F574

Jacob Boot was born Nov. 18, 1831, and died May 20, 1906. He came to America in 1853. He married Aartje Schippers. Aartje was born May 24, 1835, and died July 23, 1910. She came to America in 1855. She and Jacob lived on a farm north of Pella. They were the parents of five children. The children were: Arie C. Boot (Oct. 14, 1862 – Sept. 11, 1948) who married Jetje (Ida) Stursma (Mar. 1, 1877-1939); Jane Boot (Nov. 4, 1864 – Apr. 26, 1944) who married Friekie (Frank) Eeling; Johanna Boot (Apr. 9, 1868 – Aug. 7, 1950) who married Arie G. Van Zee; Tryntje (Kathryn) Boot (Nov. 10, 1869 – Oct. 17, 1959) who married Jan (John) Van Hemert; Nellie Boat (Jan. 19, 1874 – Oct. 7, 1963) who married Emmet Awtry.

Tryntje (Kathryn) Boot married Jan (John) Van Hemert Jan. 6, 1897. They had two sons: Harry Marselus Van Hemert was born Jan. 19, 1898, and died July 8, 1983. He was named after his father's father, Marcelus Van Hemert. J.B. (Jacob Boot) Van Hemert was born Aug. 26, 1900, and was named after his mother's father, Jacob Boot. The family farmed north of Pella before moving to town.

Harry Marcelus Van Hemert, a World War I veteran, married Zora Ione Oberman on May 6, 1923. She had been born Aug. 17, 1901. They had one child, Douglas Oren Van Hemert born Dec. 10, 1927. Douglas Oren married Dolores Linda Duval on Apr. 26, 1952. She was born June 12, 1929. Douglas is a Korean War veteran. They have three children: Cheryl Lynn born Mar. 18, 1954, Vickie Marie born June 5, 1956, and Grant Douglas born Aug. 8, 1966.

J.B. (Jacob Boot) Van Hemert, second son of Tryntje and Jan Van Hemert married Ota Louise Gladstone on May 29, 1931. Ota Louise was born Sept. 28, 1905. They have no children. J.B. is a veteran of World War I.

by J. B. Van Hemert

VAN HEMERT, ROBERT VAN FAMILY

F575

Arvonne and Robert Van Hemert

Robert Van Hemert (Feb. 8, 1927) is the son of Bert C. and Sara (Terlouw) Van Hemert, grandson of Cornelius Van Hemert, and great-grandson of Marselius Van Hemert of Nederhemert, Holland an early immigrant to Pella, Ia. Robert was born in the Sandridge neighborhood north of Pella. Robert graduated from Pella High School and has attended classes at the University of Colorado in Boulder, Colo.

Robert started working at Pella Co-op Grocery Store after graduation from high school. Later he worked as a bookkeeper for Boot Bookkeeping and Tax Service. For 26 years he was self-employed in a farm related business called Bakker and Rus, later entitled Pella's Farm Center, Inc. He has managed the Pella Chamber of Commerce for the last nine years.

Robert married Arvonne Simmons (Dec. 21, 1930) on Sept. 25, 1949, and they have four children: Cynthia (July 2, 1950) (Mrs. Michael D. Schuring) a Registered Nurse at the Pella Community Hospital; Susan (May 26, 1954) (Mrs. Gary D. Reiher) Children's Librarian in Waverly, Ia.; Kenton (July 24, 1959) married to Heidi Timmer and employed by Pella Rolscreen Company; and Carter (Aug. 2, 1966) who is now a junior at Central College in Pella.

The couple has six grandchildren: Marc (June 30, 1974) and Alison (June 16, 1978) Van Gorp; Stacey (Oct. 3, 1971) and Troy Schuring (Feb. 17, 1975); Anne Reiher (June 26, 1984) and Kellee Van Hemert (May 9, 1986).

Robert is a volunteer fireman, member of Red Rock Lake Association, Indian Hills Lake Region, Iowa Group Travel Association, Iowa Chamber of Commerce Executives, Iowa Tourism Coucil, Selective Service Board, and Pella Historical Society Board.

Robert has served 12 years on the Pella City Council and as a Deacon and Elder of Third Reformed Church; over 20 years as Sunday School Teacher, Co-ordinator for Lay Witness Missions for 15 years and is Past President of the Central Club.

Arvonne is presently a hostess and secretary for the Pella Historical Society and cashier at Central Park Cafe.

Arvonne is president of Pella Women's Federated Club, Past President of Pella Campfire Girls, Past President of Reformed Church Women of Third Reformed Church. She has served as Treasurer of Pella

Taken at Scholte Church May 21, 1983 Front, l-r: Alison Van Gorp, Stacey Schuring, Cynthia Schuring, Michael Schuring, Marc Van Gorp, Troy Schuring; Middle, l-r: Gary Reiher, Susan Reiher, Carter Van Hemert, Kenton Van Hemert, Heidi Van Hemert, Back, l-r: Arvonne Van Hemer,t, Robert Van Hemert

Campfire Girls Board, Circle Chairman, Campfire Leader, Cub Scout Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Family Nite and Bible School Teacher.

Arvonne is a member of League of Women Voters, Pella Hospital Auxiliary, Central College Auxiliary and a part-time Nurseaide.

Arvonne enjoys singing in the Central College Community Chorus and Third Reformed Church Choir.

Robert and Arvonne travel throughout the Midwest promoting Pella's Tulip Time Festival and the Chamber of Commerce Tourism program.

Arvonne Van Hemert

VAN HEUKELOM – POTHOVEN FAMILY

F576

Norman and Ruth Van Heukelom

Norman and Ruth Van Heukelom with their nine grandchildren in the summer of 1986. L-R: Jon, Paul, and Joel Van Heukelom; Jason and Darla Van Dyk; Caleb and Josiah Walcott; Jesse and Seth Van Heukelom.

Religious Influence

As the youngest son of Gerrit R. Van Heukelom (2-16-1890) and Winnie Pothoven Van Heukelom (4-22-1892), I would like to tell how Pella and its unique characteristics influenced my family.

Rick Van Heukelom (1855-1911), a young man of 18, came to the U.S. in 1873, to avoid the conscription of his day. After a period of time he sent for his mother, Wilhelmina Bakker Van Heukelom (1821-1900), whose husband had died of typhoid in 1869. She came from Prentheim, Gelderland with Rick's five brothers and one sister in 1874. His siblings were: Teunis, 23; Hanneke (Mrs. M. Rozenboom); Jan, 17; Bart, 11; Gerrit, 9; and Albert, 4. They traveled on the ship 'Maas'. They came for economic improvement, and had belonged to the State Church in the Netherlands.

Rick met and married Trynie De Wild (11-11-1864) who died on (10-30-1953) at 88 years of age (this was the only grandparent I ever knew). To this union nine children were born: Gerrit R., who was my father; Albert, who worked at Pella Chevrolet for years; and Tunis, who worked at the Star Oil Co. for many years at the N.E. corner of the 'Square'. Daughters: Minnie (G. Van Roekel), Johanna (A. Bogaards), Hattie (P. Olivier), Bertha (J. Nunnikhoven), Jennie (A.T. Ver Meer), and Caroline (C. De Goey).

Gerrit started farming, but with the crash of the '20's he was far in debt. Instead of bankruptcy, he paid off all his debts and became a married farm hand (this is what I remember). On the day my parents (Winnie Pothoven) were married, Sept. 3, 1913, his mother and brother, Albert, had gone to Pella to a doctor for treatment of Albert's polio. On the way home old "Queen" ran away, upsetting the buggy, and Albert broke his hip while his mother received a broken arm.

When I came home from W.W. II in 1946 I needed a car. A visit to a Pella bank got me a "No" for a loan, until I was asked, "Who is your father?" In fear, due to his lack of funds, but still proud, I said, "Gerrit R." The banker replied, "I'm sorry", (I thought it was all over), but he continued, "Since your father is Gerrit R., I'll give you what you need. He can always be trusted." How proud I have been about this. Pella, its integrity and the teaching of God's Word, taught my father to be honest and how to walk tall before others — loving and forgiving others. These traits I have sought to instill in my children and grandchildren.

Now from the Pothoven side I received another of Pella's religious teachings. Coming from Third Reformed, I was the 28th member of this church going into fulltime Christian service. Mother was the middle child of Otto Pothoven (1839-1900), who came to America in 1856. He built a one-room house on the timberland nine miles east of Pella. He then cleared the land for farming. He was the only son of Hendrick Pothoven (1799-?) and Trentjie Kirkland (1805-1890). In 1862 he married Martha De Bruin and they had nine children, five who lived: Henry, Jacob, Mena (Van Gorp), Tona (T. Van Roekel) and Bertha (J. Vos). In January 1889 he married a widow, Anna Brummel Vander Flect, who had come to Pella from Doorspyk, Gelderland, with her husband and three children in 1868: Aaron, Dora (J. Rus), and Nettie (C. Kruseman). Together they had Margaret (H. Breuklander), Martha (J. Bogaard), Winnie (my mother), John, Henrietta (E. Den Hartog), Andrew, and Carolyn (Wm. Goulooze). They lived east of Pella by the old Wheat Grove School. I remember mother telling many stories about her school days.

One fascinating story was how they went to school very early one morning, took all the leaves that were on the schoolyard, big branches, and whatever they could move and piled it in front of the one-room school door. Then they hid in the horsebarn to see what the teacher would do. Mother also did not have to worry, like girls of today, if their boyfriends would fall asleep on the way home, for when Dad got into his buggy, he would wrap the lines around the buggy whip. The old mare would take him the one and a half miles home, and Dad would wake up when the horse stopped in front of his barn door.

Mother often said, "My prayer is not answered". What prayer? That she would have a child in missions – meaning some 'man-eating cannibalistic land'! Her love for missions came from her reading and deep study of the Word of God. I believe her prayers were answered through the lives of her children and grandchildren. Their children were: Dr. Raymond (7-13-14) and Johanna De Ronde, retired Reformed Church minister, three sons. Annabelle (10-11-15) and Gerrit Sneller, Trinity Reformed Church, Pella, one son and one daughter. Thressa (12-31-20) and Lloyd Van Rees, Southern Presbyterian Church, Edinburg, Tex., three daughters. Betty Jean (8-2-29) and Henry Goodyk (died 1973), Second Christian Reformed Church, Pella, three daughters. All the grandchildren are active in either Baptist, Reformed, Christian Reformed, or Presbyterian Churches. I am the fourth child of Gerrit R. and Minnie Van Heukelom, Norman Gerrit (5-18-26) and am

a Reformed Church pastor.

My personal family of five children have followed the religious convictions of their ancestors: Gary Allan, 1952, married Ruth Van Gorp of Pella, has three sons, Reformed church minister, Corsica, South Dakota. Jayne Gwynn, 1954, married Mark Barker of Bethel, Alas., assistant director of nursing in Bethel, and elder and teacher in the Moravian Church. Judith Gayle, 1956, married Randall Van Dyke, Hudsonville, Mich., one son and one daughter, very active in church work in First Reformed Church, Hudsonville. Jaci Ruth, 1958, married Thomas Walcott, Christian Reformed missionaries in the Dominican Republic, two sons. Gregory Norman, 1960, married Carola Stephens, two sons, student at Western Seminary, Holland, Mich.

Their mother, my helpmeet, and co-worker in the ministry is Ruth Jean Nibbelink, daughter of Albert Nibbelink, son of William (1876-1951) and Hendrika Engbers (1875-1950); and Jeanette Vos, daughter of Charles (1865-1948) and Jane Onstine Vos (1867-1929). She has one brother, Keith Wilfric, who resides in Pella, with his wife Norma Van Veldhuizen, and family.

by Norman Van Heukelom

VAN HOUWELING, AART C.

F577

Aart (Art) C. Van Houweling was the eldest son of Cornelius (Case) Van Houwelingen (1836-1899) and Evertje Van Der Haar (1840-1899). He was a grandson of Aart Van Houwelingen, whose family was part of the original group that came to Pella from Holland with Dominie Scholte in 1847. His brothers and sisters were: Elizabeth (Lizzie), Arie, William, Dirk, Carrie, John, and Gerrit. They all grew up on the family farm three miles west of Leighton not far from the Marion Co. line.

Art (1863-1945) married Flora Roorda (1862-1948) in 1884. She was the third child of nine in the family of Izaak Epke Roorda and Baukje Abrahams Buwalda. Their three daughters were: Eva, Bertha, and Elizabeth. Art and Flora both attended Baker School, later known as Pleasant Grove School. Like many other farm boys, attending school only in the winter months, Art got very little formal education. He was interested in mechanics and was continually figuring how things could be done better and more efficiently. He was very quiet – seldom had much to say. With a few exceptions, most people found it very difficult to carry on a conversation with him since he seemed always to be preoccupied with some mechanical challenge.

Art and Flora started their married life on a farm near Leighton, Ia. A few years later, Art purchased a steam powered threshing machine, and did custom threshing. It was during this time that he was working on an automatic oscillating straw stacker for use with his machine. After about 14 years on the farm, they moved to Pella, and Art, together with Jacob H. Van Gorp, started the Pella Stacker Company (later became Garden City Feeder Co.)

Eva (1886-1973), the eldest daughter, and Watson H. Vander Ploeg (1888-1957) were married in June, 1911. Eva and Watson both attended Central Academy. He worked in the Farmers and Merchants Bank, but read and studied law in his leisure time, and was admitted to the Iowa State Bar in 1912. He practiced law and had an interest in the Garden City Feeder Co. at one time. He later was with the Harris Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago. In 1939 they moved to Battle Creek, Mich. where Watson became president of the Kellog Company until he retired. Their daughter Florence (1915) married John Burghorn and their children are: Susan, John, James, and Grace Marie. Their son Ruard (1920) married Mary Pfieffer and their children are: Ruard, Elizabeth, Peter, and Laura.

Bertha (1888-1968) married John W. Den Adel (1887-1960) in March 1911. They lived on a farm about two miles southeast of Leighton where May and Gary Heyveld now live. John was proficient at other trades such as brick laying and horse training besides being a farmer. Their eldest son Arthur (1911) married Hazel Grandia (1914-1984). They had three sons: David, Wayne (deceased), and Dennis. Elmer (1914) died in infancy. Marion (1915-1985) married Alma De Kock and their daughter was Mary Lou. They were divorced. Marion then married Bernice Hoksbergen and their two children were James and Jelene. Clarence (1918) married Juanita P. Glendenning. They have a son and a daughter, C. Gerard and Judith. Florence (1920) married William L. Ramsell and they have four sons: William, Craig, Kevin, and Scott. Florene (1920), a twin sister of Florence, is not married. G. John (1923-1964) married Norma Watson. Their three children are: Melody (died at birth), Randall, and Robert. John died in an airplane accident. May (1925) married Gary Heyveld. Their two sons are Duane and Doyle.

Elizabeth (1890-1926), the youngest daughter, married Wilhelm J. Wagner in Feb. 1911. It is interesting to note that all three daughters of Art and Flora were married in the same year, actually within four months of each other. Elizabeth was an artist and Wilhelm was a photographer. They had two sons, Wilhelm and Henry. Wilhelm (Bill) (1915) married Jeanne Wilkinson who was from England. He is an artist and an architect and has become well-known throughout Iowa as well as nationally, at least partially, as a result of his activities in connection with the Society for Preservation of Historic Landmarks. He has worked with the Pella Historical Society on a number of projects. He became a personal friend of President Herbert Hoover through his work with the restoration of the Hoover Birthplace, and with other projects at West Branch, Ia. The three children of Bill and Jeanne are: Elizabeth, Susan, and Deborah. Henry (1919) and Dorothy Rossow were married in Cleveland, Ohio, where they continued to live for a number of years before moving to Florida. Their four children are: Donald, Robert, William, and Janice.

Art Van Houweling was continually working on ideas, making drawings and patterns, not only for improvement of the Garden City Feeder Co. production products but also on the development of other products that might have future commercial possibilities. He was issued patents on a number of his inventions. During the years he acquired several farms and these occupied at least a part of his time after the factory was sold in 1926.

by F.C. Huyser

Aart C. Van Houweling and Evertje (Van Der Haar) Van Houweling.

VAN HOUWELING, CORNELIUS DONALD AND ROBERTA IRENE (OLSON)

F578

C.D. Van Houweling (Don), who recently retired and moved back to Pella in Apr. of 1986, was born to Dick and Elbertha Van Houweling, on their farm near Leighton, July 19, 1918. Don married Roberta Irene Olson on Sept. 12, 1942, after both had graduated from Iowa State University in June, she in Home Economics Education and he in Veter-

Front Row, l-r: Dirk A., Susan I., Bruce R.; Back Row, l-r: C. Donald Van Houweling II, C. Donald, Roberta (Bobbie), Douglas E.

inary Medicine. Don first practiced Veterinary Medicine in a mixed practice in Springfield, Ill. with Dr. E.A. Dickerson. The following summer, 1943, he was called into the Veterinary Corps of the U.S. Army, and sent to Ft. Benning, Ga. as a 1st Lieutenant, Roberta (Bobbie) went home to Kansas City, Mo., and their first son, Douglas Edward, was born there on Sept. 20, 1943. After securing housing in Columbus, Ga. near Ft. Benning, Don's family came from Kansas City, and they lived there for three years. A second son, C. Donald II, was born at the Ft. Benning Hospital June 16, 1946. When the war ended in 1946, Don was serving in Kansas City and the family was living with Bobbie's parents. After his release from the army, Don accepted a position with the Illinois Agriculture Association as Director of Veterinary Medical Relations. After two years there, he worked for the American Veterinary Medical Association for five years, the last three as Assistant Executive Secretary. The family lived in the Chicago suburb of Elmhurst, Ill., during these years. Two boys, Bruce Robert, Aug. 19, 1949, and Dirk Alan, Dec. 25, 1952, were born at the Elmhurst Hospital.

After a brief time at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Don accepted a job in the Agricultural Research Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The family bought a home in the suburb of Washington, D.C., known as Oakton, Va. Susan Irene was born at the Arlington, Va. Hospital, on Sept. 23, 1957. The four boys were "rooting" for another boy, at the time, but have since decided that sisters are great!

In 1960, Don returned to Ames, Ia. to serve as Assistant Director of the Nat'l Animal Disease Laboratory, now known as the Nat'l Disease Center. He also completed a Master's degree in Microbiology from Iowa State University while there — picture of family taken in Ames, 1962.

Finally, Don returned to Washington, D.C. to accept a position as Director of the Bureau of Veterinary Medicine of the Food and Drug Administration. They settled in the suburb of Fairfax, Va.

In 1979, he returned from the government service and spent the next six years working for the National Pork Producers Council as their Washington, D.C. representative, and from there he and Bobbie came to Pella and built a home at 1200 Peace Street.

Three of their boys, Douglas, Donald, and Bruce completed degrees at I.S.U. Dirk graduated from N.C. State at Raleigh. He attended N.C. State on a football scholarship, but during his third year he had to stop football because of a neck injury. He played defensive end. Susan completed her B.S. degree in Nursing at Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids, Ia. after her earlier years at Virginia State University at Blacksburg, Va.

Douglas married Andrea Parks of Ames, IA on Aug. 28, 1965. Andrea was a student at Iowa State University and later received her Ph.D. Douglas completed his Ph.D. and is now Vice-Provost for Information Technology at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. They have two sons: Robert, born June 12, 1971, and Benjamin born Mar. 13, 1978. C. Donald II married Terry Larson of Ames on June 18, 1966. They have three sons: Michael, born Aug. 18, 1968, Matthew born Nov. 2, 1972, and Mark, born July 30, 1978. This family resides in Perry, Ia., where they have a John Deere dealership. Bruce married Laura Vredenburgh, also a student at I.S.U. She completed her Elementary Education degree at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. after their marriage on May 29, 1971. Bruce later received his Medical Degree at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, took his Residency in Family Practice at the University of Iowa and now practices in Solon, Ia. They have two children: Ryan, born July 7, 1981, and a daughter Lynn, born Mar. 2, 1984.

Dirk married Judi Hertzberg on Sept. 9, 1978, and they have two daughters: Emily, born Oct. 9, 1982, and Audry, born Mar. 14, 1986. Dirk is a builder in Bend, Ore and Judi teaches fourth grade in the nearby town of Tumalo.

Susan married Howard Scott Hurd on Mar. 20, 1976, while they were both students at Virginia State University at Blacksburg. They have one son, Anders Scott, born Nov. 7, 1984. Scott, a graduate veterinarian from Iowa State University, is working on his Ph.D. in Epidemiology at Michigan State University at Lansing, and Susan works part time as a nurse.

by C. D. Van Houweling

VAN HOUWELING, DICK CORNELIUS AND ELBERTHA (TYSSELING)

F579

One of the sons of Cornelius Van Houweling was Dick Cornelius. In 1903 he married Elbertha, commonly called Bertha Tysseling, the daughter of Everett Tysseling. They moved onto the farm which they farmed until they moved to Pella in 1926. This farm, located about three miles west of Leighton, was later farmed by Gerrit and Avis Van Zomeren, and is now owned by Avis.

They bought a house on four acres of land at 1302 N. Main when they moved to Pella. Although M.M. Dockendorff, who purchased the property after Bertha died, subdivided the land, the house at 1302 N. Main is essentially the same as when they bought it. Both Dick and Bertha died while living in Pella. Dick died in Nov. of 1934 and Bertha in May of 1941, at the respective ages of 57 and 64.

There was a good barn and some other buildings on this property while they lived there. Dick always had a cow and Bertha chickens along with a big garden and many fruit trees. "City" life never was sufficient for Dick, so he traveled to one of his farms almost every day that the weather permitted.

While farming, Dick always had one "cash crop" which was hogs. His raising cycle started with sows farrowing late enough in the spring so they did not require heated buildings. After weaning, the pigs would be on pasture as well as being fed grain, so that they would reach 300 pounds market weight by the following March. He would ship them to Chicago by train and go with them in the caboose and see them sold through the Commission firms to the packers. The railroad gave a shipper a coach ticket home. This annual trip was a big event for the whole family, because Dick would usually bring presents from Chicago for each one. He would return with stories about the big city and the saloons that would give you a meal free with a ten cent beer.

Neighbors would all help haul the hogs to the railroad station, in this case, Leighton. The hauling was done with horses and wagons. Later Matt Huyser had a Ford truck that could haul more hogs at a time and make two or more trips while the horse drawn wagons made one. In some instances the hogs were driven down the road to the rail station where they would feed and rest until they were loaded on the railroad cars for the trip to Chicago.

Four children were born of this union od Dick and Elbertha. They were Eva, commonly known as Avis. She married Gerrit Van Zomeren. (The story of that family is in book one.) There was Edward R., who died of Bright's disease at the age of 13; Ruth E. who married Henry G. Rempe in 1934. (Their story also follows); Cornelius Donald, commonly known as Don, also nicknamed "Fats" during his early days in Pella. The reason for this name was obvious at that time.

Dick and Bertha were members of the Leighton Ebenezer Reformed Church until they moved to Pella. In Pella they were united with the First Reformed Church. They are, with Edward, buried in the Porter Grove Cemetery between Leighton and Pella, as are Cornelius Dirk, and Eva Van Houwelingen, Dick's parents.

Apparently, Dick dropped the "en" from the family name, probably to shorten or Americanize it. Cornelius D., the first, according to Iowa records, always used the name of Van Houwelingen, and it is inscribed on their tombstone at the cemetery. People in Holland still know the name as Van Houwelingen.

by C. Donald Van Houweling

VAN HOUWELINGE FAMILY

F580

Mr. and Mrs. Jan Van Houwelinge, the parents of Dirkie, Mary, and Albert Van Houwelinge, lived about four miles east of Pella on a farm. On Feb. 28, 1889, Dirkie Van Houwelinge was united in marriage to Klaus Menninga, born May 22, 1864, in Friesland, Netherlands. In the year 1880 they came to the United States with his parents, Yella and Hendrikje Menninga. They started farming

Front, l-r: John N. Menninga, Yella N. Menninga, Hendrikje Menninga De Ronde; Back, l-r: Klaus Menninga and Dirkie Van Houwelinge Menninga. Taken about 1888.

on a farm one and one-half miles south of Galesburg, Ia. To this union three children were born: Hendrikje, John N., and Yella N. They all attended the Galesburg School at Galesburg, Ia., and the Christian Reformed Church in Galesburg. On Jan. 14, 1920, Yella N. Menninga married Mary De Heer, daughter of Art and Emma De Heer. His father and mother, Klaus and Dirkie, bought another 60 acre farm south of their permanent farmstead and continued to work and farm together. On Sept. 30, 1920, one daughter, Dorothy Mae, was born. Dorothy Mae also attended the Galesburg School, and was baptized in the Christian Reformed Church in Galesburg. After eighth grade I remained at home, and being an "only child" worked for my mother with housework, canning, gardening, and chickens. My mother had her own incubators and hatched around 300 hundred chicks a year. I helped with the laundry with a hand washing machine. I helped my father with the butchering, cutting up meat, and then canning it. I milked cows in a open lot since I was nine years old, chored, cutting corn in little slices with the corn knife for the cattle, slopped the hogs, and helped in the field with the horses. I went to the timber with my father on Saturday to cut down trees with a two-man saw so he could make wood the rest of the week while I was in school. I helped pick corn by hand until every ear was in the bin. I went through the depression years. We had mud roads to Pella to Gramma's house. We would go with horse and buggy, and sometimes the bobsled, 12 miles to Pella.

On July 30, 1940, Vernon P. Van Gorp and Dorothy Mae Menninga were married. Yella and Mary continued farming. Mary spent seven years in the Pella Nursing Home. Yella moved into Pella Apr., 1972. Vernon and Dorothy started farming where Vernon was living on a farm northeast of Pella in the Sandridge neighborhood. To this union four children were born: Shirley, Loren, Barbara, and Verle. They all attended Sandridge School excepting Verle who attended Pella Grade School.

Shirley married Byron Van Ee Sept. 23, 1960. They live in Pella. Three children joined them: Mike, David, and Brenda. Mike Van Ee married Kristi Braafhart. Two children were born to them: Travis and Amanda.

Loren Van Gorp married Judy Dahm Sept. 5, 1963. Four children were born to them: Stevin, Scott, Shawn, and Stacy. They are farming west of New Sharon, Ia.

Barbara Van Gorp married Alan Vander Hart Apr., 1968. Two children joined their home: Joshua and Courtney. They are living at Independence, Ia.

Verle Van Gorp married Gayle Leydens Nov. 17, 1979. Two children were born to them: Amy and Adam. They are living in Knoxville, Ia.

Vernon and Dorothy are still living where they started their married life forty-six years ago. Our home is 87 years old. Vernon is still sleeping in the same bedroom in which he was born in 1918. We are living on the home place of his parents who were Peter G. Van Gorp and Wauzina Ter Louw Van Gorp. It will soon be a century farm. One of the highlights was when we got electricity in our home in the year of 1942. There have been many added conveniences making living much easier over the years.

by Mrs. Dorothy Vernon Van Gorp

VAN HOUWELINGE, ANTHONY, PAULINA (DYKSTRA) AND JULIA (VAN ZANTE)

F581

Anthony Van Houwelinge and first wife, Paulina (Dykstra) Van Houwelinge.

Anthony (A.T.) Van Houwelinge was born in 1866, the oldest of seven children to Albert and Annigje Klein Van Houwelinge when the family lived in the Bethel neighborhood near Otley.

Because he was needed to help on the farm,

Anthony Van Houwelinge and second wife, Julia (Van Zante) Van Houwelinge.

"Tone" was able to complete only 5 years of formal education. The math he learned in those years, however, helped make him a successful business man in later years.

In 1889 Tone married Paulina Dykstra, daughter of Geurt Dykstra and Geertje Buwalda Dykstra. To this union were born 8 children; three dying in infancy. The surviving children were: Albert O. (Marie McDonald), Gerard (Ella Johnson, and Frances Thompson), Abram (Henrietta Van Ginkle), Gertrude (Ray Vanderwal) and Marion (Gertrude Bezemer). Although suffering from ill health, Paulina always enjoyed entertaining, and company was always welcome in their home. She died at an early age in 1910.

In 1912 Tone and Julia Van Zante were married. Julia's parents were Delos and Judik Van Zee Van Zante. She had taught in various country schools and in the Pella School system as well. One of her fondest memories was moving into the "new" Lincoln School building in 1904. At the time of their marriage Julia was the librarian of the Pella Carnegie-Viersen Library.

Tone was a leader in the Otley Reformed Church, serving for years as Sunday School teacher and superintendent as well as being an elder in the church. He farmed land around Otley and also owned the Otley elevator.

In 1907, Tone, along with several others from Pella, was looking for land to purchase in Texas, when their train was involved in a collision in Kansas. Many people were killed and Tone suffered serious burns on both hands while helping in the work of rescue. He carried these scars for life.

Tone and Julia moved to Pella in 1918. Julia's sister, Dirkie Van Zante, lived with them until her death in 1951. The family was very active in the life of the First Reformed Church in Pella. They were most interested in Central College and Julia was involved in the College Auxiliary. Today the Julia Van Houweling Scholarship is still a coveted award for students graduating from Central.

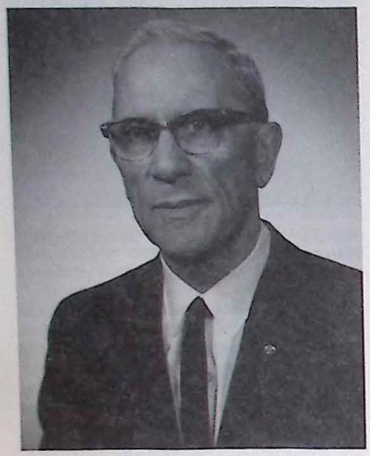
Anthony died in 1946 and Julia died in 1953. Anthony and Paulina are buried in the

family plot in Oakwood cemetery in Pella, and Julia is buried with her parents and sister in the Portergrove Cemetery southeast of Pella.

by Mrs. John W. Harmeling

VAN HOUWELINGEN, ALBERT

F582



A.B. Van Houweling

He was born in The Netherlands Oct. 2, 1841. He came to Pella with his parents who settled on a farm near Pella. He married Annigie Klein Aug. 14, 1865. After his marriage he continued to farm, first as a renter near Pella and later on land he bought about seven miles northwest of Pella. He was one of the few men who even in the early days, when land was almost without value, had the foresight to see that it was sure to grow in value with the inevitable development of the country. The result was that while he started as a renter, when he died at the age of 51, he was one of the largest landowners in the entire Holland colony. An incident that shows the determined character that marked all his activities in life was that at the age of 12 he made the trip to Keokuk alone, driving two ox teams the entire distance of 120 miles.

He died Oct. 18, 1892. He left his wife and seven children: Anthony, Jennie, Maggie, Gertrude, Bertha, Anna, and Albert. To each he left a farm.

Albert B. Van Houweling (known as A.B.) was born June 8, 1885, on a farm northwest of Pella, Ia., the youngest of seven children. He graduated from high school in Pella and enrolled at the Central Academy in Pella in 1901, where he attended for three years. He then spent one-and-a-half years in Colorado and Texas for health reasons and returned to take two years of Law at Drake University in Des Moines, Ia. On Aug. 7, 1912, he married Nettie Marie Van Zante at Portland, Ore. They had one daughter, Elva Mae, born Apr. 9, 1913. Following their marriage they returned to Pella, where he became part owner of the Security State Bank. In 1914 he entered the automobile business which he continued until 1953. During this time and until his death, he took an active interest in farm operation. Among other things A.B. served on the Public Board, the Chamber of Commerce board, taught Sunday School, served as a deacon and elder for many years, was a member of Rotary Club and served on the Central College board for forty-four years. He was a member of Pi Kappa Delta (Iowa Beta Chapter) and received the Central College Distinguished Service Award in 1960. His interests in farming, athletic events, church functions, Rotary, Central College, and all local events was evident until the last year when his physical health failed. He died Nov. 20, 1982, at the age of 97½ years. Nettie, his wife, preceded him in death in 1978.

Nettie VanZante Van Houweling was born in Portland, Ore. on July 18, 1889, to Derk and Jennie (VanZee) Van Zante and was also very active in Pella community as a member of Second Reformed Church and its organizations, continuous membership in Central College Auxiliary, Women's Federated Club, P.E.O., and Reading Circle. Her father and mother were formerly from Pella, and immediately after their marriage Albert and Nettie left on the train for Portland. The young couple were semi-ostracized by their families for leaving the farm and going to the "Wild West". The train trip took several days and entailed the providing and preparation of their own food. He worked for a few years as a day laborer and she as a maid. By frugal saving they were able to buy property which later developed into the first laundry in that area. Brother John VanZante, lawyer, lived with them in Portland until he was appointed ambassador to The Netherlands. As prosperous citizens, their family in Pella accepted them back in good standing.

Granddaughter and daughter, Elva May, married Martin John Heerema on June 30, 1933.

by Elva May Heerema

VAN HOUWELINGEN, CORNELIUS

F583

Aart Van Houwelingen and his family left their homeland, The Netherlands, and arrived on American shores in 1847. They crossed the ocean on the ship *Maastrom* and were a part of the Reverend Peter Scholte immigrant group that settled in the Pella, Ia. area.

Traveling to the heart of this strange new land were: Aart 50, Dirkje 40 (his wife), and children, Elizabeth 18, Cornelius 14, Jan eight, Guysbert seven and Egje six months.

We will follow the history of Cornelius who was our grandfather. He married Elizabeth Vande Haar. After their marriage they became residents of the west edge of Black Oak Township in Mahaska Co. near Marion Co. They were the parents of eight children: Aart, Arie, Will, Jan, Gerrit, Dirk, Elizabeth and Carrie.

We will continue with Dirk (later called Dick), my father. He was a grandchild of the Aart Van Houwelingen who came to America in 1847.

Avis will continue her writing about Dirk Van Houwelingen who married Bertha Tysseling in 1903. They farmed three miles west of Leighton until moving to Pella. Their son Edward died at age 13. This caused my father to leave the farm.

Dick and Bertha (Tysseling) Van Houwelingen

Dirk Van Houwelingen's daughter, Avis, married Gerrit Van Zomeren in 1929. Gerrit came with his parents to America at age five. Gerrit and Avis had six children. They are: Janice, Bonnie, Darlene, Dick, Mary, and Mark.

Janice married George Beran. They are both professors at Iowa State University at Ames. Their children are: Bruce, a resident councelor at a delinquent boys home in Ames; Ann, who married Terry Stark is a nurse and Terry a law enforcement officer and they have two children; George, Jr. is a senior at Iowa State University.

Bonnie married Ken Bailey. He is in the concrete business in Oskaloosa and Bonnie is a real estate salesperson. They have three children: Carolyn, who married Charley Smoot has two stepsons and she is an attorney in Marion, Ill. where her husband is a government employee; Cathy, their youngest, is a special education teacher in Centerville; Their son Greg is an industrial employee and his wife Sandy is a bookkeeper. They have one child, Brittany.

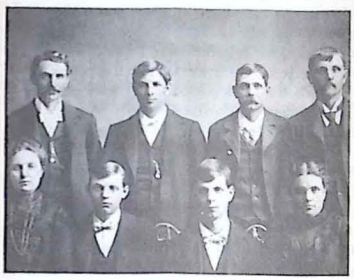
Darlene married Robert Wallinga. They are residents in Orange City, Ia. Darlene is involved in painting and music. Bob is a minister and presently in Reformed Church development. They have two children: Tom in graduate school at Iowa State University, and Mary a sophmore at Central College.

Dick and Darlene (Van Wyk) Van Zomeren are residents of Mason City, Ia. Dick manages a Goodyear Store while Darlene is a (General Eduacation Development) teacher. They have four children: Beth and Amy both employed in Minneapolis; Jane is a sophomore at Iowa University; and Joel is a junior in Mason City high school.

Mary married Denman Drobisch. They live in San Francisco. Mary is employed by the California Bar Association. Denman manages real estate.

Mark married Renae Steinke. He teaches

Gerrit and Avis VanZomeren 25th Anniversary taken in 1954. Front, L-R: Mark V.Z., Mary (V.Z.) Drobisch, Janice (V.Z.) Beran; Middle, L-R: Gerrit, Avis, Bonnie (V.Z.) Bailey; Back, L-R: Dick V.Z., Darlene (V.Z.) Wallinga



The Cornelius Van Houwelingen Family. Front, L-R: Carrie, Gerrit, John, Elizabeth (Lizzie); Back, L-R: Will, Dirk, Arie, Aart

Learning Disabilities in the Pella School. Renae works at (Christian Opportunity Center) in Pella. They are breeders and trainers of American Saddle Bred horses. They won Grand Champion twice at the Iowa State Fair.

All of the Van Zomeren children have college degrees. Four of them — Janice, Darlene, Dick, and Mark — from Central College in Pella, Bonnie from William Penn in Oskaloosa, and Mary from the University of Iowa in Iowa City. Three have advanced degrees.

In the 50's there was a teacher shortage, so Avis applied and thus taught twelve years after twenty-five years of marriage. Five years locally and seven years in Special Education in Newton, Ia. During these twelve years she also attended summer and night classes. At age 58 she secured her college degree from William Penn College in Oskaloosa.

After retiring from teaching she organized and conducted bus trips for senior citizens, for eleven years. Eleven trips were made to Washington, D.C. where the groups toured for four days. They toured Arlington Cemetery, Mt. Vernon, Capitol Hill, and many other places. It is estimated that 300 Pella area people visited their nation's capitol, many of them for the first time. During this time Bertha Van Zante and Avis were on radio. They also made tapes of many elderly. These tapes were played on the radio. Later these tapes were recorded by Central College and are in its library.

Gerrit Van Zomeren, father of this brood, died in 1968 at age 65. He had been a farmer all his married life. He died the same year his sixth child graduated from college. For many years he assumed the cost of college education for all his children. Even though he himself had little formal education, he appreciated education for his children. He had no regrets but felt great joy in this accomplishment. He believed his work on earth was completed and was content to meet his Maker.

by Avis Van Zomeren

VAN HOUWELINGEN, CORNELIUS and EVERTJE (VAN DER HAAR)

F584

Cornelius Van Houwelingen, together with his brothers and sisters: Elizabeth, Jan (John), Gysbert, and Egje, were children of Aart (1799-1893) and Dirkje (1809-1896) Van Houwelingen who left Holland to come to America with the immigrant group led by the Reverend Peter Scholte in 1847. They came over on the ship *Maasstroom*. There is a blank space covering a number of years, of information about the family after their arrival in the Pella area. They apparently settled on a farm which may have been northeast of Pella.

Cornelius Van Houwelingen (1836-1897) married Evertje Van Der Haar (1840-1899) in about 1861. They had eight children; Aart, Elizabeth (Lizzie), Arie, William (Will), Dirk, Carrie, John, and Gerrit. He had acquired a farm in Mahaska Co., Black Oak Twp., three miles west of Leighton, where all of his family was raised.

Will related to a Pella Chronicle reporter in 1936 that Cornelius was a good conversationalist, and that he had often heard his father relate his experience in fighting prairie fires. As there were so many rail fences in those days, he said the fences often caught fire and it was a real battle to save the fences and prevent the destruction of other property.

Cornelius was a hard worker and accumulated enough land in Black Oak and Scott Twps. to bequeath each of his eight children a tract of land. He was an early conservationist and believed in building ponds and planting hedge fences. In between times the boys were often sent out to work on the ponds. The ponds, of course, also provided a supply of fish for the table. Cornelius was influential in starting sunday schools and was recognized as a self-educated veterinarian.

The Cornelius Van Houwelingen children dropped the "en" at the end of the name and two of the boys, William and Arie, also dropped the "u".

Aart C. (1863-1945), the eldest son, married Flora Roorda (1862-1948). Aart's inventive ability resulted, some years later, in the establishment of the Garden City Feeder Co. Aart and Flora had three daughters. Eva married Watson Vander Ploeg and they had two children, Florence and Ruard. Elizabeth married Wilhelm Wagner and they had two children, William and Henry. Bertha married John Den Adel and their eight children were: Arthur, Elmer (died in infancy), Marion, Clarence, twins Florence and Florene, May, and John.

Elizabeth (Lizzie) (1866-1957) married Abraham I. (Abe) Roorda (1866-1946). They lived most of their married life on a farm in Scott Twp. about two miles southeast of Leighton. They had two daughters and two sons. Bertha married Henry Brummel and their children were: Edna, Ada, Bernice, Esther, Virgil, Clara, Anna, Virginia, Mildred, Howard, and James. Cornelius (Cornie) married Jeannetta Onstine. Their son is Dale. Father and son shared an avid interest in antiques, especially antique cars. Eva married Frank Van Haaften and they had one son, Alvin. Ernest never married and lived on the family farm until his death at age 53. Both daughters died while still relatively young.

Arie (1868-1955) was first married to Margaret (Mag) De Cook and they lived on a farm in Scott Twp. just north of Olivet. After moving to Pella he had an interest in the factory with his brother, Aart, for a few years. In 1908, some time after the death of his first wife, he married Gertrude M. Bucy (1885-1966). Having sold out his interest in the factory, they moved to Plainview, Tex. where he made and lost a fortune between 1908 and 1929. He borrowed some money from Pella relatives and acquired land around Plainview. As irrigation developed, his farming and livestock operations were very successful. After his death his widow presented a gift of 600 acres of land to the Wayland Baptist College in Plainview, for

the purpose of building a library which was named the Van Howeling Memorial Library.

William (1870-1955) married Gertie Van Zee. They lived on a farm for a time, then in 1912 built a house and moved to Pella. In about 1926 they moved to Oskaloosa. They had no children.

Dirk (Dick) (1876-1934) married Elbertha (Bertha) Tysseling (1876-1941) in 1903. They had two daughters and two sons. Avis married Gerrit Van Zomeren, and their children were: Janice, Bonnie, Darlene, Dick, Mary, and Mark. Edward died at the age of 13. Ruth married Henry Rempe and their children were: Dolores, Jerry, Lee, and Patricia. C. Donald married Roberta Olson and their children were: Douglas, Donald, Dirk, Bruce, and Susan. Dick and Bertha lived on the Van Houwelingen "home place" until they moved to Pella in 1926. The farm is now owned by daughter, Avis Van Zomeren.

Carrie (1879-1960) married Matthew F. Huyser (1874-1948) in 1907 and they lived on a farm in Scott Twp. three miles west of Leighton. They had one son, Francis C., but they also raised, lovingly as if they were their own, Carl and Esther Van Houweling, after the untimely death of their parents. Francis married Jeannette Dekker. They have a son James K. Carrie had the burden of keeping house and doing chores during her teen years. Her father died when she was about 17 and her mother died when she was 20, after which she continued to keep house for the boys who were still at home. When Dirk got married, Carrie went to live with her brother Arie and his wife in Pella. Carrie was a true homemaker and took great joy in entertaining. She had many friends of all ages and was "Aunt Carrie" to many besides her nieces and nephews.

John (1881-1967) remained single but arranged to live with tenants on his farm in Black Oak Twp. about four miles west and north of Leighton. He lived in Pella after about 1937 and then was a resident of Fair Haven for a number of years.

Gerrit (1885-1920) married Kate Van Zante (1887-1919) in 1911. They lived on a farm adjacent to the north of the "Home Farm". Their children were Carl and Esther C. Kate died when Esther was but 10 days old, and Gerrit asked his sister Carrie to take care of her. About 10 months later Gerrit also died during the influenza epidemic of that time. Carl was almost six at this time and he also came to live with Matt and Carrie. Carl (1914) married Marie Brand (1916-1987). They farmed in the Prairie City area and had four children: Dorothy, Carolyn, Myron, and Linda. Esther (1919) loved horses but gave this up as a hobby after they moved to 308 Franklin St. in Pella, in 1945. She worked at Jaarsma's Bakery and at Lee's Variety for many years.

by F.C. Huyser

VAN KAMPEN, EVERT AND NELLIE RYKHOEK

F585

Evert and Nellie (Rykhoek) Van Kampen on their wedding day in 1901

Evert Van Kampen emigrated from Ede, Gelderland with his parents, a brother and two sisters. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Van Kampen. The family began farming in the Kilduff area. Another son and two daughters were born to them after they arrived in America.

Evert was born Mar. 7, 1871, and he died in 1955.

Nellie Rykhoek was a descendant of a couple who came with Dominie Scholte in 1847. Her parents were Bastian Rykhoek born Nov. 8, 1834, and Bietske Rykhoek born Aug. 9, 1836. Bastian died Dec. 12, 1904, and his wife, who used an Americanized name for Bietske, Bessie, died Nov. 18, 1924. The couple had been married in 1901. They are buried at Dairy Grove Cemetery four miles southwest of Sully on the Pella/Sully road.

by Jacob Van Kampen

VAN KAMPEN, JACOB AND BERDENA

F586

Jacob Van Kampen and his wife Berdena celebrated sixty years of marriage. They were married twice on the same day! Her parents, Hendrik and Cornelia Van Kooten, lived just across the Jasper Co. line in Poweshiek Co. Jake, at the time not knowing this, applied for a marriage license in the court house in Newton (Jasper Co). When the neighbors read about the marriage license in the *Newton Daily Herald*, they told Jake he could not get married the next day. Thinking it was a joke, Jake told his father who advised that they go talk to the pastor. The outcome was that Rev. Bolt called them to come to his parsonage in Sully where he married them at ten o'clock in the morning in Jasper County. In the afternoon they were married again, as planned earlier, at one-thirty in her parent's home near Searsboro by the same minister whom they'd stood before only hours earlier. The second wedding was in Poweshiek Co., but everything was now legal and binding. This all happened Jan. 20, 1927.

Berdena was born July 21, 1908, in The Netherlands, the eleventh child of Hendrik and Cornelia Schut Van Kooten. The family farm in Apeldoorn, Gelderland was near the summer palace of the Queen whom they had seen frequently as their school groups paraded past to honor her. The family had attended the Grote Kerk (Reformed) in Apeldoorn and Berdena was baptized there. This is the church the Dutch Royal Family attended when they were in 't Loo, the palace.

Jake and Berdena Van Kampen celebrated 60 years of marriage in January 1987

With the rest of the family, Berdena came to America, leaving The Netherlands July 19, 1910, on the ship *Queen Wilhelmina*. In America the family grew to include sixteen children. They first lived in Alton, Ia. and later came to this area. They moved to Tracy and became members of the Christian Reformed Church as Dutch was still spoken there.

Evert Van Kampen Sr. and Nellie Rykhoek were the parents of Jacob. He was born Oct. 7, 1904, five miles northwest of Sully. Evert Van Kampen came from Ede, Gelderland in 1893 with his parents, one brother and two sisters and they started farming north of Killduff. They farmed there for six years, then bought a farm five miles northwest of Sully where Jacob and two more brothers were born. Jacob's mother was descended from immigrants who had come with Dominie Scholte in 1847. Jacob attended the Sully Christian Reformed Church where his father was a charter member.

After Jacob and Berdena were married they moved to his father's farm three miles southwest of Sully where they lived eight years. They moved to the rural Oskaloosa area for three years and then bought a 160 acre farm six miles southeast of New Sharon in 1938. They lived there for twenty years before they retired to Pella where they now live at 1356 Main St.

Their first child, a daughter, Cecilia Norlene, died a few days after birth on Aug. 26, 1929. Edwin Henry was born July 18, 1930; Carol Nelson joined the family on Dec. 14, 1931; and Delores Jean arrived Mar. 9, 1937. A decade later, Lyle was born on May 24, 1947.

Edwin Henry married Tena Van Meekeren and they have four children: Dennis, Terry,

Belinda Jean and Karen Kay. Edwin lives in Minnesota. Carol and his wife Janet lives in Pella. Their five children are: Carol Dean, Darrell Gene, Jeff, Randy, and Rhonda. Delores Jean married Charles Rus and they live near Pella. Their children are: Curtis L. and Diane. The youngest child of Jacob and Berdena, Lyle, married Barbara Wyma. They live near Sparta, Mo. Their two children are Christopher L. and Tami.

Jacob and Berdena were members of the First Christian Reformed Church in Pella. Berdena died on May 9, at her home and is buried in the Sully Cemetery.

by Jacob Van Kampen

VAN KOOTEN, HENDRIK AND CORNELIA SCHUT

F587

The Hendrik Van Kooten family came to the U.S. on July 30, 1910. Henrik (born Jan. 26, 1868) and his wife Cornelia Schut (born Mar. 22, 1876) has been renting a small farm in The Netherlands where they raised potatoes, sugar beets, turnips, and hay. They had a herd of 12 dairy cows and delivered milk in town. The father had a third grade education but continued to educate himself by avid reading while herding animals. He carried a book under his hat to enable himself to read while the animals grazed. He had met his wife-to-be, Cornelia, as they both tended animals in the neighborhood.

They were married on Aug. 18, 1894. The family grew rapidly. by Apr. of 1919 there were 11 children – the oldest was 15. The parents decided to emigrate to the U.S. But they puzzled over how to keep track of all the small children. The oldest ones were delegated to each be responsible for two of the younger ones. The family traveled third class, at the bottom of the ship, but during the day they could be on the upper decks. They were on the ship for two weeks.

From the dock they went to the depot and took a train to Chicago and then to Alton, Ia., where a kind family by the name of Jansen had dinner ready for 13 extra people. They arrived on August 4. The Jansen family helped them get settled in their new home. Father Hendrik went to work for the railroad and the older girls worked in neighboring homes to support the family. They lived here for one and one-half years.

Early in Mar. of 1912 the family moved by train to Oskaloosa. Here a good friend Evert Plate had rented a 200-acre farm for them near Lacey. It was quite a task to bring two cows and 50 chickens from the depot to the farm as the snow was so deep that they could not see the fence. Everett, Nelly, Paul Pauline, and Albert were all born in the U.S. Mother died in Feb. 9, 1953. Father Hendrik lived with his children for periods of time and died on Oct. 12, 1958. We find it indeed remarkable that this family survived with all 16 children. Their children are: Tilly, born July 19, 1895 (Mrs. Dick Van Klavern) lives in Texas; Hattie, born July 31, 1896 (Mrs. John Van Arkel) both deceased, farmed in the Prairie City area; Henry, born Jan. 27, 1898 (deceased in 1983) married Wilma Vande Kieft, farmed in the New Sharon area, retired in Pella; Cornelius, born June 15, 1899, married Jenny Dieleman (both deceased) farmed in the Sully area; Peter, born Oct. 30, 1900, married Jenny Swank, farmed in the Oskaloosa area; Cornelia, born May 10, 1903, married Henry Van Steenwyk, farmed in the Knoxville area, retired in the Pella area; Roy, born July 16, 1904, married Nelly Dieleman (deceased) farmed near Searsboro, lives in Pella; Henrietta, born Dec. 7, 1905, married John Nieuwsma (deceased) later married Dick Rolffs, lives in Pella; Gerrit, born Apr. 3, 1907 (deceased in 1974) married Durkey Lanser, farmed near Leighton, wife now lives in Denver; Dena, born July 21, 1908, married Jake Van Kampen, retired in Pella; Cora, born Apr. 30, 1910, married John Bruxvoort, farmed and operated the Book and Bible Store in Oskaloosa; Everett, born July 3, 1912, lives in Callendar, Ia., graduated from Central College, was employed as a school superintendent; Nelly, born Apr. 25, 1914, married Harry Terpstra, lives near Pella; Paul, born Oct. 15, 1915, married Lucille Van Gorp, lives in Denver; Pauline, born Aug. 25, 1917, married to George Terpstra, lives in Newton; Albert, born Jan. 4, 1920, married to Marie Vande Kieft, lives in Oskaloosa.

by Dorothy Van Kooten

This picture was taken in 1944 at the time of the Golden Wedding Anniversary of Cornelia and Hendrik Van Kooten. Back, l-r: Gerrit, Peter, Roy, Paul, Albert, Everett; Middle, l-r: Berdena, Nellie, Cornelia; Pauline, Cora, Henrietta; Front, l-r: Cornelis, Hattie, Father and Mother, Tillie, Henry

VAN KOOTEN, HENRY AND WILMA VANDE KIEFT

F588

Henry and Wilma Vande Kieft Van Kooten

The history of Henry Van Kooten born Jan. 27, 1898, and Wilma Vande Kieft Van Kooten, born July 10, 1898, began early this century. Henry immigrated to America as a lad of 12. Henry was the third oldest child in a family that consisted of 16 children. Wilma was born in Pella, the third youngest in her family of 11 children. Her father, Rev. Richard Vande Kieft, was the first pastor of the Second Christian Reformed Church in Pella. After a few years in Pella he accepted a call to Tracy Christian Reformed Church. Wilma, as well as her sisters, began teaching in the area. One of the schools was the Amsterdam Rural School as well as Peoria Christian and Pella Christian. She well remembers catching the train from Howell station to her home in Tracy Grade Schools.

After their marriage June 26, 1924, Henry and Wilma rented a farm in the Taintor area

and later bought a farm near New Sharon in 1934. Those were years of struggle amidst the depression and drought. The family lost their first born child in infancy. Later four other children were born at home: Richard, born Nov. 19, 1927; Calvin, born May 16, 1930; Joyce, born Sept. 19, 1932; Iris, born May 19, 1936.

Richard graduated from New Sharon High School, served his country at the end of World War II in 1947, and later was in the Korean War in 1952-53. He spent a period of time attending Central College and worked at the White Way Auto Co. for five years. Richard was married to Dorothy Dahm on Aug. 6, 1954. In 1956 they moved to Peoria, taking over the Peoria store from his father-in-law Jacob Dahm.

Calvin was in the service during the Korean War, and while traveling home on a pass on 4th of July weekend in 1952, was killed in a car accident near Butler, Mo. He was only 22 years old and was sorely missed by his family.

Joyce also graduated from New Sharon High School, attended Central College and later graduated from Calvin College. She taught school for 12 years. She is now married to Edd Star. They live in Corsica, S. Dak. where she still teaches many piano and organ students.

Iris attended New Sharon High School and graduated from Pella Christian High. She worked as a nurse's aid at Mercy Hospital until her marriage to Gilbert Vander Hart. They live on a farm near Peoria.

Henry and Wilma sold their farm and moved to Pella in Feb., 1975. They enjoyed the years they spent together in Pella, especially visiting with their friends and feeding the ducks at the duckpond. Henry was a gardener and raised beautiful flowers. Henry passed away on May 23, 1983. Wilma moved to Fair Haven for one and one-half years after his death, then moved to the home of her daughter Iris where she is still residing.

by Dorothy Van Kooten

VAN KOOTEN, RICHARD AND DOROTHY DAHM

F589

Richard and Dorothy Dahm Van Kooten began their wedded life on Aug. 6, 1954. Richard met his future wife at a Christmas caroling party arranged by the Peoria young people. Dorothy was a graduate of Peoria Christian School and Pella Christian High School, graduating with the class of 1949. A year at Central college followed, and then she transferred to Calvin College and taught two years in the Holland Christian schools. She then taught three years in Pella Christian Grade School. After two years of residing in the Dahm apartments the young couple moved to Peoria. Dorothy's father had decided to retire from the Peoria Store, and the young couple decided to take over. Richard had spent some time at a trade school in Chicago and had been working at the White Way Auto Company. The move to Peoria took place in 1956. Dorothy moved back into the house where she had lived while she was growing up.

Back, l-r; David, Richard, Dorothy Van Kooten. Front, l-r; Rick Boat, Pam Boat, Kathy Van Kooten, Robert Van Kooten, Cheryl Hageman, Rob Hageman

Five Children were born here; Cheryl Jean was born Apr. 22, 1954. She is a graduate of Pella Christian High School and Dordt College. She taught high school English in Ontario, Cal. She married Robert Hageman on July 2, 1982. He teaches English in the Jr. High School in Ontario and Cheryl now works as an editor for the Lockheed Aircraft Company in Ontario.

Pamela also graduated from Pella Christian High School and attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. She graduated from the Blodgett School of Nursing and began working at the Pella Hospital. She married Rick Boat on Aug. 15, 1980. Rick works as a salesman for Vermeer Manufacturing, Pella, Ia. They have one child, Brandon Jay, born on Nov. 26, 1985.

David was born on May 26, 1961. His twin brother did not survive. The babies weighed only three pounds at birth and were nine weeks early. David graduated from Pella Christian High School and Dordt College. He spend several summers working for the Pella Rolscreen Company and is now teaching at the Christian Academy in Naples, Fla.

Robert is now attending Dordt College in Sioux Center, Ia. after graduating from Pella Christian High School. He is majoring in communications and enjoys appearing in plays, etc.

Kathy is currently a student at Pella Christian High School. She is also working partime at Central Park Cafe.

The family has enjoyed many vacations together and the fun of growing up in a small town. Both boys spent many hours helping their father in the Peoria Store. Dorothy enjoyed writing a book about the town of Peoria with her brother James. She also finished her college education graduating from Central College in 1983. She is now working as an activity director at Hilltop Manor South in Pella. Richard enjoys reading, especially the books on World War II.

by Dorothy Van Hooten

VAN MAANEN, BRANDT

F590

Brandt Van Maanen emigrated to America when he was 18 years old. On Aug. 25, 1887, he married Pieternella Jacoba Willemina Ten Bosch. They were the parents of nine children: Aletta Johanna born Sept. 16, 1888, died Jan. 9, 1891; Nicholas born July 17, 1890, died Mar. 1, 1959; Aletta born Aug. 3, 1892, died July 8, 1984; Gysbert born Apr. 9, 1895, died Oct. 18, 1918; Elbert born Oct. 5, 1897, died Aug. 30, 1956; William Maurice born Jan. 13, 1900; John born July 22, 1901, died Feb. 29, 1920; Andrew Frederick born Feb. 7, 1904, died July 31, 1968; Reuben born Apr. 6, 1907. Pieternella was given the names of three brothers, Peter, Jacob, and Willem, who died within fifteen days while on their journey from the Netherlands.

by Nancy Dingeman

VAN MAANEN, DONALD AND RITA (VANDER MOLEN)

F591

Donald Van Maanen, the oldest child of William and Laurine (Menninga) Van Maanen, was born on June 11, 1949. He attended Pella Christian Grade School and High School as well as Dordt College. He was united in marriage to Rita VanDer Molen (daughter of Ben and Christine VanDer Molen) at the First Christian Reformed Church on June 22, 1971. Before being married, Don enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. On July 20, 1971, Don left for his basic training at San Antonio, Tex. After his basic, he was transferred to Wichita Falls, Tex. At

Don Van Maanen Family. Front: Darren, Wesley, and Brenda; Back: Don and Rita.

this time Rita was able to join him for three months, after which the couple was transferred to Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha, Neb. The remaining Air Force time was spent here until the couple returned to Pella in July, 1975.

They then purchased a house at 606 Columbus St. Upon returning home Don began working at Vermeer Manufacturing Company in the Machine Shop at Plant #2. He was later transferred to the Pricing Dept. in the office. Rita began babysitting for various people. She also had done a considerable amount of babysitting while living in Omaha.

On Mar. 2, 1976, a long awaited child was welcomed to the household. Darren Lee was born at the Pella Community Hospital. On Sept. 20, 1977, Darren received a baby brother. Wesley Dean was welcomed home. Two years later Brenda Rae was born on Aug. 7, 1979. On Oct. 12, 1981, Brenda entered the Pella Hospital for pneumonia. She was released two days later. On July 16, 1982, Wesley entered the hospital to have his tonsils and adenoids removed. Health soon returned.

In 1975 Don became involved in driving the ambulance for the Pella Garden Chapel. The Chapel was then under the direction of Glen Bak. Don became a certified Emergency Medical Technician on Dec. 20, 1975. When the two funeral homes decided to discontinue their ambulance services, and the City of Pella took over the service, Don continued his EMT association and became an EMT I in Sept., 1983.

In 1986 when the three children were all attending the Pella Christian Grade School, Rita decided to quit her babysitting jobs to free herself for some volunteer work. It was also at this time that Don and Rita, along with Rita's brother, Bryon, and his wife, Joyce, celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary by taking a bus trip to Nashville, Tenn. It was a delightful trip with the Van Zee tours. Later on that summer, a family vacation was spent celebrating Homecoming Ia.. It was a very good idea to become familiar with our own state. But a camping trip in Ia. in the rain just can't be called a vacation. And who would ever think that the Boone Railroad would derail when we rode it?

by Christy VanDer Molen

VAN MAANEN, DUANE AND JANICE RUS

F592

Wedding of Darla Van Maanen to David Stibral in 1982. Front, l-r; Darcy Van Maanen Horstman, Danece: Middle, l-r; Deb Van Maanen Hessing, Janice, Duane, Darla Van Maanen Stibral: Back, l-r; David Van Maanen, David Stibral.

Duane is the oldest child of Henry and Everdena Vande Kieft Van Maanen. Duane, born Jan. 19, 1939, married Janice Rus, born Apr. 17, 1942, in 1959. Janice is the daughter of Peter D. and Dora De Ronde Rus. Their five children are Darla, Debra, David, Darcy and Danece. Darla married David Stibral in 1982, and they live on a farm near Tabor, S. Dak. David is a Sergeant at a prison in Springfield and Darla is the bookkeeper at Save-U-More in Yankton. Debra married Dale Hessing and they have one daughter, Tricia. They farm south of Oskaloosa and she is a beautician. David is married to Beth Geels. They live in Pella and he works at the Rolscreen Company. Darcy is married to Greg Horstman. They are students at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Ia. Danece attends Stuarts in Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

Duane, Janice and their children all attended Pella Christian Grade and High School and are members of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

Duane's family consisted of one brother, Jaron and two sisters. Marilyn married Bob Bokhoven and Karen is an F.B.I. agent. Jaron died in a place crash at the age of 33. Janice's only brother, Kenneth, died of Hodgkins disease at the age of 23.

Duane's father's family were farmers from the Leighton area. His mother's family, the Vande Keifts, were farmers from the Tracy area.

by Duane Van Maanen

VAN MAANEN, ELBERT

F593

Elbert was the fifth child born to Brandt

Elbert Van Maanen, Oct. 5, 1897 – Aug. 30, 1956

Van Maanen and Pieternella Jacoba Willemina Ten Bosch. His father emigrated to Pella from the Netherlands in the mid 1870's. His mother acquired her extra long name as a result of losing three brothers on the journey from the Netherlands to Pella. She carried on the lost boys' names. During the 1920's Elbert was a fund raiser for Grundy Center Chris-

tian College at Grundy Center, Iowa. In the early 1930's he became a spice and tea buyer for the R.T. Raleigh Company in the Dutch East Indies. During this time he collected many items now on display at the Pella Historical Museum. When political unrest caused him to be called home, he became a crop supervisor for the Pella Canning Company and a sale clerk for Jake Van Zante at local auctions. Another of his delights was promoting Pella's Tulip Time. Each year he drove the queen and her court to neighboring towns to promote the festival.

by Nancy Dingeman

VAN MAANEN, LARRY AND JANICE

F594

Larry and Janice (Squibb) Van Maanen have lived in the Pella-Leighton area for the 13 years of their marriage. Larry is the son of Kenneth and Betty (Rempe) Van Maanen and was born Mar. 11, 1954. Janice is the daughter of Darwin and Ruth (Heerema) Squibb and was born in Oskaloosa Nov. 22, 1953.

Larry and Janice graduated from University Pella Community High School in 1972. Larry attended Iowa State and Janice University of Northern Iowa. Larry had been engaged in farming since they have been married. They were married Sept. 15, 1973.

The Van Maanens were blessed with two daughters: Amanda Jayne, who was born in Pella on Aug. 5, 1975; and Sarah Beth, who was also born in Pella on Oct. 12, 1977.

by Larry B. Van Maanen

VAN MAANEN, REUBEN

F595

Reuben Van Maanen was the ninth child born to Brandt and Pieternella Jacoba Willemina (Ten Bosch) Van Maanen. On Jan. 2, 1930, he married Luella Vander Linden. Luella was the youngest daughter of Thomas and Blanche (Plette) Vander Linden. Reuben and Luella were the parents of Nancy Blanche Van Maanen Dingeman (Mrs. James). Nancy was born on Nov. 10, 1932.

by Nancy Dingeman

VAN NIMWEGEN, ADAM P.

F596

Adam Peter Van Nimwegen was born May 11, 1861. On Dec. 15, 1892, he married Emma Van Sittert, who was born Jan. 29, 1871. Adam was an interior decorator and painter. They had one daughter, Wilhelmina, born Nov. 16, 1895. On June 24, 1924, Wilhelmina married Rev. Enos Heeren. Both were graduated from Central College in 1919, and Enos later graduated from Western Theological Seminary in 1924. Wilhelmina taught in the Pella Public Schools and Central College. They served Reformed churches in five states and retired to live in Pella in 1965. Adam died in 1917, Emma in 1957, and Wilhelmina in 1975.

by Rev. E.E. Heeren

VAN REULDER, HENRY

F597

Front, l-r: Roy, Elmer, Walterena Vander Beek, and Herman Bogaard; Middle, l-r: Henry Bogaard, Aunt Eva Rempe, Kate Vander Beek, Grandma Van Reulder, and Nell Bogaard; Back, l-r: John Rempe and Govert Vander Beek.

Mrs. Govert, Cornelia (Kate) Van Reulder Vander Beek, was born Feb. 16, 1886, a daughter of Henry and Jane Den Adel Van Reulder. They lived on a farm north of Leighton, Ia. She was educated in a rural school. She often told stories of gypsies roaming around the farmstead, snatching chickens and food from their garden.

On Dec. 29, 1914, she was united in marriage to Govert John Vander Beek. They made their home at 920 Hazel St., Pella, Ia. To this union three children were born. Their children and grandchildren were: Walterena, Mrs. Anthony Ver Meer, and children Delores, Donald, Linda, and Kenneth, who is deceased.

Roy married Verda Ver Steeg and their son is Dennis.

Elmer married Janet Hol and their children are: JoAnn, Robert, and Marvin.

Kate had two sisters, Nelle who married Neal Bogaard. Their family consisted of Henry and Mabel Van Zante and sons Nelson and Elinor (Randy, Michael and Beth) Bogaard; Ronald and Edith (Laurie Lee and Danny) Bogaard; and Paul and Mary (Anna and Amy).

Herman and Jennie Franje Bogaard and children and grandchildren: Larry and Mary (Brenda and Blane) Bogaard; Charles and Donna and sons (Edward, Rick, and Jamie) Bogaard; Stanley and Velma (Stacy and Spencer) Bogaard; and two daughters Susan and Jerry White and son Patrick Sutherland of Phoenix, Ariz.; and Janna and Kenneth Ver Meer and sons Matthew and Brandon of Leighton, Ia.

Kate's other sister, Eva, married John J. Rempe. They had no children. Her only brother, Walter Van Reulder, was killed at the age of 24 in a hunting accident.

by Mrs. Elmer Vander Beek

VAN RHEENEN, JOHN AND MARY IRENE

F598

Engeltje Van Zee DeKock is pictured in the sunbonnet. This was taken sometime before 1910 when the boy in the center (Peter) was still living. With Peter are his parents Ira P. and Mary De Cook. The girl is Mabel Grandia.

Engeltje Van Zee was the granddaughter of Engle Van Zee who had been born in Heerwynen, Gelderland, in 1775. He was of noble birth, descended from Frederick Van Zee born in 1695 into a prominent Dutch family. Engle's wife was Maria Roose, a member of a Spanish family whose members were driven from Spain for purposes of religion. Many generations of descendants live in the Pella area.

Engle's two sons and their families came to the United States in 1847 with the Scholte migration. One son, Koenraad, came with his wife, Mattje De Kock and children. They sailed on the *Pieter Floris* and docked June 12, 1847. Engeltje was with her parents on the trip. She had been born July 4, 1837, in the Netherlands.

The man who was to be her husband, Peter DeKock, was born July 29, 1833, in the Netherlands and came to America in 1854. They were married Feborn 15, 1859. They began married life on a 120 acre farm six miles southeast of Pella which they purchase-died Their first home was a log cabin for which they had to clear timber. Later they built a frame home with a ladder to climb upstairs. They raised their seven children here.

Peter DeKock met his death on his 32nd wedding anniversary, Feborn 15, 1893. Engeltje remained on the farm until her youngest son, Arie Frederick (later changed to Ira P. DeCook) married Mary L. Grandia on June 18, 1902. Mary's parents were Artje Van Zee and Leonard Grandia.

Ira P. and Mary were the parents of two children: Peter Irvin, who passed away at age seven in 1910, and Mary Irene, born Mar. 8, 1916. Engeltje passed away on Mar. 12, 1923,

John and Mary Irene Van Rheenen and their children. Front: Mary Irene, Mary Lou, John, and on his lap, Rebecca Ann; Back: Irvin and Henry.

in the home of her son, Ira. Mary L. DeCook died Oct. 30, 1955, and Ira on Sept. 15, 1958.

Mary Irene De Cook married John Leslie Van Rheenen on Feborn 16, 1938. They lived on the DeKock farm. They were the parents of four children: Irvin John, Henry Ralph, Mary Lou, and Rebecca Ann.

Many memories on the family farm were associated with making sorghum. It was necessary to strip the cane clean or the sorghum would be too dark. It took hours to cook the juice in a large pan over an open fire. Mother came with homemade bread and coffee to be eaten by the mill with the fresh sorghum.

On July 30, 1962, John Van Rheenen met with a fatal tractor accident. His wife, Mary Irene, and their children remained on the farm until Henry married Donna Engbers in 1964. They moved on the farm. Henry also became district manager for a seed corn company, NC Hybrids. They are the parents of Lisa, Quint, Heather, and Randa.

The oldest son, Irvin, married Ethel Van Gorp. Irvin owns Van Rheenen Inc., a plumbing, heating, and cooling business in Pella, and Ethel manages a bath boutique. They are the parents of Carol, John, and Chadied

Mary Lou married Gene Van Wyk. She is a real estate broker and her husband is a counselor at Pella Christian High School. They are the parents of Leasa, Sandra, and Russell.

Rebecca Ann graduated from Cal State University in California and is an educational therapist in California. She married Gary Pickens who is a speech therapist. They have one daughter, Stephanie.

After Mary Irene moved to town, she worked at Blecha's coffee shop, later at the West End Cafe, and then in the dining hall at Central College, the position she held until her retirement in 1986. She now resides in Pella.

by Mary Irene Van Rheenen

VAN ROEKEL, GERRIT J.

F599

Lubbert and Steventje Vander Pol Van Roekel, parents of Gerrit J. Van Roekel.

Lubbert Van Roekel, son of Henry and Jantje Themens Van Roekel, was born in The Netherlands on Sept. 6, 1836. In Nov., 1864 Lubbert married Steventje Vander Pol who was born on Apr. 19, 1836, also in The Netherlands to Anthony and Aaltje Luwenhorst Vander Pol. Lubbert and Steventje had four sons and four daughters: Jantje (1867-1867); Henry (1868-1939); Antonie (Tone) (1869-1955); Jantje (Jane) (1871-1951); Aart (1873-1958); Aaltje (Ollie) (1875-1922); Wilemina (Minnie) (1877-1944); and Gerrit J. (1880-1943). The family, which included five children, came to the United States in 1876. They purchased forty acres of land in Black Oak Twp. Section 15, Mahaska Co. State of Iowa. The purchase price was $30 per acre. This included a log cabin and a very small barn. It was in this cabin that their two younger children were born. They began farming in a very primitive way. In 1882 they purchased an adjoining 80 acres of land in Sec. 22, Black Oak Twp. and moved the family on this parcel of land. Purchase price was $46.25 per acre. All of the children were married while they were living on this farm with the exception of daughter Minnie and youngest son Gerrit. A new home was built on this farm between 1885 and 1890. Lubbert and Stevantje retired and moved to Pella in 1900. Their sons, Aart and Gerrit, stayed on and farmed the home place until 1904 when Aart purchased a farm of his own about a mile east of the home place.

Son Gerrit continued to live on the family farm and on Feb. 18, 1904, married Minnie, oldest daughter of Ryk and Tryntje De Wild Van Heukelom. They lived on the home place which they purchased in 1909 and farmed there until Gerrit's death on Mar. 19, 1943. Gerrit's wife Minnie then moved to Pella and in 1945 married Henry Niemeyer (1884). He died in 1967 and Minnie passed away on July 27, 1973.

All farming was done by horsepower. By then almost every farm had chickens, milk cows, hogs and usually some cattle were fed for market. All roads were dirt and transportation was horse drawn buggies, wagons and, in wintertime, bobsleds. Social life consisted mainly of visiting relatives and neighbors with school activities playing an important part of life in the community. Threshing was done by steam power and all neighbors joined hands to get the job done. Everybody had large gardens, canned many vegetables and slaughtered pork and beef, usually in late winter. Many made their own bologna and dried, smoked beef. Not much was wasted. Hog headcheese was a common diet. In 1916 Gerrit and Minnie Van Roekel purchased their first car. It was a Reo touring car which they owned for nine years. It had 23,000 miles on the speedometer which was considered high mileage in those days.

Gerrit and Minnie had five children: Louis, born May 11, 1906, died in 1980; Richard, born Oct. 8, 1907; Stevanna, born Apr. 2, 1910; Henry, born Nov. 12, 1911; and Tena, born Jan. 17, 1914, died in 1976. All of Lubbert and Steventje's children and all of Gerrit and Minnie's children attended the one-room Black Oak Center School which was located just across the road from the home place. Water for the school was carried from the Van Roekel farm in buckets for drinking and the washing of hands. The children of Henry and Wilma Van Roekel and Henry and Tena Van Roekel Roorda also attended this school until the time of reorganization in 1958 when the area became part of the Pella Community School District.

Louis Van Roekel married Christine De Bruin in Feb., 1928. They had no children.

Richard married Nellie Ter Louw in 1933. They have two children: Ronald (1944) married Mary Lou Van Wyk in 1963 and have one son: Randy (1964). Linda (1947) married Roger Witzenberg in 1965 and have two sons and one daughter: Michael (1967); Michelle (1969); Dustin (1979).

Stevanna married Dave Roorda in 1933. They have two daughters and one son. Wilma (1936) married Jim Waters in 1959 and have two daughters: Jakala (1961) married Patrick Pasterick in 1985; Twyla (1965). Donald (1940) married Elva Newendorp in 1959 and have three sons: Scott (1960) who has a daughter Katie (1983); Craig (1963); Todd (1970). Erma Jean (1943) married Larry Rus in 1962 and have three sons: Michael (1963); Timothy (1966); Thomas (1967).

Henry married Wilma Van Ommen in

Front, l-r; Richard, Father Gerrit, Mother Minnie, Henry A. Van Roekel: Back, l-r; Louis Van Roekel, Stevanna Roorda, Tena Roorda "Taken in 1941"

1937. They have two sons and four daughters: Joyce (1939) married Wayne Schut in 1962 and have two daughters and one son: Lynn (1963); Michael (1965); Katrina (1969). Glen (1940) married Carole Grootveld in 1960 and have three daughters and one son: Wendy (1963) married Robert Sims in 1984 and have one son Ryan (1986); Becky (1966); Vicki (1970); Gregg (1977). Dolores (1941) married Robert Chapman in 1965. Marlene (1946) married Ted Bey in 1972 and have one daughter and three sons: Stephanie (1976), Zachary (1977); Joshua (1981), Timothy (1984). Ruth (1949) married Roger Hoekstra in 1970 and have one son and three daughters: Chad (1972); Heather (1975); Ann (1979); Jill (1982). Alvin (1952) married Marie Newton in 1974 and have two daughters and one son: Laurel (1975); Lynne (1977); Mark (1982).

Tena married Henry Roorda in 1937 and have one son and one daughter: Ervin (1938) married Andrea Boat in 1960 and have three daughters and one son: Anne (1964); Mary (1965) married John Pennington in 1986; Lisa (1968); Jonathan (1970). Mary Lou (1940) married Richard Glendening in 1961 and have one son and three daughters: Eric (1963) who married Sanae Spencer in 1985; Mary (1964); Kara (1967); Erin (1969). After Tena's death in 1976, Henry Roorda married Esther Overbergen in 1977.

All of the children of Lubbert and Steventje Van Roekel and Gerrit and Minnie Van Roekel were engaged in farming most of their working years.

Henry and Wilma Van Roekel purchased the home place in 1945, lived there and farmed the land until retirement. It became a Century Farm in 1976 and is stilled owned by the Van Roekels.

by Henry A. Van Roekel and Stevanna Roorda

VAN RYSWYK, DIRK AND JENNEKE AND ARIE AND BARBARA

F600

Dirk Van Ryswyk was born on July 28, 1839, in the Netherlands, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dirk Van Ryswyk. He married (date unknown) Jenneke "Jennie" Olivier, born on Aug. 9, 1839, in the Netherlands, the daughter of Pieter Olivier and Johanna (De Hen) Olivier. In 1865 they left for America bringing with them their children: Dirk Jan, born in 1861; and Pieter, born in 1863. Also accompanying them were Jenneke's father Pieter Olivier, three brothers, a sister of Jenneke, and a cousin. Jenneke's mother, Johanna (De Hen) Olivier, also started out with them for America, but became ill and passed away enroute while on the ocean. After their arrival at Pella in the fall of 1865 Dirk Van Ryswyk was employed helping build the railroad track through town. About three months after their arrival here a third son, Arie, was born on Dec. 5, 1865. The Van Ryswyks later moved to a farm west of Otley and then to another farm west of Pella. Other children born to Dirk and Jenneke were: Johanna, born in 1871; Orphia, born in 1874; Mathys Willem, born in 1880; and Jennie, born in 1884. Jenneke passed away on Aug. 5, 1906, at Pella, at age 66; Dirk passed away July 16, 1921, in Pella, at age 81. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Iowa.

Dirk Jan, the oldest son of Dirk and Jenneke, married Dena Bierma on Mar. 3, 1886 and to this union were born the following children: Dirk, Algie, Hessel D., Jennie, Henry, Peter, Evalena, Arie, Barbara, Johanna "Jose", John, and two sons and one daughter who died in infancy. Dena passed away June 9, 1937, at age 72; Dirk passed away Feb. 26, 1952, at age 90. Both were buried in the Waveland Cemetery, Prairie City, Ia.

Pieter, son of Dirk and Jenneke, married (date unkown) Sara Vander Wilt. To this union no children were born, but they did adopt Pieter's cousin Mary Ellerbroek when she was ten years old, following the death of her mother Anna Maria Katrina (Olivier) Ellerbroek. Pieter passed awas Dec. 12, 1926, at age 63; Sara passed away June 27, 1950, at age 84. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Ia.

Arie, son of Dirk and Jenneke, married Barbara Veenstra on Mar. 6, 1889 at Otley, Ia. Barbara was born on May 12, 1869, at Otley, Ia., the daughter of Hendrikes "Henry" Veenstra and Heltje "Hattie" (Jansma) Veenstra. After their marriage Arie and Barbara moved to a farm south of Lynnville, Iowa, and to this union were born the following children: Dirk "Dick" A. on Mar. 31, 1890; Henry on June 30, 1893; Peter A. on Sept. 19, 1894; Grace on Jan. 27, 1902; one daughter and one son who died in infancy and were buried in the New Salem Cemetery south of Lynnville. The family lived on the farm until Feb. 1917 when they moved into Pella. Then Arie was employed by the Pella Feederworks Co. and later with the Bastiaan Andeweg Transfer Co. Arie passed away June 29, 1932 at age 66; Barbara passed away Dec. 13, 1936 at age 67. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Iowa.

Dirk "Dick" A., the oldest son of Arie and Barbara, passed away Dec. 20, 1909 at age 19 at the Abbott Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia., following surgery for appendicitis. He was engaged to be married. Dirk was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella. Henry, the second son of Arie and Barbara, passed away May 10, 1931 at age 38 at his parents' home in Pella. Henry was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella. Peter A., the third son of Arie and Barbara, married Clara Vander Syde on Oct. 28, 1914 in Newton. Clara was born on Oct. 21, 1894 near Sully, Iowa, the daughter of Jacob Vander Syde and Lena (Van Genderen) Vander Syde. Peter and Clara farmed in the Sully area until 1924 when they moved to Minnesota, farming first at Hollandale and later at Albert Lea. To this union were born eleven children: Arno in 1915; Darlene in 1917; Vernon in 1918; Donald in 1920; Mildred in 1922; Lester in 1923; Paul in 1926; Raymond in 1928; Duane in 1929; Dale in 1932; and LaVonne in 1934. Arno, Vernon, and Lester served in the Armed Forces during World War II; Paul, Raymond, and Duane served their country following the war. Arno passed away June 11, 1951 at age 36 at Frankfort, Germany; Vernon passed away Dec. 18, 1967, at age 49, at Mora, Minnesota; Duane passed away Nov. 21, 1981, at age 52, in Albert Lea, Minnesota; and Donald passed away Dec. 23, 1985, at age 65, in Albert Lea, Minnesota. Arno, Duane and Donald were buried in Graceland Cemetery, Albert Lea, Minn.; Vernon was buried at Mora, Minn. In 1953 Peter and Clara Van Ryswyk left the farm and moved into Albert Lea. Clara passed away Apr. 22, 1968, at age 73, in Albert Lea; Peter passed away July 26, 1970, at age 75, in Albert Lea. Both were buried in Graceland Cemetery in Albert Lea. Grace, daughter of Arie and Barbara, married Frank F. Wielard on Feb. 28, 1930, in Pella. Frank was born on Mar. 23, 1903, near Otley, the son of Kryn Wielard and Tryntje "Kate" (Vander

Wiel) Wielard. To this union were born two children: Vernon in 1934, and Marilyn in 1940. Grace and Frank farmed in the Pella area until 1948 when they moved into Pella. He worked in maintenance at Central College and later the REC; Grace was self-employed as a piano instructor. Frank passed away Dec. 6, 1977, at age 74, in Iowa City, Ia. He was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella. Grace resides in Pella. Vernon served with the U.S. Army from Oct. 1956 until Oct. 1958 with overseas duty in Okinawa. He resides in Pella and is employed at Rolscreen Co. Marilyn resides with her family in Alaska.

Johanna, daughter of Dirk and Jenneke, married Arie A. Steenhoek on Mar. 16, 1892, and to this union were born the following children: Gysbert, Dick, Henry, Peter, Henrietta, Jennie, William, Orpha, Ruth, and one son and two daughters who died in infancy. Johanna passed away May 20, 1952, at age 81; Arie passed away Nov. 4, 1952, at age 85. Both were buried in Waveland Cemetery, Prairie City, Iowa.

Orphia, daughter of Dirk and Jenneke, married Conrad Vander Leest on Mar. 11, 1897, and to this union were born two children: Evertje "Effie" and Dick. Orphia passed away June 10, 1908, at age 34; Conrad passed away Apr. 9, 1960, at age 84. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Iowa.

Mathys "Tice", son of Dirk and Jenneke, married Hermina "Minnie" Van Hilton on Mar. 5, 1903, and to this union were born the following children: Jenneke "Jennie", Antonie "Tonie", Dick, Martienes "Marion", Orpha, James, Donald, Willard, and Mildred. Mathys passed away June 30, 1959, at age 79; Hermina passed away Apr. 29, 1970, at age 86. Both were buried in the Pleasantville Cemetery, Pleasantville, Ia.

Jennie, daughter of Dirk and Jenneke, married Marius Van Mersbergen on Feb. 20, 1907. No children were born to this union. Marius passed away Nov. 22, 1909, at age 28, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella. In about 1922 Jennie moved to Hanford, Calif., where on Mar. 29, 1923 she married a widower, John Dirk Vanden Heuvel, and to this union were born two children: Jennie and Arie. John passed away Dec. 20, 1955, at age 70; Jennie passed away Oct. 8, 1972, at age 88. Both were buried at Hanford, California.

by Vernon Wielard

VAN SITTERT FAMILY

F601

The Van Sittert family is of German origin and may be said to belong as well to the English as to Dutch aristocracy. The family descended from William Van Sittert of Dantzic, whose son Peter followed the fortunes of the Princes of Orange and settled in England. The British and Dutch Van Sitterts have similar crests or coats of arms.

We, in Pella, are descendants of Sander Van Sittert, born in 1786. He operated a drug store in Monnickendam, Netherlands, and was a man of high standing and treated with respect. We are unable to determine who Sander's parents were. In 1810 he married Alida Cramer, born in 1787. They were the parents of Dirk William, born in 1811 at Monnickendam.

In Feb., 1847, Dirk William married Huberta Gertruyda Van Neftrick, born in 1821 at Nymwegen, Netherlands. On Apr. 17, 1847, they and Ernest Hendrick Aug. Scheeper, Huberta's stepfather, left Ulricht, Netherlands, on the ship *Nagasaki* on a pilgrimage which ended in Pella.

Dirk William and Ernest Hendrick Aug. were educated gentlemen and could speak English, French, Dutch, and German. They were business associates, running a hardware store, the third mercantile establishment in Pella. It is said the best magazines and books of the day came to their home. Dirk William frequently ordered books and periodicals, seeds and plants for the better families. Ernest Hendrick Aug. died in 1855 and willed all his property to Dirk William and Huberta Gertruyda. Dirk William was in business until 1877. Huberta died in 1864. In Nov., 1867 Dirk William married Antoinette Kramer, born in 1842 at Edam, Netherlands. Children by this marriage were: Peter, Emma, and David. Dirk William died in 1882 and Antoinette died in 1922.

Peter Van Sittert was born in 1868 and died in 1937. He was a carpenter, had an insurance business and was a bookkeeper for Vander Meulen hardware store. He served the community as a school board member. In 1890 he married Ella, daughter of Dirk and Areka Van Horssen Pos. She was born in 1866 and died in 1925. Emma, born in 1871, married Adam Peter Van Nimwegen. David, born in 1873, remained a bachelor and died in 1929.

Children of Peter and Ella Pos Van Sittert were: William Dirk, born in 1895; Margaret Artie, born in 1903; and Florence Ethel, born in 1908. Margaret was unmarried and died in 1979. Florence taught in the Pella Public Schools and in 1940 married Edgar Jones. They made their home in Newton, Ia.

William Dirk married Mary Helen, daughter of Arie Dirk and Jane Andeweg Vander Linden, on May 9, 1918. He owned and operated the dry goods business where he began as an errand boy in grade school. He was active in community affairs, was a member of the original Tulip Time committee, and served as a school board member. William Dirk died in 1971 and Mary Helen died in 1981. They had four children: Warren Glenn, born in 1920; Barbara Ann, born in 1922; Ella Jane, born in 1929; and Logan Earl, born in 1934.

Warren owned and operated the Van Sittert Plumbing and Heating business for forty years. He is active in the American Legion Post and serves as secretary-treasurer of Oakwood Cemetery Association. In 1941 he married Mary Jane, daughter of Marselius P. and Katherine Muilenberg Van Hemert. Their children are: Glenda Beth, born in 1946, and Thomas Paul, born in 1949. Beth married Joel F. Norby in 1970. They have two children: Kristofer Linden, born in 1979, and Kathryn Marie, born in 1982. Tom married Victoria de la Vega in 1974 and their children are William Dirk, born in 1978; Paul Michael, born in 1980; and Kathleen Ann, born in 1982.

by Mrs. Warren Van Sittert

VAN STEENWYK FAMILY

F602

It seems that during the early part of the 11th century there lived on the upper Rhine a rather fierce and warlike tribe known as the Batavians. They seemed to have been good fighters but were unable to withstand the onslaughts that Attilla the Hun and other war-like hordes could deliver. Rather than be conquered, they moved. Among them was a petty chief named Jan. What is now Holland was then a wooded swamp. Part of it was brackish lakes; some was sea. In what is now the northern part of the province of Overysel, this Jan found a rocky hill or mound. All around were wood and swamp. Here he and his little clan took refuge and built a primitive fortification of the loose stone. He became known as Jan of the stone wall, in other words, Jan Van Steenwyk.

The earliest record we can find is Jan Jansz (Jan's son) Van Steenwyk, born about 1675, a farmer at Maartensdijk. He married Trijntje Willems. The youngest of four children of this marriage was Gijsbert Jansz Van Steenwyk, born 1700-1710. He married Martijntje Van Dijk. The 10th of their 11 children was Willem Van Steenwyk, baptized Oct. 15, 1747. He was married to Gerritje Losgert. The second of their five children was Aarnout Van Steenwyk, baptized in Utrecht, May 20, 1773. He was a land owner and butcher. He married a cousin, Niesje Van Vliet, an only daughter, so the two estates were combined. They had three sons and three daughters. The two older boys and one girl were hunchbacks. Gysbert, the youngest son, was straight and stalwart. He came to America with three college acquaintances and eventually settled in Wisconsin. Jan, the oldest son, wanted to have children that were tall and straight so he married a daughter of the common people, Marie Justina Oostrum. This was something that was not done in those days, so he lost prestige and part of his estate. He also made some poor investments, one of which was buying a string of canal passenger boats just before the stage coaches and trains caused that business to go bad. They had seven children, all of whom were well formed except one daughter Niesje.

Because of the religious unrest in Holland, Jan, his wife, and seven children decided to cast their lot with the group that was going to America. Even though no longer wealthy, they booked passage on the *Nagasaki* and sailed from Rotterdam on Apr. 11, 1847. The trip from Baltimore was by railroad, canal boat, and covered wagon. They eventually arrived in Pella in September. Jan Van Steenwyk died two months later. Three of their children, Arnoldus (1828-1892), Abram (1830-1900), and Gertruida (1839- ?) later settled in Orange City, Ia. William (1832-1912) settled in Keokuk. Gerrit Jan (1837-1885) settled in Mitchellville. Niesje was badly crippled, never married, and remained in Pella. William, John G., and Gerrit Jan served in the Civil War.

The only family that remained in thePella area was that of John Gysbert Van Steenwyk (1834-1920). In 1855 John married Henriette Kegel. She came to Pella in 1847 on the *Maasstroom* with her parents, brother, and four sisters. Her father was Peter J. Kegel, a

merchant in Amsterdam. He married Henriette Sybrance the only daughter of James Hendrik and Gesina Sybrance. James was a first class navigator and sailed the seven seas. He was born on his father's ship and died on his own ship at the age of 108 years. His wife lived to be 104.

Peter Kegel and his wife were used to a life of luxury in Holland. She had servants to do all the work as was the custom there. It was quite a change as they arrived in Pella late in the fall and moved into a log cabin. The floor was half wood and half dirt. The walls and roof were full of holes. Unfortunately Peter was neither a carpenter nor "mud dauber," or he could have stopped up the holes. They lived in the Amsterdam area and he started a store and sawmill there. Peter died in 1854 and his wife died in 1904 at the age of 95.

John G. and Henriette Van Steenwyk had two children, Peter James (1857-1929) and Maria (1862-1952). John was a farmer and wagon maker. Henriette died in 1899 and John in 1920.

Maria Van Steenwyk married Michael Slyhuis. They had ten children, most of whom lived in the Knoxville area.

Peter James Van Steenwyk took as his first wife Mary Visser (1866-1890). They had four children of whom only the oldest, John Gysbert (1887-1912), reached maturity.

In 1894 Peter married Reinera Katherine Van Veen (1867-1952). There were eight children born to this union. Five children died in infancy and three lived to adulthood. Peter spent most of his life as a farmer in the area now occupied by Lake Red Rock, the dam, and North Overlook.

Elizabeth Van Steenwyk was born near Pella, Ia., Oct. 8, 1897. She married Leonard Rus, Dec. 1920. Leonard was born in Oudkarspel, North Holland, on Apr. 23, 1895, to Germent Rus and Greitje Mosk. They had eight children. Leonard was a mechanic most of his life. He died Jan. 16, 1981. Elizabeth died May 29, 1986, at the home of her daughter, Bernice, in Des Moines, Ia. Their eight children are: Margaret Wilhelmina Vander Poorte; Katherine June Kallemyn; Germent James; Peter Henry; Jacob; Bernice Kelderman; Elizabeth Ann Boender; and Charles Leonard.

Clara Van Steenwyk was born near Pella. She married Tunis Schakel on May 21, 1940. Tunis, born in Pella, was the son of William Schakel and Niesje Van Klootwyk. They have three children: Peter James, of Holland, Mich.; Martha Hayward, of Negaunee, Mich.; and Mary Benson, of Brainerd, Minn.

Henry James Van Steenwyk was born on a farm near Pella. He married Cornelia Van Kooten on Dec. 21, 1929. Cornelia was the daughter of Henry Van Kooten and Cornelia Schut. They had three children: Alfred R.; Charleen May (1933-1935); and Henry David.

There are, of course, many members of the sixth and seventh generations of Jan and Justina Van Steenwyk but we will save their names for the next history of Pella.

by Jacob Rus

VAN STEENWYK, HENRY AND CORNELIA

F603

Cornelia (Van Kooten) and Henry J. Van Steenwyk

The immigrant generation of the Van Steenwyk family came to Pella in 1847. John Gysbert Van Steenwyk stayed in the Pella area when other family members went to Orange City and other areas. The family first settled east of Pella along the Skunk River.

John married Henrietta Elizabeth Kegel and lived most of his life as a farmer. One of his sons was Peter James who was born July 29, 1857.

Peter James took as his first wife, Mary Visser (1866-1890). Four children were born to them of whom only the oldest, John Gysbert, lived to adulthood. After his first wife's death, he married Reiner Katherine Van Veen in 1894. Eight children were born to the couple with only three living through childhood. The surviving children were Elizabeth, Clara and Henry James. Elizabeth married Leonard Rus and Clara married Tunis Schakel.

Henry James was born on a farm near Pella, Mar. 17, 1905. He married Cornelia Van Kooten, seventh child born to Cornelia Schut and Hendrik Van Kooten on May 10, 1903, in Apeldoorn, Gelderland. She had come to this country when she was six. Her parents came with eleven children, leaving one small grave in the churchyard in Apeldoorn. Five more brothers and sisters were born to the Van Kooten family.

After Henry and Cornelia's wedding, they farmed "the home place" for a year as Peter James had died and Reinera had moved to town. The "home place" is now the location of Red Rock Dam. Their home was on the right hand side on the north bank of the river. The family had bought land in the Des Moines river bottoms to be assured of a good supply of fuel and water. The timber was more than adequate and water was plentiful. Drinking water was obtained from a deep well high on the hill and had to be carried in buckets. Henry's mother preferred country living and moved back to her home after a year in town. Henry and Cornelia moved to a farm south of East Amsterdam School. It was here their first son, Alfred, was born. Their daughter, Charlene Mae, was also born here. Alfred was born Mar. 10, 1932 and Charlene Mae Dec. 10, 1933. The little girl died at the age of one and a half. Another son, Henry David, was born in Mercy Hospital in Oskaloosa Dec. 1, 1936.

Henry and Cornelia farmed in various places after the first two places and retired from farming in 1972 when they built a lovely home near their original farming area west of Pella. They moved to Fair Haven about three years ago.

One humorous incident is recalled about "the good ol' days". With the menfolk and children gone to a circus in Des Moines, Cornelia and her sister, Nellie Terpstra were alone at the farm. They had not gone to the circus as they were far along into pregnancies. As groceries were not in great store at that time, they tried to plan a meal and decided that they would have to "run down" a chicken. A merry chase developed with the two pregnant women finally winning the race with an old rooster. After killing their prey, they prepared noodles and chicken for the circus goers. The rooster had provided them with not only food, they had had their own fun in their own way, at the rooster's expense.

Alfred Van Steenwyk married Ruth Wallace Nov. 14, 1952. They had five children: Connie Kay Bellon, Carrie Rae Worthington, Allen Roger and Michael James. A little girl, Sherrie Lyn, died of cystic fibrosis in 1963. There are also their grandchildren: Sarah and Seth Bellon, Lee, Amy, Aron and Michel Van Steenwyk.

Henry David married Kathleen Bokhoven Apr. 12, 1957. Their children are Steven, Loretta Thompson, and Kevin. Tiffany Joel and Carl Ray Thompson are their grandchildren.

Alfred resides in Pella and Henry David farms near Knoxville.

by Cornelia Van Steenwyk

VAN STRYLAND, H. W. AND ELSIE

F604

The H.W. Van Stylands live at 517 Madison Street in Pella. Van teaches foreign languages and business at Pella Christian

Elsie, Carl, Jill, and Harold Van Stryland.

High School, and Elsie is a secretary in the Manufacturing Engineering Department at Pella Rolscreen. They have two children: Jill (born in 1980) and Carl (born in 1982).

The Van Strylands have only been living in Pella for nine years, but the first Van Stryland, Claes Aertsen van Strijland, set foot on the New World's soil in 1619, when a group of Hollanders settled what today is Albany, N.Y. They came from Gelderland, which was then called Gelre, an area much larger than present day Gelderland. Not many Americans can say that their ancestors arrived two years before the Pilgrims!

For the past 100 years, most of the Van Strylands have lived in northwest Iowa and in South Dakota. Some are also living in California and in Canada.

Elsie Jansen Van Stryland was born in Wisconsin Rapids, Wis., and the origin of her ancestors is also very Dutch. the Jansens came from the province of Groningen in the late 19th Century.

Van and Elsie have enjoyed the unique Dutchness of Pella. They have lived in several other states and in Europe and have much appreciated what Pella has to offer. Van's mother was born in Hekkum, Groningen, so Van is very appreciative of the Dutch culture in this area.

by H.W. Van Strylands

VAN TUYL, WILLIAM LEE

F605

William Lee Van Tuyl, now retired in Pella was a division vice-president of the Rolscreen Company. He was born in Monmouth, Warren County, Ill., Oct. 13, 1919, the son of Lee Henry and Alice (Findley) Van Tuyl. Both parents were born and lived their lives in Warren County, Ill. He is the grandson of George Walter and Elizabeth (Schermerhorn) Van Tuyl, residents of Monmouth, Ill. Ancestors emigrated from Holland in the late 1700s, settled in New York, and moved westward as land to be homesteaded became available.

On July 31, 1942, he married Miss Maribelle Koons of North Henderson, Mercer County, Ill. She was born Apr. 18, 1922, the daughter of Ivan Carl and Bernice (Meeker) Koons, attended elementary and high school in Mercer and Knox Co. and Monmouth College, Monmouth, Ill. Her family have been landowners in Mercer County, Ill. since they emigrated from Bavaria, Germany in the middle 1800s.

The Van Tuyls have three children. Mary Lynn, a registered nurse at Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines, Ia., married Robert D. Vander Linden in 1967. They have one daughter Erin Lynn. Thomas William married Christine Woods in 1979. They are part owners of the Canary Lane Antique Shop, West Des Moines, Ia. and have one daughter, Wendy. Charles Jeffrey graduated from Central College in 1982, married Francesca Wede in 1981. They have one son Kristopher. He is employed by the Rolscreen Company as a Cost Center Manager.

The Van Tuyls believe that everyone should make a contribution to the place in which they live. They are members of the Second Reformed Church, the Pella Historical Society, and the Pella Golf and Country Club. She is a Past President and member of the Pella Garden Club, the P.E.O., and T.T.T. sororities. He is a member of the Pella Historical Society Board of Directors, Past member of the City of Pella Board of Adjustment, a member of the Pella Library Board during its building expansion program, Chairman of the restoration committee of the Pella Community Center, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Pella Community Center, and Chairman of the restoration committee of the Old Fire Station.

by Bill Van Tuyl

VAN VARK, MABEL MARIE

F606

Louise Cierley, Karen Cierley and Mildred Bishop.

Mabel Marie Van Vark was born on Sept. 15, 1902, in Pella, Ia., the daughter of Peter and Catherine (Weber) Van Vark. She died on Sept. 5, 1972. She had two brothers, Clarence Van Vark and Edward E. Van Vark, and one nephew, Robert Lee Van Vark. In the year 1920 she was married to Earl E. Bishop. They had two daughters, Louise L. Bishop Cierley and Mildred T. Bishop, and one granddaughter, Karen Lynn Cierley. Mabel spent all of her life in Pella. Her interests were her home and family.

by Louise Cierley

VAN VARK, ROBERT F. AND DOROTHY L.

F607

Robert Francis Van Vark and Dorothy Lorraine Farquhar met when they were both freshmen at Central College during the 1943-1944 school years. They were married Aug. 7, 1946.

Robert (Bob) is a local Pella boy, the son of Francis F. Van Vark and the late Johanna Schakel Van Vark. He grew up in or near the Pella area, and graduated from Pella High School in 1943. After completing his freshman year at Central College, he joined the

The Robert F. Van Vark family: Robert, Gail, Kent and Dorothy

Army Air Corps. After the war, he returned to Pella, went back to college for awhile, and worked for Wormhoudt's Furniture Store.

In 1950, he started working for Martin A. De Jong Construction Company, and he has been in the construction business ever since. In 1954, Bob, Dale Randol, and Duane Busby formed a construction business of their own and called it Pella Home Builders. Duane dropped out of the company in 1958, and Bob and Dale formed a new company calling it Van Vark and Randol Construction. In the spring of 1958, Dale decided to quit construction as a business. Bob bought out Dale's half and renamed his own company Robert F. Van Vark Construction Company. His work consisted of building family residences and commercial buildings. During this time period Bob took hours at Central College and got his B.A. degree in 1964.

Dorothy (Dottie) grew up near College Springs in southwest Iowa. Her parents were Paul Farquhar and Mary Trimble Farquhar. She graduated from Amity High School (now called South Page) in 1943. From high school she came to Pella and graduated from Central College in the spring of 1947. That same fall she started teaching physical education in the Pella Community Schools. She has taught physical education and/or English either part time or full time in the high school or the middle school most of the years since graduating from college.

Building — selling — moving! Building — selling — moving! This was the pattern of their lives for a good many years; approximately ten moves in fifteen years!

During this time Bob and Dottie had a son and a daughter. Kent L. was born in Sept., 1949. He married Susan McMains in 1973, and they have two sons: Wade Dixon and Cole Weston. Kent is a dentist in Oskaloosa, Ia. Gail Lynne was born in Sept., 1955. She married Monte D. Kirby in 1978. They live in Pella and have two sons: Tyler Cordell and Cody Drew. Gail works as a dental assistant and office secretary in Kent's Oskaloosa office. Bob and Dottie have lived all their married lives in Pella, and they believe it's truly a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

by Dottie Van Vark

VAN VARK, WILLEM

F608

Willem M. Van Vark, Jr. (1829-1914) and Marie Meulwyke Van Vark (1823-1881) and their two young children Matje and Pieter left The Netherlands in 1849 aboard the *Franziska*. While enroute their son died and was buried at sea. The parents of Willem Jr., Willem and Matje De Clerk Van Vark, and the rest of the family arrived in Pella in 1853, with their children, Jacobus, Johannes, Lena, Berdina, Mina and Martha. The children of Willem, Jr. and Maria born in this country were Jacobus, Johannes, Minnie and Willem C. Van Vark.

William C. Van Vark (1860-1949) and Bertha Van Haalen were married Apr. 22, 1881, in Pella and to them were born: Walter Albert (1883-1957); Harry S. (1885-1958); Clarence W. (1887-1951); Marie Catherine Barr (1889-1972); William (1894-1928); Dora Carson (1896-1972); Minnie Boland (1898-1944); Carrie Ries (1900-1959); Janet Clark (1902-). William (Bill) worked for 45 years at Blommers Mill as the "Fireman". Bertha loved flowers and raised many varieties of iris, her specialty. Many people came to see her garden at the corner of Marion Ave. and Jefferson. When Pella had it's own fair she was the "Horticulture Judge". William and Bertha had ten grandchildren, two of whom are deceased. Five live in Pella and they are: Vee Van Vark; Robert (Bob) C. Van Vark; Carol Carson Van Dusseldorp; Bertha Carson Vande Noord; and George Carson. Betty Ries Russell lives at Oceanside, Cal.; Bernice Barr James in Oskaloosa; and Joseph N. Clark in Chicago.

Clarence W. (1887-1951) and Hazel M. Veenstra (1851-1974) were married in Oskaloosa Nov. 27, 1912. They had two children: Carol Vee (1918-); and Robert C. (1922-).

Clarence operated the Globe Plumbing and Heating Company on East First St., and was also a member of the fire department for at least 35 years and fire chief about 19 years.

Vee attended Central and the University of Iowa and for a few years taught school, the last being in Des Moines. From there she moved to California and entered the insurance brokerage business until she retired and returned to Pella in 1984.

Robert (Bob) attended central and in 1944 enlisted in the Army Air Corps and became a bomber pilot. While stationed in Florida he married Betty J. Stevenson (1923-1974) and they had two children: Greg C. (1948-); and Diane (1954-1970). They lost Diane to leukemia. Bob took over the Globe Plumbing and Heating in 1951 upon the death of his father. He remained in this business for about 20 years. In 1973 he became plant engineer for the Pella Canning Company. Bob became a member of the fire department in 1946 until the present and has been fire chief since 1966. In 1975 Bob married Margaret Lamson who owns and operates Allen Travel Agency in Pella.

Greg married Lynn Bokelmann (1946-) on Sept. 19, 1970, in Columbus, Nebr. They returned to Pella to establish their home. Greg worked with his Dad until 1973 and Lynn, a registered nurse, worked at the Pella Community Hospital until their daughter Teresa arrived May 2, 1973. Jonathan Robert arrived May 11, 1978. Greg is also a member of the fire department and works for the Pella Community Schools; his avocation is that of a jeweler.

by Vee Van Vark

VAN VELDHUIZEN, CORNIE

F609

Cornie Van Veldhuizen was born Mar. 23, 1900, the oldest son of Henry Van Veldhuizen (April 12, 1864-Nov. 10, 1940) and Wilhemina Veldhuizen Van Veldhuizen (Oct. 5, 1875-June 21, 1961). On Feb. 1, 1923, he married Jeanette Roorda (Sept. 4, 1899) oldest daughter of Epp Roorda (Jan. 4, 1873-Mar. 11, 1964) and Cornelia Vander Vilt Roorda (Nov. 11, 1874-June 17, 1949). Jeanette was born on a farm near Harvey and when only a couple months old moved to a home on Columbus St. Her father had a grocery store in Pella. She started school at Lincoln when it was new. Cornie and Jeanette were the parents of four children: Harold Edward (June 24, 1924); Carolyn Wilma (Oct. 26, 1927); Edwin Lee (May 21, 1930-Sept. 11, 1933); Melvin Leo (Sept. 27, 1936). They farmed in Marion and Mahaska counties, moving to Cedar in 1958. After Cornie died on Sept. 12, 1974, Jeanette moved to Oskaloosa where she lived for nine years before coming to Hilltop Manor in 1983.

On Feb. 6, 1947, Harold married Wilma Martha Boender (July 3, 1925). They have four children: Darrel Lee (July 14, 1948); James Leon (May 15, 1950); Nancy June (June 9, 1953); Gregory Allen (June 27, 1961).

On Mar. 31, 1967, Darrel married Beverly Anne Beekhuizen (Jan. 19, 1948) and their two girls are Melissa Renee (Nov. 15, 1973) and LeAnne Joy (June 9, 1978). On July 7, 1973, Jim married Jeanette Elaine Russell (Mar. 21, 1953) and they live in Pennsylvania with their four children: Mary Ruth (July 25, 1974); Rachel Christine (Oct. 12, 1976); Elizabeth Grace (Feb. 24, 1979); Phillip Nathan (Oct. 22, 1980). On Sept. 9, 1978, Nancy married David Dwayne Diehl (Mar. 22, 1954) and they have two boys: Joshua David (May 25, 1979); Seth Richard (Oct. 25, 1983). On June 3, 1983, Greg married Lorraine Jean Vink (Dec. 13, 1963) and they have Jennifer Jo (Feb. 21, 1984).

Harold and Wilma have been farming near Cedar for the past 40 years.

On Jan. 15, 1948, Carolyn married Armour Richard Van Wyk (Oct. 7, 1924) and they have five children: Gary Lee (Nov. 12, 1948), (Alvin) Wesley (Nov. 5, 1950), (Nella) Ruth (Mar. 9, 1952), Arlan Duane (Mar. 9, 1954), Judy Eileen (July 25, 1957).

On Dec. 17, 1966, Gary married Jeanette Lee Toom (Apr. 8, 1950) and they have Wendy Joy (June 13, 1967) and Jason Eric (June 24, 1970). On Oct. 13, 1970, Wes married Connie Lou Wyma (Jan. 23, 1951) and they have two girls: Tricia Ann (Aug. 30, 1972) and Tammy Sue (June 5, 1978). On Sept. 18, 1970, Ruth married Ronald Alan Hulleman (Oct. 15, 1947) and they have Robin Lynn (Jan. 30, 1972) and Ryan Alan (July 31, 1984). Ryan was born in Korea and came to Ron and Ruth on Nov. 3, 1984. On June 8, 1978, Arlan married Jane Eileen Rozendaal (Febr. 14, 1956) and they have Allison Nicole (July 6, 1982) and Daron Jon (Mar. 3, 1985). On May 20, 1978, Judy married Norman Dean Simmons (July 12, 1952) and they have Christopher Lee (Apr. 16, 1981) and Sara Dawn (Nov. 16, 1986).

Armour and Carolyn farmed in Jasper and Mahaska counties for ten years before moving to Pella in 1958 when Armour started working at Rolscreen. Carolyn has been working at Rolscreen since 1966.

On Jan. 25, 1957, Melvin married Eleanor Ruth Goemaat (May 19, 1938) and they have two children: Debra Lynn (Dec. 7, 1958) and Dennis Dean (Oct. 28, 1960).

On Mar. 6, 1981, Deb married Dwain Paul McClure (July 8, 1952) and their two children are: Derek Paul (June 8, 1982) and Afton Lynn (Oct. 21, 1985). On June 8, 1979, Dennis married Judith Ann Bruxvoort (July 14, 1960) and they have three children: Amanda Jo (Dec. 13, 1979); Abby Lane (July 11, 1984); Dustin Dean (Oct. 2, 1986).

Melvin and Eleanor have been farming near Cedar for the past 30 years.

by Carolyn Van Wyk

VAN WAARDHUIZEN, ARIE W. AND MAE ELIZABETH

F610

Arie W. Van Waardhuizen, son of Arie and Anna (Vander Kamp) Van Waardhuizen, was born Sept. 4, 1897. He had three brothers: William, John, Gerrit; and five sisters: Elizabeth, Hendricka (Hattie), Kathryn, Anna, and Gertrude who died in infancy. They were born and raised in the Cordova area, which is now part of the Red Rock Lake Development.

Mae Elizabeth (Kool) Van Waardhuizen, daughter of Arie and Martha (Den Burger) Kool, was born Apr. 4, 1899. She was born near Leighton, Ia. and later lived in the Fifield area, which is now part of the Red Rock Lake Development. She had three brothers: Cornie, Andrew, and John; and two sisters: Anna, and Alice.

They were united in marriage on May 24, 1921, in Des Moines, Ia. They lived in Cordova, Ia., where they engaged in farming and sorghum making. In Mar., 1942, they moved to the Bethel neighborhood. Arie farmed until his death, Dec. 22, 1957. He passed away at the Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines, Ia. with heart problems. Mae stayed on the farm until their youngest son Ervin was married. The farm in the Bethal neighborhood was later sold. Mae moved to Pella in Feb., 1961, where she resided until her death, Nov. 18, 1977. She passed away at the Pella Community Hospital following a heart attack. Mae's hands were always busy with knitting and crocheting. Her handwork of love remains to this day in many homes.

To this union five children were born. Arie Junior was born Jan. 5, 1922. He was united in marriage to Janet Menninga on Feb. 27, 1954, and they have one daughter, Glenda Mae Van Waardhuizen. Elmer John was born July 6, 1923. He was united in marriage to Patricia Ann Rietveld on Apr. 17, 1953, and they have three children: Craig Alan Van Waardhuizen, Kathleen (Mrs. Randy) Boot, and Valerie (Mrs. Marvin) Terlouw. Dorothy

Ann was born June 21, 1925. She was united in marriage to Ralph Swank on Nov. 21, 1945, and they have three children: Sandra Kay (Mrs. Wayne) Smithhart, Harlan Ray, and Daniel Swank. Ruth Marie was born Sept. 14, 1928. She was united in marriage to Melvin L. Dykstra on Feb. 12, 1947, and they have five children: Nancy Elaine (Mrs. Neal) Russell, John Arthur, Randall Wayne, Connie Sue, and Bonnie Kay Dykstra. Ervin Dean was born Nov. 22, 1939. He was united in marriage to Carolyn Vander Pol on Feb. 10, 1961, and they have three children: Susan Kay (Mrs. Mike) Beukema, Steven Jay, and Scott Ray Van Waardhuizen. There are also 20 great-grandchildren.

by Kathy (Van Waardhuizen) Boot

VAN WAARDHUIZEN, ELMER AND PATRICIA

F611

On July 6, 1923, Elmer John Van Waardhuizen, became the second son of Arie W. and Mae Elizabeth Kool Van Waardhuizen. He had two brothers, Arie Junior and Ervin Dean; and two sisters, Dorothy Ann, Mrs. Ralph Swank of Des Moines, and Ruth Marie, Mrs. Melvin Dykstra of Otley. He was baptized and made profession of faith as an adult on June 29, 1952, at the Third Reformed Church in Pella. On Apr. 17, 1953, he was united in marriage to Patricia Ann Rietveld at the Second Reformed Church in Pella, the Reverend Edward H. Tanis officiating.

On Nov. 4, 1933, Patricia Ann Rietveld, the eldest child of Albert Ray and Cora Johanna (Ver Ploeg) Rietveld, was born at their farm home four miles east of Otley. Patricia was baptized as an infant on May 6, 1934, by Reverend Jacob Prins at the Second Reformed Church. She later made profession of faith there on Apr. 17, 1949. Patricia has one brother, John Albert Rietveld, who lives on the home place near Otley.

Elmer received his early education at Fair Oaks School, which has been torn down. The Van Waardhuizen family lived in the Cordova neighborhood which is now part of the Red Rock Lake Development.

Patricia's elementary education was at Bunker Hill School where her father and her grandfather, John D. Rietveld, also attended; this school has also been torn down. The nostalgia of country school days brings back fond memories. There were nature study hikes to the Skunk River; in the winter months students brought their sleds and went coasting on the long hill behind the woodshed; and never to be forgotten were the Christmas programs, when speeches and dialogues were given for families and friends from the neighborhood. After the program there was coffee time with homemade pies and cakes. The teacher was kept busy with teaching the 3 R's, sweeping the floor, and firing the stove to keep the building warm.

Life on the farm was busy with chores to do, gardening, and helping with field work. There was also time for visiting at the neighbor's homes. It was on such a visit that Elmer and Patricia became acquainted. On Apr. 17, 1953, they were united in marriage.

To this union three children were born: Craig, Kathleen, and Valerie. Craig Alan was born June 29, 1954. He married Carol Loann Crouse of Winslow, Ill., on Apr. 9, 1977. They have two daughters: Laura Beth born Apr. 15, 1983, and Andrea Joye born June 21, 1986. They now live in Rockwell City, Ia. Kathleen was born Nov. 24, 1956. She married Randal Eugene Boot of Pella, on Aug. 28, 1976. They have two children: Matthew Alan born Feb. 12, 1979, and Jennifer Marie born Mar. 6, 1982. They live on an acreage on Amsterdam Road, south of Pella. Valerie was born Feb. 12, 1962. She married Marvin Leroy Terlouw of Sully, on May 15, 1981. They have three sons: Benjamin John born Feb. 20, 1982, Christopher Lee and Jonathon Scott, twins born Oct. 16, 1983. They live on a farm near Killduff, Ia.

Elmer served with the United States Army, 17th Field Artillery Battalion, Fort Sill, Okla. from Dec. 28, 1948 to Dec. 23, 1949. On Jan. 25, 1950, he joined the active army reserves, where he served for 20 years. Elmer was employed by Forrest Ver Ploeg at Case Implement for five years; then he worked for Don Vos in the Allis Chalmers business for five years; then he worked for White Way Auto, now Leydens Chevrolet-Oldsmobile, for five years. He is presently employed as director of transportation at the Pella Community Schools. In his spare time he worked on lawn mowers. In the past he also worked for the Pella Historical Society, building floats for the annual Pella Tulip Festival. His present hobby is collecting antique toys.

Patricia enjoyed being a homemaker, as well as working at Meredith Publishing Company, Des Moines, Ia., the REA (now REC), office in Pella, and is now a Registered Nurse. In 1972, she graduated from the ADN nursing program at the Area Community College in Ottumwa. She is supervisor of the obstetrical department at the Pella Community Hospital. In her spare time she enjoys playing the piano and organ for her own enjoyment as well as knitting, sewing and reading.

Worshipping at the Third Reformed Church and participating in choir and Bible study groups are enjoyed by this couple. Traveling is a favorite hobby. Besides traveling in the United States, they have been to Holland and India where they attended a Hindu wedding. God has blessed them richly in their lives together.

by Patricia Van Waardhuizen

Front, l-r: Craig, Carol, and Patricia; Back, l-r: Elmer, Kathleen, Randy, Marion, and Valerie.

VAN WEELDEN, HENRY W.

F612

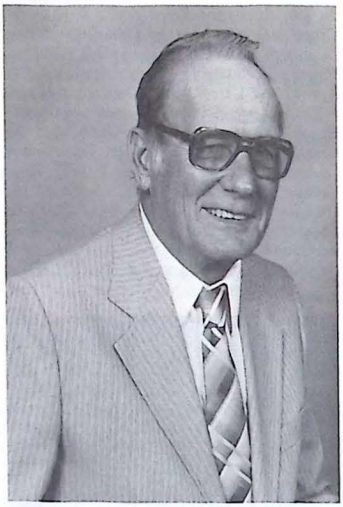
Gayley Ann Ver Meer 1986

Herman Notting and Leonard Noordhoek taken in 1945.

(Additional Van Weelden family stories will appear in Volume II.)

Sandra Van Weelden Ver Meer taken in 1985 Central College graduation

Tony Ver Meer High School graduation May 1985



Henry W. Van Weelden taken in 1980

Betty J. Notting Van Weelden taken Dec. 1986

VAN WEELDEN, RANDOL SCOTT AND KAREN DIANE (VAN WAARDHUIZEN)

F613

Karen Diane Van Waardhuizen was born Mar. 12, 1954, in Oskaloosa, Ia. Karen is the daughter of Albert Van Waardhuizen and Charlotte Raydine Adams. Karen attended school through the third grade in Otley, Ia. In 1964 her parents moved the family to California. She attended school through the sixth grade in California. She finished her education in Middle School and Public High School in Pella, Ia. In high school Karen was a member of the drill team. Karen married Randol Scott Van Weelden, Aug. 11, 1972, in the Otley Reformed Church, Otley, Ia. Randol is the son of Henry W. Van Weelden and Betty Jean Notting. Karen and Randol have three children: Mathew Scott, born Dec. 13, 1972; Katherine Ann, born Sept. 21, 1980; and William Ross, born Aug. 15, 1984. Karen started working for Van Weelden Construction, Inc. in 1973. At the present time she holds the position of Assistant Treasurer at Van Weelden Construction, Inc.

Mathew attended grade school at Webster and Middle school in Pella. In Middle School he played football, and was a member of the wrestling and track team. His favorite hobby is his horses. Mathew has won many ribbons and trophies showing his horses in the surrounding areas of Pella, the County Fair, State Fair, and AkSarBan in Omaha, Nebraska. Mathew entered Pella Public High School in the fall of 1987.

Katie started first grade at Webster School

Randol S. Van Weelden Family, Dec. 1986, L to R: Randol, Karen, Billy, Katie and Matt

in the fall of 1987. Her hobby is riding horses. She has won many ribbons and trophies showing her pony in the surrounding areas of Pella. Billy started Pre-School in Pella in the fall of 1987.

by Betty Van Weelden

VAN WILLIGEN, MAURICE AND CORA
F614

Cora and Maurice Van Willigen, taken during his service in the Navy during World War II.

Two young Dutch Frisian "meisjes", twins, stood on the deck of the *Ryndam*, steaming into New York Harbor. They had endured seasickness and were overwhelmed with homesickness. As the ship entered the harbor, sea gulls flew about, even landing on the rails, their raucous noise suddenly a comfort to the twins. "Oh, Cora," Nelly said, joyfully

The Olivier twins in their Dutch costumes at an early Tulip Time in the late 1930's (Cora and Nelly Olivier).

hugging her twin, "We're not far from home after all because our same sea gulls came with us to America!"

The twins, Cora and Nelly Olivier, were 12 years old in 1909 when they accompanied their dear Papa, Cornelis Olivier, with an older sister, Anna, and a younger brother, Harmen, to the U.S. The children had been born in Irnsum, Friesland, where their mother had died some years before when the children were very young, Harmen being only four months.

Papa Olivier was a business man in Huizem, outside the Frisian capital city, Leewarden. He owned a prosperous business, a building in which the city officials met for planning and relaxation, and where Dutch matrons gathered for social times with their young children who could play in the amusement park that went with the business. Choice liquors were served there with other Dutch delicacies; tea and chocolate were served in the garden teahouse; plays and other events were staged on the premises.

After the young mother's death, the family lived for some time with Grandmother Olivier at Jelsum, Friesland, from where they left for the new venture in America.

In Pella, the family settled in the Oak Grove Nursery neighborhood. Their education continued in the Pella schools but soon the girls began working for families in Pella. Nelly showed a natural aptitude for being a practical nurse, especially proficient at helping women in childbirth.

Cora married John Christiaan Hagens and had one child, Elmer Cornelis. Nelly married G.W. Van Arkel (1885-1941) and also had one child, Oliver LeRoy (Lee). Later, Cora married Maurice Van Willigen and together they built a Dutch-inspired home in the northern part of Pella. Nelly moved to California where she died, an elderly woman.

The only sons of Cora and Nelly have both passed away. There are three grandchildren: Jack, Betty and Ruth Hagens. There are four great grandsons.

Maurice and Cora live in their home which they call the "Zee Meeuw", the Sea Gull, so called by Nelly in rememberance of the birds which first made the twin sisters feel at home in America.

Their younger brother, Hermen, born in 1898, went to Idaho where he was overseer of a gold mine in Settlement Big Creek. He died in 1962.

Anna, the oldest of the family, married Leonard Minnekus Schakel and had three children: Wilma Betty, Minnekus, and Cornelis, all Central College graduates and all teachers.

The Olivier Twins as they were known for many years, were among those who participated in the Frisian Picnic that evolved into the future celebration of Tulip Time. They were known especially as enjoyable singers and sang duets and in quartets that delighted early celebrants of Tulip Time.

The home of Maurice and Cora is "mecca" for those interested in "being Dutch" for the Van Willigens have truly tried, with success, to preserve their Dutch heritage and share it with others.

Maurice is, in retirement, a craftsman in woods, designing and building beautiful and useful pieces of furniture. He also designs wooden models for patterns for pieces of equipment used in an industry in Des Moines by a Dutch friend, who once lived in Pella. As a young man, Maurice attended Iowa State University and also served in World War II with the U.S. Navy. He was a farmer in his youth and was employed later by the Pella City Office before he retired.

by Maurice Van Willigen

VAN WILLIGEN, SANDER ANDRIES AND AREKE (MUILENBURG)

F615

The family of Sander Andries Van Willigen, taken at their home farm in Gelderland prior to their voyage to America. Standing, l to r: Albert, Margaret, Gertrude, Wilhelmina, and Sander. Seated are the father and mother, Sander Andries and Areke Van Willigen. The small child standing in front of his father is Maurice Van Willigen, who was four at the time. Their farm was near Vuren, a small village in Gelderland.

Sander Andries (Andrew) and Areke Muilenburg Van Willigen emigrated from Vuren, Gelderland, in The Netherlands, in the year 1912. They came with their children to become farmers in the Kilduff/Reasoner/Galesburg area. Their son, Maurice, was born in Vuren, a small village on the Waal River, in 1908, and was four when the family came to America on the ship, *Nordam*. The story is told that little "Mari" became lost on board the ship and, not being able to find his mother, found a rather comfortably plump woman, a stranger, curled up into her lap and took a nap. He was eventually found, of course, and returned to the family circle of parents, three brothers and three sisters.

Sander was born in 1869 and died in 1920. His wife, Areke, was born in 1867 and died in 1925. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella, Ia.

by Maurice & Cora Van Willigen

VAN WYK, HARRY AND JOHANNA

F616

Harry Van Wyk was born in Haarlemmeer, Holland, to Willem and Treintje (Van Den Heuvel) Van Wyk on Aug. 29, 1891. When the family came from Holland, they settled first on a farm southwest of Sully in 1892. Harry grew up in the Sully-Pella area.

His wife Johanna, a daughter of Johan and Mary Horman Paltzer, was born on Apr. 17, 1896, in Pella, Ia. She grew up southwest of Pella where she attended the West Amsterdam rural school.

On Jan. 6, 1915, Harry and Johanna were united in marriage in the parsonage of the First Reformed Church where they were members all their lives.

Their first year was spent farming at Ocheyedan, Ia. In 1916 they moved back to the Pella area. Their remaining years were spent farming in the Pella, Harvey, Sully, and Fifield areas until their retirement in Apr. of 1958, when they moved into Pella, where they made their home at 904 W. 5th St. and continued to live the remainder of their lifetimes.

50th Wedding Anniversary. Johanna (Paltzer) and Harry Van Wyk

To this union three children were born: Wilma, now Mrs. Fred Maasdam; Elizabeth, now Mrs. Donald Metcalf of Mountain Home, Ark.; and Bernard of Oskaloosa.

Harry passed away May 8, 1980 and Johanna on June 14, 1983. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

by Mrs. Fred Maasdam

VAN WYK, NEAL AND HILDA

F617

Wedding Picture, 1917. Neal and Hilda Van Wyk.

Neal Van Wyk, youngest child of William (1848-1917) and Tryntje Vanden Heuvel (1853-1893) Van Wyk, was born Oct. 18, 1893, in the Sully-Galesburg area, Jasper Co., Ia., a year after his parents came from Holland. Neal had ten older brothers and an older sister. His mother died a few months after his birth. In 1902 his father married Tillie Bontekoe (De Bont) (1864-1915), a widow with five children. Three boys and two girls were born to the second marriage. The family attended the Christian Reformed Church.

Neal spent his boyhood years in the Sully-Pella area where he attended rural schools through third grade. It was not uncommon at that time for children, especially boys, to help at home as needed and attend school during the winter months. They would resume their studies where they left off, a situation difficult for both student and teacher. Neal began working out at an early age.

Hilda Lucille Grandia Van Wyk, youngest child of Leendert (1853-1917) and Artie Van Zee (1855-1903) Grandia, was born Mar. 10,

1897, near Leighton, Mahaska Co., Ia. She had five brothers and three sisters. Her grandparents came from Holland and were among the early settlers of Pella. Hilda grew up in the Leighton area, attended rural schools and Central College Academy in Pella. She left school at age 16 to care for an ailing sister. Later she worked at Dena Vander Pol's restaurant in Pella.

Neal and Hilda were married Feb. 7, 1917, at her sister's farmhome near Leighton. They began their life together on a farm southwest of Sully, where their eight older children were born in their farmhome during the following 15 years. In 1932 they moved a few miles to the Bethany Church neighborhood where they were living when the two younger children were born. They moved to the Pella area in 1937 and another move in 1941 took them to the Peoria neighborhood. The children attended the rural schools of Ironclad and Battle Ridge in Jasper Co. and Flint Ridge and Sheesley in Mahaska Co. Through the years the family attended the Bethany Reformed, Sully Reformed and Pella First Reformed Churches.

During their farming career, Neal and Hilda did general farming, supplementing their farm income with various other means. One such venture was a custom hatchery which they had set up in the cellar of their home. Another was when Neal made sorghum for his own family's use and sold the surplus. During the depression years, cornbread, sorghum, fried-down pork and gravy were regular fare on the Var Wyk table.

In 1946 they moved from the farm to Pella where the younger children attended Lincoln School and high school. Their home was located in north Pella where Neal and Hilda had purchased the area now bounded by Lincoln, West 2nd, Jefferson and Boone Streets. Neal continued his interest in farming, commuting daily to the farms. He built a small barn on his city property and kept a few milk cows and some chickens for several years. As the children grew older and the family workload lessened, Hilda devoted some of her time to making quilts. Crazy patch with railroad stitching was her speciality.

The family continued to grow in number as the children married and grandchildren were born. There had been four weddings in the family in an eight-month period following World War II. Tragedy struck when their first grandson, Vernie Van Wyk (1947-1963) was fatally injued in a tractor accident in 1963. Neal died unexpectedly of a heart attack on Oct. 6, 1964. Hilda continued to live in her home until her death from a stroke on Feb. 26, 1976. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella, Ia.

Their children and spouses: Leonard (1917) – Gretta Nieuwsma (1924-1986); Edna (1919) – Jacob Ozinga; Harold (1921) – Betty Van Roekel; Freda (1923) – Gilbert Vande Wall; Ross (1925-1982) – Irene Bloodsworth; Tressie (1927) – Arie Van Weelden; Artie (1930) – Keith Van Zee; Phyllis (1932) – Bill Lowe; Elsie (1934) – Donald Blom; and Darlene (1936) and Dick Van Zomeren. There are 36 living grandchildren and 51 great-grandchildren.

by Freda Vande Wall

VAN WYK, WILL D.

F618

Will D. Van Wyk, oldest son of Dick Van Wyk and Anna Hoksbergen Van Wyk was born on Aug. 9, 1903. On Mar. 1, 1924, he married Nellie Bruxvoort (Dec. 30, 1901-Mar. 21, 1981). They were the parents of nine children: Armour Richard (Oct. 7, 1924); Delmer Gerald (Feb. 7, 1926); Wallace Nelson (May 3, 1928-Mar. 1, 1985); Anna Mae (Apr. 29, 1929); Elvin Edwin (Aug. 17, 1930); Dennis Wayne Oct. 5, 1932; Norman Leslie Sept. 17, 1935; Gerdena Faye (Jan. 21, 1937); Nella Ruth (Mar. 28, 1942-May 6, 1942). On Jan. 15, 1948, Armour married Carolyn Wilma Van Veldhuizen (Oct. 26, 1927). Their five children are: Gary Lee (Nov. 12, 1948) married on Dec. 17, 1966 to Jeanette Lee Toom (Apr. 8, 1950) and they have Wendy Joy (June 13, 1967) and Jason Eric (June 24, 1970); (Alvin) Wesley (Nov. 5, 1950) married on Oct. 13, 1970 to Connie Lou Wyma (Jan. 23, 1951) and they have Tricia Ann (Aug. 30, 1972) and Tammy Sue (June 5, 1978); (Nella) Ruth (Mar. 9, 1952) married on Sept. 18, 1970 to Ronald Alan Hulleman (Oct. 15, 1947) and they have Robin Lynn (Jan. 30, 1972) and Ryan Alan (July 31, 1984) (adopted). Arlan Duane (Mar. 9, 1954) married on June 8, 1978, to Jane Eileen Rozendaal (Febr. 14, 1956) and they have Allison Nicole (July 6, 1982) and Daron Jon (Mar. 3, 1985); Judy Eileen (July 25, 1957) married on May 20, 1978, to Norman Dean Simmons (July 12, 1952) and they have Christopher Lee (Apr. 16, 1981) and Sara Dawn (Nov. 16, 1986).

On June 18, 1947, Delmer married Joyce Rena Kooi (Nov. 26, 1926). Their six children are: Ronald James (Oct. 17, 1948) married on Aug. 19, 1972, to Janice Kay Hodgeson (Jan. 11, 1949) and they have Jeffery Scott (Apr. 18, 1978) (adopted) and Travis Linn (Dec. 15, 1981). Doris Jean (Dec. 8, 1949) married on Sept. 4, 1970, to John Dean Van Donselaar (Apr. 12, 1948) and they have Marc Allen (Dec. 2, 1971); Douglas Kent (June 23, 1973); Bruce Calvin (July 29, 1974) and Danny James (Jan. 16, 1978); Dale Lee (Dec. 13, 1953) married on Dec. 23, 1977, to Cheri Ann Busick (Aug. 10, 1959) and they have Andrea Dawn (Dec. 28, 1978; Bryce Edwin (Jan. 16, 1956); Marvin Dean (Nov. 11, 1957) married on July 2, 1983 to Vickie Rae Van Wyk (Oct. 21, 1964) who have Dustin Dean (Oct. 20, 1984) and Tyler Paul (May 31, 1986); and Glen Allen (Feb. 12, 1962).

On July 20, 1951, Wallace married Joyce Doreen Ver Heul (July 29, 1930) and they had children: Willis Gene (Dec. 14, 1953 married on June 21, 1974, to Cynthia Sue Gifford (Mar. 11, 1955) whose children are: Amber Renee (Oct. 16, 1979); Lora Ruth (Sept. 17, 1956-July 5, 1966); Nora Jean (July 10, 1958) married on July 21, 1979, to Mark Phillip Herny (Aug. 3, 1956) and they have Nathan Mark (May 18, 1984.

On Jan. 26, 1950, Anna Mae married Herman Van Mersbergen, Jr. (Mar. 11, 1925) and their five children are: Wayne Allen (Nov. 3, 1950) married on June 12, 1973, to Marilyn June De Koning (June 4, 1951) and they have Jennifer Renee (May 14, 1977); Lisa Marie (Jan. 18, 1979) and Jason Wayne (Sept. 7, 1980); Nancy Jean (Jan. 5, 1954) married on June 22, 1985, to Marlow Harm TenNapel (July 11, 1954) and they have April Lynn (Jan. 3, 1975) and Matthew John (Apr. 17, 1977); Sharon Kay (Febr. 24, 1957) married on Dec. 27, 1982, to Timothy Ray Roose (Sept. 13, 1957); Howard Lee (Aug. 2, 1958) married on June 6, 1980, to Myra Jean Albers (Jan. 24, 1959) and they have Laura Lynn (Nov. 23, 1982) and Kristin Sue (Aug. 20, 1984); Arlene Ruth (July 25, 1964).

On Sept. 27, 1950, Elvin married Patricia Mae Van Arkel (Sept. 17, 1932) and they have five children: Linda Mae (July 28, 1951) married on July 2, 1971, to Roger Wayne Hugen (Feb. 2, 1952) and they have Rochelle Dawn (Aug. 19, 1973) and Dustin Wayne (Aug. 29, 1979); Elaine Joy (Nov. 15, 1952) married on July 30, 1971, to Duane Gene Roose (Dec. 3, 1951) who have Joshua Ryan (Aug. 3, 1971) (adopted) and Bradley Jay (Sept. 23, 1982); Edwin Dean (July 12, 1956) married on June 27, 1975, to Deanne Jean Roozeboom (July 15, 1958) and they have Julia Lynn (Jan. 22, 1976) and Travis Dean (Febr. 14, 1978); Ervin Elvin (May 6, 1962) married on July 31, 1982, to Valerie Lynn Schultz (July 23, 1963) and they have Zachery Jay (Sept. 21, 1984); Evonn Michelle (May 1, 1966) married on May 31, 1986, to Martin Todd Meyers (Feb. 18, 1964).

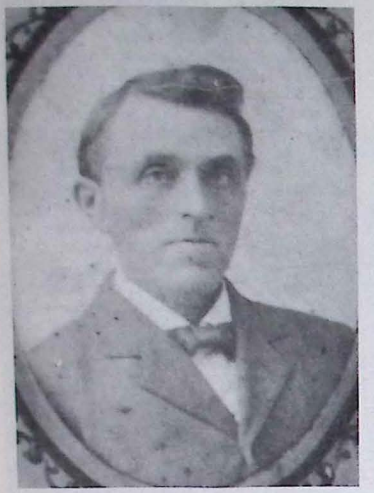
On Jan. 21, 1954 Dennis married Arvena Ruth Ver Heul (Jan. 26, 1934) and they have five boys: Dennis Allen (Sept. 12, 1955) married on May 27, 1977, to Jacqueline Kay Evers (Jan. 7, 1957) and they have Brandon Scott (May 20, 1983) and Amanda Elise (Mar. 19, 1986); Steven Craig (Oct. 24, 1958) married on June 6, 1980, to Shiela Kay Cherry (Oct. 1, 1958); David Mark (May 29, 1960); Lyle Eugene (Dec. 20, 1961) married on Oct. 11, 1986, to Kay Lynn (May 4, 1963); Stanton Jon (Jan. 13, 1971).

On Nov. 16, 1954, Norman married Marilyn Ruth Van Gorp (Jan. 28, 1936). Their six girls are: Bonnie Sue (Sept. 3, 1955) married on Oct. 11, 1974, to John Peter Verburg (May 17, 1954) and they have Abigail Jo (Sept. 1, 1975), Kimberly Sue (Sept. 13, 1978) and Mari Christine (Apr. 26, 1982); Norma Lynn (May 21, 1957) married on May 4, 1985, to David Brooks Ydeen (Aug. 30, 1953) and they have; Jennifer Lynn (Apr. 14, 1986); Karen Jean (Apr. 25, 1959) married on July 11, 1980, to Edwin Gene Spoelstra (Apr. 30, 1957) and they have Stephanie Ilene (Aug. 11, 1981), Randall Leslie (Sept. 6, 1983) and Teresa Dawn (Oct. 19, 1986); Rosa Marie (Mar. 22, 1961) married on Sept. 6, 1980, to Bernard Veenstra (Nov. 8, 1958) and they have Rebecca Marie (Dec. 31, 1982) and Rianne Mae (Jan. 28, 1986); Diane Ruth (Apr. 29, 1965) married on Apr. 14, 1984, to Robert Thomas Mitchell (Aug. 17, 1961) and they have Angela Lynn (Dec. 15, 1985); Joy Michelle (July 23, 1972.

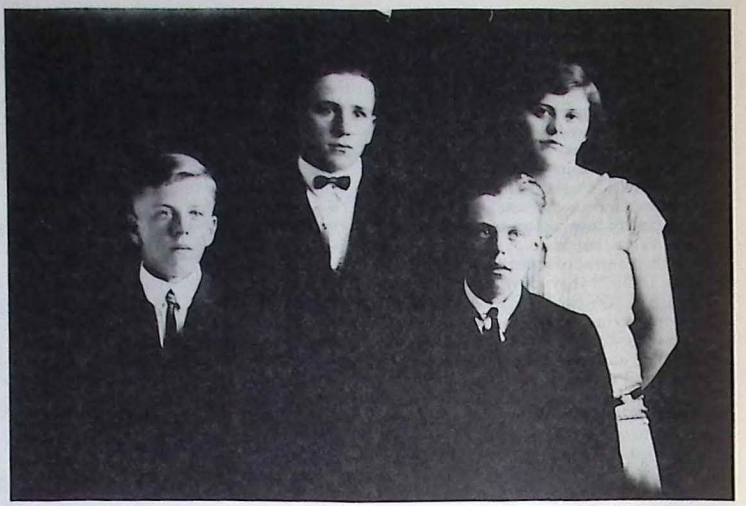
On June 12, 1956, Gerdena married Charles Ray Stursma (Dec. 26, 1934) and their three girls are: Sandra Kay (Mar. 3, 1957) married on July 21, 1976, to Bruce Merlin Vos (Apr. 8, 1954) and they have Brian Daniel (Apr. 28, 1982); Debra Sue (Aug. 18, 1962); Pamela Joy (Nov. 24, 1966).

by Carolyn Van Wyk

VAN WYK, WILLIAM
F619



William Van Wyk (1849-1917)



The children of William and Tillie Van Wyk. Left to Right: Gerrit, Ben, Joe, and Irene.

Several hundred persons living in or near Pella and surrounding communities share a common ancestry through William Van Wyk (1849-1917).

William Van Wyk (Willem Van Wijk) was born in Genderen in southern Netherlands on May 4, 1849, the fifth child of Jan. (1817-1888) and Hendrina van der Beek (1820-18?) Van Wijk. His family moved to Harlemmermeer in northern Netherlands and later William worked as a foreman on a farm in that area. He married Trijntje van den Heuvel (1853-1893), the daughter of Dirk Jan and Hendrika Bol van den Heuvel.

In June, 1892, William and Trijntje emigrated to America with their ten sons and one daughter, ranging in age from eighteen to two years. A baby boy, twin to son Will, had died at birth. They settled on a farm in the Galesburg-Sully area and attended the Christian Reformed Church. The following year, in October, another son was born. There were complications from the birth and, in December, Trijntje died on her fortieth birthday. She was buried in Hewitt cemetery west of Sully. The family later lived in the New Sharon and Pella communities.

Nine years after the death of his first wife, in June, 1902, William married Toike (Tillie) Tiechlaar Bontekoe (1864-1915). She had been widowed in the Netherlands and had come to America with her children, Peter, Teunis, Robert, Dora, and Jerry. (Their name "Bontekoe", which means spotted cow, was changed to "De Bont".) William and Tillie farmed in the Pella area and later lived in Pella. Two daughters and three sons (one set of twins) were born to them. In 1915 Tillie died of tuberculosis and was buried in Graceland Cemetery north of Pella. William and his young children continued to live in Pella until he contracted cancer. He died on May 1, 1917, and was buried beside his first wife in Hewitt cemetery on the sixty-eighth anniversary of his birth. After the break-up of the home because of the father's illness, the children were cared for in the homes of older family members.

Sons and daughter of William and Trijntje Van Wyk. Photo taken May 4, 1917, at Lanser farm home near Sully, Ia., following the funeral of William Van Wyk. The seating arrangement is according to age, beginning with the oldest. Front, l-r: John, Dick, Hendrika, Guy, and Marion. Middle, l to r: Bert, John Will, Henry and Will. Back l to r: Tenis, Harry and Neal.

In time the children married and raised families of their own. In 1983 there were over twelve hundred living descendants of William Van Wyk. There have been eleven sets of twins born in the family of William and his descendants. The children's names, spouses, etc., are (1) John (1874-1948) married in 1897 to Jacoba Kloosterman (1879-1929, three sons and one daughters. (Second marriage to Elizabeth DeWolfe (1885-1971); (2) Dick (1875-1955) married in 1902 to Anna Hoksbergen (1882-1963), six sons and four daughters; (3) Hendrika (1876-130) married in 1898 to William Lanser (1870-1960), two sons and four daughters; (4) Guy (1879-1968) married in 1901 to Gertrude Van Arkel (1885-1979), six sons and eight daughters; (5) Marion (1880-1950) married in 1909 to Anna Van Genderen (1888), three sons; (6) Bert (1882-1954) married in 1911 to Bertha Vos (1880-1967), three sons and four daughters; (7) John Will (1884-1971) married in 1913 to Ella Wyngarden (1891-1964), three sons and two daughters; (8) Henry (1886-1964) married in 1908 to Christina Mathes (1887-1969), two sons and four daughters; (9) Will (1888-1962)

married in 1910 to Florence Onthank (1890-1973), one son and two daughters; (10) Tenis (1889-1969) married in 1915 to Grace Eysink (1895), four sons and one daughters; (11) Harry (1891-1980) married in 1915 to Johanna Paltzer (1865-1983), one son and two daughters; (12) Neal (1893-1964) married in 1917 to Hilda L. Grandia (1897-1976), three sons and seven daughters. The children of William's second marriage were Irene (1904-1952) married in 1924 to Wm. H. Klein (1903-1967), one daughter; Ben (1905) married in 1926 to Erma Nelle Hennold (1908) one son and three daughters; Gerrit (1907-1979) married in 1929 to Cora Vander Leest (1909), two sons and two daughters; Joe (1907-1981) married in 1932 to Alta Van Dusseldorp (1913-1986), four sons and six daughters. Tillie, the youngest child of William and Tillie Van Wyk, died shortly after the death of her mother in 1915.

by Freda Vande Wall

VAN WYNGARDEN, JACOB

F620

Jacob Van Wyngarden, son of Henry Van Wyngarden and Cornelia Van Oosterum, was born July 31, 1895, in the province of Utrecht in The Netherlands.

He came to the United States with his parents in 1901, at the age of six years, and they settled in the Pella vicinity. He was the youngest child in a family of five and was also the youngest child on the ship from The Netherlands. The crew spoiled him by giving him the run of the ship. Such unwarranted freedom resulted in Jake climbing up the mast of the ship and was hauled down by concerned Dutch sailors — to the happiness of his parents, older brothers and sisters. His father was a dairy farmer and the family made cheese which was sold in Pella. He attended Central Academy and later went to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich.

In 1923 Jake married Julia Stursma, daughter of William and Trientje Postiema Stursma. She was born near Otley, Ia., and grew up there. He taught school in Chicago and Fulton, Ill. and then moved back to Pella where for 25 years Jake owned and operated, with his brother-in-law, Henry Van Buren, the South Pella Greenhouse, formerly known as Garden City Vegetable Growers.

He sold it and then became a carpenter and built many houses in Pella. They were very active in their church and school. They had five children: Henry married Angie Klyn; Theressa married Bert Bandstra; Cornelia (Kee) married Howard Buitenwerf; Wilma married Doyle Vande Lune; and Bernice married Gerald Kole.

Jake remained active until the time of his death of a heart attack Oct. 6, 1975. Julia then moved to Pella Manor, Hilltop Manor, and finally, the Pella Nursing Home where she died May 22, 1984.

by Theressa Bandstra

VAN ZANTE FAMILY

F621

Dieles and Dirkie (Van Beusikum) Van Zante

Dieles Van Zante was born around 1779 and in 1802 married Dirkie. She had been born in Buren, Gelderland, to Dirk Cornelius and Jenneke Stellart Van Beusikum. The couple lived in Herwijn, Gelderland, Holland.

We are told that around 1836-37, due to secret meetings Dieles had held in his home, the government took away his home, cattle, etc. As recompense, in 1850, King Wm. I of Holland gave him enough money to purchase another house. A descendant still in Holland has this original deed.

Dieles and Dirkie had 11 children, two of whom died at an early age. Four sons stayed in Holland: John, Herman, Dirk and Vliet. Five sons sailed to America: Arthur Benjamin, Gerrit, Adrian, Dieles, and Jacob. There are now many Van Zante descendants in Pella.

by Pati Van Zante

VAN ZANTE FAMILY

F622

Dieles and Pietertje (Van Zee) Van Zante

Dieles and Pietertje Van Zante were married in Holland. They with their young son Dieles, Jr. came to Pella in 1854, along with brother Gerrit and his family.

Dieles purchased and farmed land five miles south of town, east of the Elevator Road. Eight other children were born: Cornelia Marie, Dirk D., Gerrit, Dirkje, Herman, Jenneke, Dirk, and Jenny.

by Pati Van Zante

VAN ZANTE FAMILY

F623

Front, left to right: Dirk D., Cora, and Mrs. Dirk (Tryntje); Middle, l to r: Lane, Pearl, and Dieles; Back, l to r: Jake and Pete

Dirk D. and Tryntje (Colyn) Van Zante

Dirk and Tryntje lived on the Van Zante home farm and later moved to the Colyn farm one mile south of Pella on the Washboard Road. Rock quarried from the Colyn farm was used as the foundation for the State Capitol Building in Des Moines.

Their children were: the first Peter accidentally killed at the age of ten, Jacob, Dieles, Leendert (Lane), Pietertje (Pearl), Peter Marion, and Cora Mae.

by Pati Van Zante

VAN ZANTE FAMILY

F624

Peter Marion (Pete) and Jennie (Hoeksema), and Verna (Vande-Kieft) Van Zante

Pete Van Zante married Jennie Hoeksema, daughter of Enna and Anna Vander Molen Hoeksema of Pella, Feb. 6, 1919, and they were life-long residents of Pella.

Pete's love for the horseless carriage prompted him to go to auto school in Kansas City and then work as a mechanic. His dad encouraged him to start his own shop "Auto Service Company" located across the street from the depot on the corner of Main and Oskaloosa Streets, where the Sinclair Gas Station is now. The garage was in business 53 years and became a place for children to warm up, a pop break for the mailman, and a haven for regular customers enjoying the ever-ready peanut machine standing on top of the roll-top desk with pennies available. A variety of new cars were sold including Hupmobiles, Stars, Durants, Buicks, and Crosleys.

Jennie was known for her baking and sewing skills, as well as her willingness to be of help to others, particularly with chauffeuring.

Pete and Jennie had two children: Dick and Anna Mae. Mae is married to Kenneth Weber, a high school teacher in Monticello, Ia., and their two children are Gordon and Pamela.

Pete's second marriage was to Verna Vande Kieft, daughter of Gerrit and Jennie Weyers Vande Kieft from Otley, on May 12, 1951. Verna was an accomplished accordian, piano, and organ player and gave music lessons. She also has a love of cars and travelling.

They had one daughter Jeanne living in Pella. Jeanne graduated from Central College and is employed by the Van Gorp Corporation. She too has enjoyed cars and the rebuilding of them, as well as having a love for animals; particularly horses.

by Pati Van Zante

VAN ZANTE FAMILY
F625

Dick Dieles and Marjorie (Osterhout) Van Zante

Dick, son of Peter M. and Jennie Hoeksema Van Zante, was born and raised in Pella. He served in World War II servicing military aircraft (B-24) in England. Following the war Dick graduated from Iowa State University with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

He met and married Marjorie Osterhout from Des Moines. Marge was the daughter of Dave and Elsie Johnson Osterhout and also served in World War II as a WAVE. Her maternal grandparents had come from Sweden but there was Dutch ancestry on her father's side.

In 1951 Dick and Marge built a house at 620 Maple Street in Scholte Heights and have maintained it as the family home.

Over the years they have been active in many community organizations, boards and committees including, Dick: Rotary president, American Legion Commander, City Councilman, Boy Scouts, Hilltop Board, Memorial Building Board, City Zoning Commission, and was president of the Advisory Commission for formulation of Area XI School. Marge: Camp Fire Girls leader for three groups and overnight camping trainer, Hospital Board, Hospital Auxiliary Board, Hospice, and committees for MediMate, Meals on Wheels, Friends of the Library, and World Day of Prayer. Both are also active in the Baptist Church at the local, area, and regional levels.

Dick worked for the Rolscreen Company for 36 years, heading the manufacturing engineering department. Marge worked as the office secretary for seven years at the Junior High School and three years at the High School.

Three children were born: twins Karin and Arvin, and Joan. Joannie died of cancer at the age of ten. As a memorial, a camping trailer called the "PoJo" (sister Karin's nickname for Joanie) was outfitted and presented to the local Camp Fire organization.

Karin graduated from Iowa State University and lives in Tulsa, Okla., where she works as a claims adjustment supervisor for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. She continues to return to Pella annually to be a part of Tulip Time.

by Pati Van Zante

VAN ZANTE FAMILY
F626

Arvin Peter and Patricia Marie Supple Petersen Van Zante

Arvin, son of Dick and Marjorie Van Zante, was born and raised in Pella. He was graduated with honors from the University of Iowa and received a master's degree in social psychology from Duke University where he was a James B. Duke scholar. While at the University of Iowa, Arvin was active in the Peace Movement, participating in the 1969 Moratorium in Washington, D.C., and helping to organize a city-wide Prayer for Peace service in Pella that year.

In his last summer at the University, Arvin met Patricia (Pati) Supple Petersen from Des Moines, whom he married on Jan. 8, 1972. Pati is the daughter of B. Patrick Supple and Bonita Osborne Petersen and Donald Petersen. She also attended the University of Iowa and, after a 17 year layoff, completed her B.A. degree in sociology in 1986.

Arvin and Pati returned to Iowa in 1977 and have lived in Pella ever since. Currently Arvin is a senior systems analyst at Rolscreen and Pati is a family therapist working for South Central Youth and Family Counseling. Arvin also teaches computer programming for Rolscreen and Simpson College and serves on the First Baptist Church Board of Trustees. Pati helped found Hospice of Pella, and is active in the Pella Historical Society.

Arvin and Pati have two children, Bonita Elizabeth (Libby) and Peter Wade. Libby was born in Durham, N.C. in 1976, and is named after her maternal grandmother and great-great grandmother. Peter was born in 1977 in Pella. He is named after his great-grandfather Peter M. Van Zante and Pati's godfather and great uncle B. Wade Riley and is the fifth generation of Van Zantes to live in Pella. Both have their mother's dark brown eyes and are frequently asked "Where did you get those dark eyes?" Pati taught them to answer, "It's the Irish in me."

by Pati Van Zante

Left to right: Libby, Pati, Arvin, Marge, Dick, Karin, and Peter Van Zante

VAN ZANTE, ANDREW W.
F627

25th Wedding Anniversary of Andrew and Jennie Van Zante, Feb. 25, 1946. Front, l-r, Jennie and Andrew; Back, l-r, Marjorie, Elizabeth, Lenora.

Grandparents of Andrew were Adrianas and Neeltje Exaltus Van Zante, both born in Herwynen, The Netherlands. His parents, Willem Van Zante, born Jan. 16, 1856 and Elizabeth Blom Van Zante, born Oct. 4, 1859, emigrated to America as bride and groom, landing in the Pella vicinity in October 1881. Elizabeth had her 22nd birthday on the boat. Born to this union were five sons and one daughter: Andrew, Tunis, Anthony, Gradus, Gertrude, and William. Andrew and Tunis were World War I veterans, having served in France.

Andrew W. Van Zante, born Apr. 8, 1887, married Jennie Lautenbach on Feb. 25, 1921, daughter of Lambert and Elizabeth Toom Lautenbach, born Sept. 24, 1894. She died Apr. 3, 1977. Andrew died Feb. 6, 1962. He received his education in the North Porterville School. Jennie received her education in the East Amsterdam School. They were members of the First Reformed Church in Pella. To this union three daughters were born: Elizabeth Mae, Lenora Wilma, and Marjorie Ruth.

Elizabeth Mae, born Jan. 16, 1923, married Lester William Steenhoek on Jan. 16, 1946, born May 28, 1914, son of Hugo and Johanna

Vander Streek Steenhoek. Lester died Apr. 28, 1965. Elizabeth and Lester received their education, along with her sisters Lenora and Marjorie, in the Battle Ridge School. Born to this union was one son, Paul Alan Steenhoek, Sept. 10, 1952. Paul married Sheryl Van Dyke June 5, 1982. Sheryl, born June 15, 1960, is the daughter of Robert and Evelyn Dykstra Van Dyke of Prairie City. To this union were born: Shannon Marie, Apr. 14, 1983; Jeffery Alan, Feb. 1, 1985; and Sara Lynn, Jan. 28, 1987. Paul and Sheryl are the owners of the Steenhoek Bootery. Sheryl is also a part-time teacher's aide in the Pella Community Schools. They are both graduates of Central College. Paul also attended Battle Ridge School.

Lester and Elizabeth were farmers until Jan. 1966, when she with her son Paul moved to Pella after the death of her husband. Elizabeth married Hopkins Mitchel July 29, 1978. He is the son of O.L. and Mary Russell Mitchel. Hopkins served in the Army from Apr. 1942 to Dec. 1945 during World War II. He fought in the China, Burma, and India Theatre along the Stillwell Road, arriving home Christmas Day, 1945. After his return and recovery from a malaria attack, he got a job at the Farmers Union Marketing Association.

He worked there for 16 years and then 23 years at Vermeer Manufacturing Hopkins received his education in the Pella Schools. They are members of the First Reformed Church.

Lenora Wilma, Mrs. Henry Boertje of Sully, born May 9, 1928, was married Dec. 5, 1946. They are the parents of three children: John Henry, Nancy Lenora, and Larry Douglas.

Marjorie Ruth, Mrs. Robert Mc Nee of Cedar Rapids, born June 1, 1931, was married Aug. 21, 1982. She is the parent of five children from a previous marriage: Rick, Connie, James, Terry, and Julie.

by Elizabeth Mitchel

VAN ZANTE, ANTONIE

F628

My grandfather, Antonie Van Zante, was born in The Netherlands on Apr. 10, 1846, and died Feb. 13, 1920. At the age of seven years, in 1853, he came to America with his family. Antonie's siblings were: Dieles (Oct. 21, 1840-no death date); Dirke (Jan. 5, 1843-no death date); Maajike (June 22, 1844-June 16, 1876); Geertje (May 22, 1848-no death date); Janake (Oct. 22, 1849-June 20, 1853); Govert (Jan. 24, 1851-Jan. 26, 1851); Govert (Feb. 1852-June 23, 1853); Kornelius (June 8, 1855-June, 1908); Anneka Marie (March 13, 1857-no death date); Arthur Benjamin (Feb. 28, 1859-no death date); Jantje (June 15, 1862-June 24, 1862); and Govert Jon (Oct. 15, 1853-no death date).

On Oct. 17, 1871, Antonie married Elizabeth Blom. He spent all but the first seven yeras of his life in Marion Co. retiring from the farm in 1909. Elizabeth Blom was born in The Netherlands Dec. 24, 1852, later coming to America with her parents. To this union were born several children. My father Carel (May 4, 1872-Sept. 29, 1927), married

Children of Anthoney Van Zante are: Front, l-r: Dick, Lizzie, Dora, Mary, and John; Back, l-r: Everett, Aart, Dielos, Charley, and Will. They always drove six miles to church on Sunday forenoon to the First Reformed Church in Pella and in the afternoon to church and Sunday School. The young folks often went to singing and question school in the various school houses in the neighborhood.

Pauline Roorda; Aart Bentum (Aug. 11, 1873, death same day); Aart Bentum (July 11, 1874-May 31, 1952) married Charlotte Faithness Bell; Marrie (Jan. 10, 1876-Oct. 17, 1949) married Conrad De Cook; Evert (Jan. 9, 1878-June 23, 1941) married Teuntje Van Dusseldorp; Elizabeth (July 28, 1879-May 14, 1949) married Milt Adair; Dielus Willem (Jan. 29, 1882 died same day) Dielus (June 13, 1884-Feb. 1, 1962) married Lena Steinkamp and later Dora Den Hartog; William (Apr. 9, 1886-June 26, 1961) married Lena Grandia; Govert John (Sept. 3, 1888-Apr. 20, 1962) married Eva Cory; Dick Cornelius (June 8, 1890-Oct. 1981) married Corine Lee, later Francis Shipman; Fredy (Apr. 13, 1892-died same day) and Dora (April 7, 1897-Mar. 17, 1976) married Gerrit Hasselman.

In 1889 Antonie moved to the Bittling farm six miles southeast of Pella. The farm now belongs to Harold Witzenberg, and Henry Lee Nunnikhoven now lives on it. In 1889 he raised ten acres of potatoes. They piled them on the ground, covered them with straw and dirt. In February they dug them out and hauled them to Pella by the wagonload. They threshed 1200 bu. of wheat, 86 bu. of rye, and some oats. Antonie passed away Feb. 25, 1920. His funeral at Wormhoudt and Plette cost $301.00, Chronicle $3.00, Weekblad $5.00, Booster Press $1.00, Jaarsma Bakery $6.95, Pella Motor Co. $47.80. The total came to $524.00. His wife Elizabeth Blom passed away Oct. 29, 1922. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery east of Pella, Ia.

by Earl Van Zante

VAN ZANTE, CHARLES

F629

Charles and Pauline (Roorda) Van Zante

Charles Van Zante was born May 4, 1872, and died Sept. 29, 1927. His parents were Antoine Van Zante and Elizabeth Blom. He married Pauline Roorda Feb. 1, 1899. They lived on a farm near Eddyville for six years. Then they bought the Roorda home place seven miles southeast of Pella on the Marion-Mahaska county line. Charlie farmed all of his life. He served on the election board for several years, sometimes counting votes most of the night; also on the school board.

To this union seven children were born. Carl Anthonie (1900-1970) went to school in Ames. He died during the flu epidemic. Bertha Annette was born in 1901. She graduated from Central Academy in Pella and attended Penn College in Oskaloosa. She taught in several schools in Mahaska, Marion, and Jasper Counties, retiring in 1965. She had taught for 42 years. Elizabeth Mae (1903-1981) went to Pella High School. She taught school at South Porterville in Marion

Co. She married Lewis Bartlema in 1928. They spent their married life on a farm near Olivet. To this couple were born five children. Carl Lewis, born 1933, is married and has six boys and one girl. He lives in El Paso, Tex. Harold Shuard was born in 1931 and died in 1935. Lena May, born 1937, married Levite Hansen and they have two daughters. Marjorie Ann, born 1940, married Michael Pregon and they have one boy and three girls. Shirley Jean, born 1948, married Ron Wisse and they have one boy and one girl. Isaac attended Pella High School. He married Mildred Stringfellow in 1928. He farmed near the home place, later moving to the Howard Stringfellow place near Rose Hill. They had four children: Doris Mae, born 1930, married Vincent Becker and they have two sons; Lois Ione, born 1931, married Roy Hess and they have a son and daughter; Alice, born in 1934, married Sam Kool and they have three sons; Ralph Howard, born in 1941, is married and has three children, two boys and one girl. A set of twins was born in 1909 — Corolin Lily and Catherine Rose. One girl died at birth and the other girl lived one month. Earl was born June 16, 1915, and graduated from Pella High School.

by Earl Van Zante

VAN ZANTE, WILLIAM AND ELIZABETH (BLOM)

F630

William Van Zante was born on Jan. 16, 1856, in Herwynen, The Netherlands. His wife Elizabeth Blom was also born in Herwynen on Oct. 4, 1859. Her parents were Tunis and Gertrude Klop Blom. She was raised by her stepmother Hendrika Vanden Berg Blom. Soon after their marriage in June of 1881 they emigrated to America arriving in the Pella area in Oct., 1881. They spent the remainder of their years in the Pella community. Their six children were raised on the family farm and attended the North Porterville School. A log cabin was their home before building a house in 1903. A bountiful orchard of apple, pear, cherry, and peach trees supplied the family plus surplus for sale.

William Van Zante died Dec. 12, 1926, and Elizabeth died June 1, 1957. They are buried in the Portergrove Cemetery as are William's parents Adrianus Van Zante (1822-1895) and Neeltje (Exaltus) Van Zante (1822-1899).

William and Elizabeth's children were: Andrew W. Van Zante (Apr. 8, 1887-Feb. 6, 1962); Teunis W. Van Zante (Dec. 22, 1889-July 14, 1976); Anthony W. Van Zante (May 25, 1892-Mar. 12, 1978); Gradus W. Van Zante (Jan. 5, 1895-Sept. 6, 1974); Gertrude Van Zante (Apr. 22, 1897-Nov. 25, 1981); and Will W. Van Zante (Apr. 25, 1900-Nov. 5, 1981).

Mr. and Mrs. Teunis Van Zante, Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Van Zante, and Mr. and Mrs. Will Van Zante all observed their 50th wedding anniversaries.

Andrew W. Van Zante married Jennie Lautenbach (1894-1977) on Feb. 25, 1921. They had three daughters: Elizabeth (Jan. 16, 1923); Lenora (May 9, 1928); and Marjorie (June 1, 1931).

Elizabeth married Lester Steenhoek (1914-1965). They have one son, Paul. In 1978 Elizabeth married Hopkins Mitchell.

Lenora married Henry Boertje (1922-). Their children are: John Henry; Nancy Lenora; and Larry Douglas.

Marjorie married James Lowell Ryan (1926-). Their children are : Rick Lee; Connie Marie Kimm; James Lowell; Terry Lynn Layher; and Julia. Marjorie married Robert McMee in 1982.

Teunis Van Zante married Sarah Lautenbach (1896-) on Jan. 7, 1925. (She and Jennie were sisters). Their children were: Lawrence (Jan. 9, 1926); William (May 20, 1928); Dorothy (May 8, 1931); and Robert (july 2, 1935).

Lawrence married Margaret De Cook (1925-). Their children are: Charles Lee; Linda Kay Kilpatrick; David Wayne; and Dennis Wayne.

William married Louise Van Gorp (1928-). Their children are Craig Allen and Carol Ann.

Dorothy married Willis Vander Voort (1923-1979). Their children are: Michael; James; and Peggy. Dorothy married Donald Flugge in 1983.

Robert married Tomiko Asano (1933-) of Tokyo, Japan. Their children are: Peggy (1959-1985); Nancy; and Robert.

Anthony W. Van Zante married Wilhelmina Pipple (1893-1976), on Feb. 19, 1920. Their only daughter Wilma Faye (Dec. 28, 1920) married Gerrit Slykhuis (1921-).

Gradus Van Zante married Reda Martin (1901-) on Nov. 8, 1928. Their only daughter, Helen (Feb. 13, 1933), married Donald Boertje (1924-). Their children are Carlyn Wei and Roger.

Gertrude Van Zante married Francis Huyser (1887-1975), on Dec. 14, 1939.

Will W. Van Zante married Dora Esther Van Zee (1902-1981), on Dec. 11, 1924. Their children are Glenn (Mar. 7, 1934), and Louise (June 19, 1936). Glenn married Beverly Gearhart (1937-). Their children are LeAnn; Bret; Cherie; and Bill. Louise has been married to Robert Blair and Robert Mundy and has one daughter Cindy Mundy. She married Roy Atkinson in 1974.

At the time of this writing in Jan., 1987 there are only two surviving spouses of the six Van Zante children. They are Teunis' wife Sarah, age 90, who is in the Pella Nursing Home and Gradus' wife, Reda, age 85, who is a resident of Hilltop Manor.

by Helen Boertje

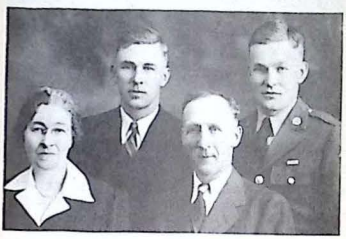
This picture was taken in 1917 before Teunis and Andrew left for World War I. Front, l-r: William, Elizabeth, and William; middle; l-r: Gradus, Gertrude, and Teunis; back: Anthony, and Andrew.

VAN ZEE FAMILY

F631

Gerrit P. and Aaltje (DeKock) Van Zee.

The children of Gerrit P. and Aaltje Van Zee about 1925. Front: Jennie, Gerrit C., Nettie, and Alice; Middle: Pete, Delia, and Marie; Back: John, Tone, and Hattie.



The Gerrit C. and Hattie Van Zee family about 1942. Front: Hattie, and Gerrit C., Back: Alvin, and Lawrence.

Pieter Van Zee was born in The Netherlands on Aug. 4, 1820. He died Feb. 19, 1899. His wife Pieternella (De Bruin) was born in The Netherlands on Oct. 26, 1820. She died on Oct. 20, 1890. Both are buried in the Portergrove Cemetery south of Pella. They were married in The Netherlands and came to America by ship in 1854. They bought a farm south of Pella in Sec. 22. According to the 1922 Pella History Book, the children who came to America with their parents were Neelje, Gerrit P., Krijin, Cornelis, Maria and Cornelis.

Gerrit P. Van Zee was born Apr. 28, 1846, in The Netherlands. He came to America with his family when he was eight years old. He married Aaltje De Kock on Jan. 17, 1873. She was born June 19, 1855. Their 11 children were born on the farm they bought north of Pella in Sec. 28. Their children were, Jennie (1875-1960), Peter A. (1877-1958), Nettie (1879-1960), Hattie (1881-1947), Marie (1883-1959), John H. (1885-1955), Alice (1888-1967), Gerrit C. (1890-1963), Antonia A. (1892-1964), Delia (1895-1976) and Elizabeth (1897-1898). Gerrit was known as G.P. He lived with his children after the death of his wife on June 27, 1913. Gerrit P. died on Aug. 7, 1924. Aaltje and Gerrit are buried in Graceland Cemetery.

Gerrit C. Van Zee was the eighth child of Gerrit P. and Aaltje Van Zee. He was born Feb. 16, 1890. He attended Bell School. On Feb. 26, 1913, he married Hattie Hoksbergen, the daughter of Lambert and Ebbie (Byman) Hoksbergen. Hattie was born Aug. 22, 1889. Gerrit C. and Hattie bought the west 80 acres of his father's farm. They had two children, Alvin G. born Apr. 20, 1914, and Lawrence E. born Nov. 29, 1917. Lawrence served in World War II and was killed in action on July 24, 1944, on Tinian Island in the Central Pacific. In 1918 Gerrit bought his first car, a Model T. The man who sold him the car taught him how to drive. The family planted an orchard and had a large garden. Hattie enjoyed her flower garden. Gerrit C. died June 17, 1963. Hattie died Nov. 19, 1972. Lawrence and his parents are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Alvin attended Battle Ridge School and began farming on the Blanke farm two miles west of Pella. After living there three years he married Minnie Wassink on June 22, 1944. She was born Mar. 31, 1916, the daughter of John H. and Cornelia (Vande Kieft) Wassink. Alvin and Minnie moved to the home place in 1948. They have four children: Florence born in 1945; Nancy born in 1947; Arvan born in 1951; and Margery born in 1954. Their children attended the Christian Schools in Pella. Alvin and Minnie have 13 grandchildren.

Florence married Harold Meinders in 1968. They have six children: Glenn; David; James; Calvin; and twins, Marsha and Michelle.

Nancy married Terry Van Steenis in 1973. They have four children: Marla; Lora; Kathy; and Sandy.

Arvan married Betty Fopma in 1974. They have two children: Merlin and Julie.

Margery married David De Graaf in 1977. They have one daughter Jana.

Alvin and Minnie are living on the family farm which has been in the Van Zee family since 1896. They are interested in their family and friends, the church, Christian education, nature and soil conservation. They wish to express their gratitude to God for the privilege of living in this country where they have freedom of worship.

by Minnie Van Zee

Gerrit and Hattie Van Zee's 50th Wedding Anniversary, Feb. 26, 1963. Front: Margery, Hattie, and Gerrit C.; Back: Minnie, Florence, Nancy, Alvin, and Arvan.

VAN ZEE FAMILY

F632

Anthony K. and Junella Van Zee

Anthony K. Van Zee

Anthony K. and Junella Van Houweling Van Zee reside on the first floor of the Pella Manor. Until 1971, they lived on a 54 acre farm one and one-half miles east of Pella on the New Sharon Road. Anthony, more familiarly known as Tone or A.K., was born in 1900 on a farm east of Otley. He was the third of ten children (seven boys, three girls) born to Koenraad and Jennie Vander Wilt Van Zee. His grandparents were Antonio Martinus and Minnie Van Dusseldorp Van Zee, and Gerrit and Jennie Stam Vander Wilt.

When Tone was two, his parents moved to a farm north of Leighton; he attended Black Oak #6 School for some time but later went to the Otley Rural School when his parents returned to this area of Marion Co. Tone, like many young men of his day, dropped out of school after the seventh grade to work on his father's farm. When he turned nineteen, he took his first off-the-farm job with Van Roekel Coal and Feed. He later worked for Farmers' Co-op, hauling feed, hogs, and cattle for Co-op managers Case Dieleman and Andrew Van Drimmelin.

On Feb. 14, 1928, Tone married Junella Van Houweling, the daughter of Adrian (Jim) and Tonetta Ver Meer Van Houweling. Junella, an only child, was born in 1904, four miles northwest of Pella. Her folks moved to the farm east of Pella when she was one and one-half years of age. She lived in that white clapboard farmhouse for 66 years, moving to Pella Manor in 1971 when the Hubert Steenhoeks bought their home. (Two years later Vermeer Manufacturing bought the farm for plant expansion.)

Junella's grandparents were Gysbert and Nellie De Jong Van Houweling, and Gerrit and Hattie De Bruin Ver Meer. Junella attended Plain View School and graduated from Pella High School in 1921. She vividly recalls walking the two and one-half miles to high school. Following graduation, she assisted neighbors and relatives in child care and domestic duties such as sewing and meal preparation.

Tone and Junella were married in the Van Houweling farm home on 1928; they began farming with two Percheron horses. They milked several cows for the cream and butter check, raised hogs (which they sold for three cents a pound in the early 1930's) and chickens. Tone supplemented the family income by working for Harry De Jong and Baas Andeweg's Transfer Company. Three children were born to the couple: Dr. Gene, born 1929; Helen (Mrs. Case Vande Ree), born 1931; and Ronald, born in 1944. Gene and Helen reside in Pella, while Ron lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., where he owns and operates the Diamond Drilling Corporation. Each of the children have three children. The nine grandchildren have given the Van Zee's 11 great-grandchildren.

Back in the early 1930's, when hogs were selling for three cents per pound, Tone promised his children a round-the-world trip when the price of hogs hit 12 cents per pound. His promise was fulfilled, in part, when he took two of his children and their spouses to Europe in 1976. Tone and Junella were thrilled to travel through The Netherlands and visit Herwijin, the birthplace of so many of Tone's ancestors. The Van Zees also invited their children and grandchildren to accompany them to Phoenix in 1978, where the family enjoyed a great week together.

Still very active, Tone awaits the coming of spring and the planting of his garden. His summer is reserved for lawn mowing, yard care, and bowling. Junella, an avid quilter, has hand-made piece quilts for her nine grandchildren. Tone and Junella are members of the First Christian Reformed Church, where Junella's parents and grandparents had been members. In fact, five generations of Junella's family have been baptized in Pella I. For many years, Tone served on the Building Committee of the church and has witnessed many additions and alterations in the church and parsonage.

by Mr. and Mrs. A.K. Van Zee

VAN ZEE, ALBERT A. AND MATILDA (JABAAI)

F633

Albert A. and Matilda Van Zee

Albert was the eighth and youngest child of Aart Van Zee and Pieternella Starkenburg Van Zee. He was born Aug. 8, 1914, at the farm home south of Otley, Ia. and attended Liberty Corner Grade School. His father died on Mar. 31, 1941, and his mother in Apr., 1939. His brothers and sisters were: Antonie M.; Bert; Minty; Marie; Jennie; William; and Henry and Alice, twins.

Matilda D. Jabaai was born on Mar. 4, 1919. Her parents were Cornelius Jabaai, son of Leonard and Tillie De Jong Jabaai, and Wilhemina (Minnie) Den Hartog. Early years were in Marion and Jasper Co., where she attended grade school and then graduated from Prairie City High School in 1936.

Matilda then took a 10-week normal training course at William Penn College. She taught country schools: Pleasant Ridge in Red Rock Township and Summit in Summit Township, both in Marion Co. She had room and board at a home nearby, walked dirt roads which were sometimes very muddy, and sometimes filled with snow banks. In those days the teachers carried in all their own coal, emptied the ashes, and shoveled snow to the outdoor toilet. There was no electricity, just a kerosene lamp, and an old organ to pump for singing. To put on a program was a lot of extra work. She'd borrow sheets to use as stage curtains, and parents would bring gas lanterns for lights. Pie suppers were great fun.

On June 4, 1942, Albert and Matilda were married at the farm home of her parents near Prairie City, by Rev. Edward Huibregtse. They have lived all their married life in Pella, with the exception of about one year in 1949, when they lived in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas.

Albert worked as a farm hand, also did feed grinding for Forrest Ver Ploeg, and worked at Vogelaar's Hardware. In 1944 he started with Pella Implement Store, working for Henry Klein and De Ronde. He became a machinery salesman and sold many Farmall tractors and other machines in the surrounding area. He also knew where to stop when it was coffee time. He retired after having worked there 33 years. After this he did some part-time jobs at Ring-O-Matic and also in maintenance at Central College.

Matilda worked at Pella Community Hospital in the dietary department, was sales clerk at Lee's Variety, and for eleven years worked in school food service at Pella Community Schools.

Albert and Matilda are members of the First Christian Reformed Church.

Two daughters were added to the family. Judith Ann was born Mar. 6, 1947, and Lorna Kay on Jan. 25, 1951.

Judy married Jerry Nikkel on Aug. 11, 1966. They have three sons: Jeff; Joel; and Jason.

Lorna married Dennis J. Vos on Nov. 28, 1969. They have one son, Ryan.

by Albert A. Van Zee

VAN ZEE, DICK AND MARGARET (VANDE GAARDE)

F634

Dick and Margaret (Vande Gaarde) Van Zee.

Dick J. Van Zee was born Feb. 29, 1892, on a farm northwest of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood. He was the fourth child of J.H.P. and Byke (Bensink) Van Zee. He had five brothers and five sisters. As a baby he had a very bad case of eczema. His parents took him to many doctors and finally when he was three years old, a doctor gave his mother some salve to put on it. The eczema disappeared, but then he developed asthma which he had all his life.

I remember him telling that they seldom got to go places with their parents. When they did they were so happy that they would get dressed and go sit on a chair until their parents were ready to leave.

He attended the Battle Ridge country school with his brothers and sisters but did not graduate from the eighth grade because he was needed at home to work.

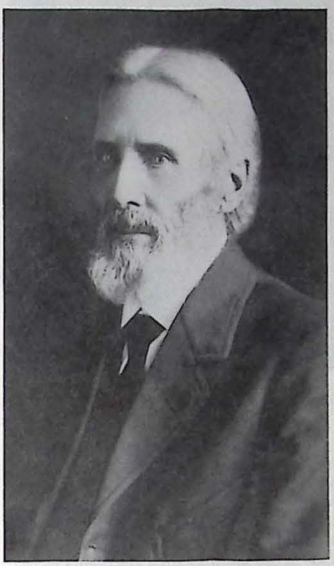
On Feb. 21, 1917, Dick married Margaret Vande Gaarde, daughter of Gerrit and Sarah (Jelsma) Vande Gaarde. They started farming on a farm next to his parents. His father owned the farm.

Four children were born to them: Gerald J., Apr. 30, 1918; Betty, Oct. 14, 1919; Mildred, Sept. 13, 1922; and Marvin M., Nov. 2, 1925. Gerald and Betty often walked over to Grandma Van Zee's, a short distance away. When Mildred was six months old, they moved west of Pella to a farm that belonged to Margaret's mother. Marvin was born there. The children all attended Silver Grove School. Margaret's mother died in 1939 and in 1940 Dick and Margaret bought the farm. In Jan., 1955, they retired and moved to 506 Franklin St. in Pella, Ia. Dick died on Oct. 27, 1963, and Margaret died May 3, 1965.

by Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut

VAN ZEE, GERRIT S.

F635



Gerrit S. Van Zee was 5 years old when he came to America in 1847.

Arie G. and Johanna (Boat) Van Zee. Their Mar. 1, 1898, wedding picture.

Frederik Van Zee was born in 1695. His ancestors had gone to The Netherlands from England between 1600 and 1700. Their coat of arms was a double eagle on a background of gold. He married Engeltje Maria Rooza, who was born in 1693. Her ancestors came from Spain and their coat of arms was three red roses.

Their son, Govert, was born in 1728. He married Jenneke De Fokert who was born in 1730. Her ancestors were driven from Spain for religious cause in 1522. Their coat of arms was an hour glass enclosed in a red frame and to each side was a black bird on a green background.

Engle Van Zee was born to Govert and Jenneke in 1775, in Herwijnen, Province of Gelderland, The Netherlands. He died in 1868 at the age of 93 years. When he was about 70 years old he wrote a chronology of the Van Zee family. He was married to Engeltje Bijl who was born in 1777. They had a daughter, Judith (1820-1909), who married Stefanus Van Zee (1817-1905). His parents were Garrit and Cornelia Marie (De Kock) Van Zee. The mother's family came from France and their coat of arms was a double V.

Stefanus (a.k.a. Steven), his wife Judith and their two sons, Gerrit S. and Engle, were among the first arrivals of the Hollanders in America to settle in Pella. They sailed for America on the *Pieter Floris*, which landed in America on July 8, 1847, after an eventful voyage of 54 days. Gerrit, born on Apr. 3, 1842, in Herwijnen, The Netherlands, was then five years old. After many hardships in an overland journey, Steven and his family along with other families, came to Marion Co., Ia. Steven worked as a farm hand for several years until he owned his own farm about two miles south of Pella. In 1900 he retired to Pella.

Gerrit S., the son of Steven and Judith, became a very successful farmer and remained living on the farm until he retired due to advancing age. He died in 1934. On March 1, 1865, he married Dirkje Van Zante (1843-1904). Seven children were born to this union. They were: Stephen G. (1867-1930) married to Jane Van Roekel; Aart B. (1869-1912) married to Elizabeth De Kock; Arie G. (1870-1948) married to Johanna Boat; Dieles G. (1872-1960) married to Marie Wiers; Julia (1874-1946) married to Adam P. Hasselman; Marinus (1876-1911) and Marie (1881-1919). The two youngest children never married. The oldest of these children and his family lived in So. Dak. while the other families remained in the Pella and Oskaloosa area. However, many of the descendants are widely scattered.

The third oldest of the children, Arie, continued to farm until March of 1911 when he and his family moved to 809 East Second Street in Pella. He then worked at the Garden City Feeder Company and at one time was sent to Canada to rebuild some machinery there.

In 1913, Arie and Aart Van Roekel bought some property at the northwest corner of the intersection of East First and Oskaloosa Streets. Included was a three-story warehouse built with wooden pegs, which had been used by the previous owners, Snow and Huber, in their farm-related business. The new owners established their own business to be known as Van Zee & Van Roekel, dealers in seed and feed, coal, building materials, agricultural implements, stoves, oil, paint and varnish. Arie's teenage son, Ben, worked at unloading coal and barrels of salt. The youngest daughter, Jean, recalls having to take piano lessons in payment for a winter supply of coal when the customer could not pay the bill.

Arie sold his share of the business to Aart Van Roekel about 1920. At that time he built a new home for the family at 600 Main Street and he and Johanna spent the rest of their lives in retirement there.

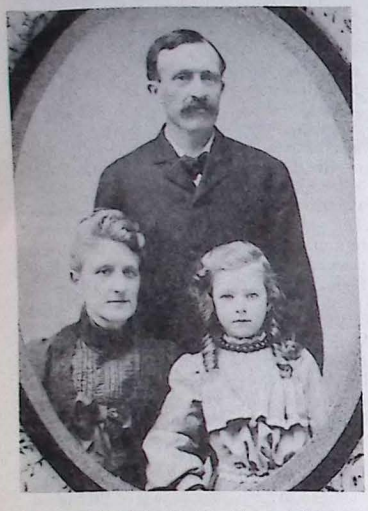
Arie and Johanna had four children: Ben G. Van Zee (born 1889) is married to Agnes Fitzgerald and lives in Minneapolis, Minn.;

Artie (1901-1968) was married to David Den Hartog; Junella (1903-1982) was married to Clarence Bogaard; and Jean (born 1910) was married to Cornelius Muyskens. Of these children, Artie and David Den Hartog had a daughter, Beverly (born 1928) who is married to Francis Furcht. They live in Pella and have three daughters. Jean and Cornelius Muyskens had five children. After Cornelius died in 1958, Jean and children moved to Pella where she now resides.

by Jean Van Zee Muyskens

VAN ZEE, JOHN ROLAND AND JENNEKE

F636



Mr. and Mrs. John R. Van Zee and daughter, Mattie.

John Roland Van Zee was the eldest son of Martinus and Wilhelmina Van Dusseldorp Van Zee. He came from Holland to America in 1889. He married, on Feb. 4, 1892, to Jenneke Van Zee at the First Christian Reformed Church. After their marriage they farmed in the Porterville area. They had one child, Mattie, born 1897. Jenneke died Oct. 18, 1908, at the age of fifty.

John remarried, moved to California for three years and returned to Pella. He built homes on 1008, 1110, and 1112 Franklin Street.

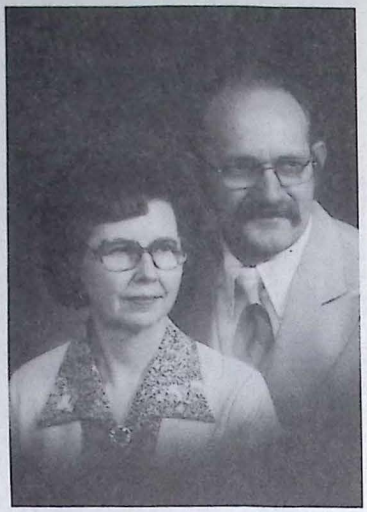
They were members of the First Christian Reformed Church where John was an elder for many years.

John and both of his wives are buried in Porterville Cemetery. He lived to be almost eighty-three years of age.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg

VAN ZEE, MARION AND MARY LOIS

F637



Marion and Mary Lois Van Zee

Marion and Mary Lois Van Zee have lived in the Pella vicinity all their lives. We have always called Pella our home town. Marion was born in 1931 about 1½ miles west of Pella to Gerrit F. Van Zee and Maria Dorthea Valster Van Zee. Gerrit came to America in 1900 at the age of 14 from Herynen, Gelderland, Holland. They farmed west of Pella for a number of years, and then moved to the Crookham Bottom about four miles northeast of Leighton. Gerrit was blind for several years before his death in 1943 at the age of 57. Maria or Marie, as she was called, was born in Hendrick, Ambacht, the Netherlands, and came to America in or about 1908. Gerrit and Maria had seven children of whom Marion was the youngest. Maria passed away in 1959 at the age of 68. Her home was in Pella, at 608 University, at the time of her death.

Mary Lois Van Vark Van Zee was born in 1932, near Taintor, Iowa (about 12 miles northeast of Pella) to Charles Van Vark and Elizabeth Duinink Van Vark. Charles and Elizabeth and their parents were born in the Pella area, but both of their grandparents, the Monsters and the Van Gorps, came from Holland. Charles and Elizabeth farmed for 44 years two miles north of Peoria, Iowa, and now reside in Pella at 1339 Broadway. They have five children of which Mary Lois is the oldest.

Marion and Mary Lois both received their education, primary through eighth grade in a country school, Mary Lois at Fleming School, 2½ miles north of Peoria, Iowa. Marion went to Centennial, northeast of Leighton. At school we pumped our water from the well outside, and the restrooms were two outdoor toilets. A coal furnace kept the one-room schoolhouse warm. We both remember our families farming with horses, churning butter and frying down meat and – oh, yes! – the day we were hooked up to electricity.

Marion and Mary Lois Van Zee were married in 1953, after he was honorably discharged from serving in the armed forces in the Korean War. They have lived all their married lives in Pella with the exception of three years when Marion was a farm hand for Ralph Kuiper about three miles north of Pella. Marion has been employed at Rolscreen Company for over 25 years and is still working there. Mary Lois is a homemaker. Since 1978 she has been employed at Central Park Cafe, where she works part time. They have five children, all married.

Connie Eileen married Raymond Eugene Sparks and they live at 306 Franklin in Pella. Ray has two daughters, Jennifer Renae and Jodi Mari. Connie works at Rolscreen.

Carma Jean married Gregory Paul Clubb, and they have one daughter, Kelsey Irene. They make their home in Ottumwa, Iowa. Carma is an English teacher.

Galen Mark married Roxanne Jones. They live at 212 East 14th Street in Pella. They have three children: Mary Elizabeth, Jeffery Alan, and Kristin Maria. Galen is a baker and has, since high school, worked in Jaarsma's Bakery in Pella. He and his wife also manage Jaarsma's Bakery of Knoxville.

Kevin Keith married Jacquelyn Kay Nikkel of Pella. They have two sons: Timothy Fredrick and Daniel Mark. He works for HyVee Food Stores, first in Pella, then Iowa City, then Newton, and now he is the Manager in the meat department in Fremont, Neb.

Madona Diane married Russell Laverne Van Wyk from the Sully area. They live at 86 Brook Circle in Pella. Russell works at Rolscreen and Madona is a homemaker, caring for their two small children, Michelle Renee and David Scott.

We attend Third Reformed Church of Pella and live at 405 East First Street. We are proud to call Pella our home.

by Marion and Mary Lois Van Zee

VANDE GAARDE FAMILY

F638

Gerrit Vande Gaarde was born in Holland on Apr. 4, 1861. In 1866 he, his parents, four brothers, and one sister emigrated to the United States. One of his brothers died on the ship and was buried at sea. Soon after they arrived in Chicago, his mother diedied His father took the rest of the family on to Pella, where it was said he died of a broken heart sometime before 1870. The children were then placed in an orphanage in Omaha, Neborn After being there for some time, some families from First Reformed Church in Pella took them from the orphanage and raised them.

Gerrit Vande Gaarde married Sarah Jelsma. They had four daughters: Margaret, Bessie, Mintie, and Ethel.

Margaret Vande Gaarde married Dick J. Van Zee, son of J.H.P. Van Zee and Byke (Bensink) Van Zee. They had four children: Gerald J. Van Zee who married Lena Schilt; Betty Van Zee who married Albert Vander Peut; Mildred Van Zee who married Harold

Poortinga; and Marvin Van Zee who married Alma (De Kock) Den Adel.

Bessie Vande Gaarde married Gerrit H. Van Zee, son of J.H.P. Van Zee and Byke (Bensink) Van Zee. They had one child, Marcile, who married Robert Laning.

Mintie Vande Gaarde married Robert Kaldenberg. They had two children: Ronald, and Mary, who married Melvin Dop.

Ethel Vande Gaarde married Henry Boender. They had no children.

by Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut

VANDE HAAR, ARIE
F639

Arie Vande Haar was born 1871, the son of Gerrit and Marie (DeJong) Vande Haar. He married Jennie Pipple born 1885. She was the daughter of William and Gertie (Willemson) Pipple. Their children are Gary Wilbur, born April 28, 1911, and Gertrude Marie, born May 5, 1914.

Gary married Gladys De Kock on Feb. 21, 1935. She was the daughter of Stephen S. and Willhelmine (Tysseling) De Kock. Their children are Phyllis Jeannine, born Jan. 15, 1936, Arnold Glen, born May 28, 1939, Harold Lee, born January 20, 1942, and Richard Jon born August 24, 1945.

Arnold Glen died in a tragic house fire Jan. 20, 1941.

Phyllis married Warren Vander Linden on June 2, 1954. Their children are Jane Ellen, born Mar. 2, 1955, Susan Ann born, July 15, 1957, and Wayne Lee born Mar. 17, 1959. Jane Ellen married Max Davis on Apr. 2, 1983. Their son, Cory Jason, was born Feb. 16, 1985. Susan Ann married Steven Kesterson on Sept. 10, 1976. Wayne Lee married Nancy Kelstrip on Dec. 1, 1979. Their sons are Tyler Norman born Feb. 19, 1984 and Kyle Lee born June 6, 1985. Phyllis and her family all live in Ferndale, Washington.

Harold Lee married Sandra Potts on Apr. 10, 1962. Their daughter, Jill Diane, was born Apr. 14, 1964. Harold and Sandra were divorced in 1965. Jill was married to Anthony Lamonte in May 1984. Their son Michael Anthony was born December 10, 1985. Harold married Elogie Leon on Aug. 24, 1969. Their daughter, Stephenie Marie was born Dec. 5, 1970. Elogie had two daughters, Jeannine, born May 28, 1959, and Alecia, born Nov. 6, 1961. Jeannine married Michael Bell on Aug. 6, 1975. Their sons are Lucas Lee born Dec. 18, 1979 and Ryan Joseph born Jan. 5, 1984. Alecia married Kent Horner on Sept. 4, 1982. Their children are: Michelle, born in 1983; Sasha born in 1984; and Brian, born in 1985. Harold and his family all live in Kansas City.

Richard Jon married Nancy Baker on June 18, 1965. Their sons are Scott Alan born July 21, 1971, and Mark Andrew born Apr. 9, 1986. He is a farmer and lives near Tracy, Iowa.

Gertrude Vande Haar married Clarence Schroder who was born on July 15, 1900. They were married in 1948. Clarence died Sept. 10, 1961. They had 2 sons, James Lee born June 13 1948 and Robert Eugene born Jan. 15, 1951. James married JoAnn Van Wyk in 1970. Their children are Jennifer, born July 1973 and Jason born May, 1976. Robert married Beth Ver Meer in 1968. Their sons are: Brent born 1969; Brian born 1972; and Brad born 1974. Robert and Beth were divorced in 1977. In 1978 Robert married Barbra Ver Steegh. Their daughter Kelly Jean was born Jan., 1980. Robert and Barbra were divorced in 1984. Gertrude and her family all live in Pella.

by Gary Vande Haar

VANDE NOORD, DONALD
F640

Donald Vande Noord was born in Des Moines, Ia. on Aug. 27, 1951 to Harold Vande Noord and Bertha Carson Vande Noord, the youngest of two children. His sister is Peggy Vande Noord.

Mary Wisse was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. on July 7, 1952 to Ralph Wisse and Freda Hoeksema Wisse, the middle of three children. She has two brothers, John and Charles.

Don and Mary both graduated from Pella Community High School. Mary graduated from Iowa Lutheran School of Nursing in Des Moines in 1973, while Don graduated from Northeast Missouri State college in 1975 with a bachelor of science degree in education. They were married Jan. 4, 1974, in Pella and have lived most of their married life here.

Don is a self-employed carpenter and Mary is an R.N. at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Knoxville.

Their children are: Tracy, born Feb. 25, 1976; Todd, born Oct. 24, 1978; Timothy, born August 16, 1980.

The children are all students at Pella Community Schools.

by Freda Wisse

VANDE NOORD, HENRY AND CORNELIA (KATE VAN GORP)
F641

Henry Vande Noord was born in Utrecht, The Netherlands and married Cornelia Van Gorp on June 25, 1906. They were the parents of one daughter and five sons.

Gertrude married Andrew Kool on June 12, 1929. They were the parents of one son Keith, not married.

Wilbur married Mae Vogelaar on Sept. 1, 1938. They were the parents of one daughter and four sons. Linda married Jake Walker and they had two daughters Lisa and Laura. Paul married Delores Van Vark and they had three sons, Michael Paul, Mark Jon, and Mathew Wayne. Charles is not married. David married Sheryl Steenhoek.

John married Viola Niemantsverdriet and they had one son. Lowell Ray married Ruth Goodyke. They had three sons, Jeremy Jon, Jason Jory, and Travis Jay.

Clarence married Nevah Honsil in Sept. 1948. They are both deceased.

Harold married Bertha Carson Jan. 22, 1947. They had two children, Peggy not married and Donald who married Mary Wisse. They had three children, Tracy Dawn, Todd Jon, and Timothy Don.

Reuben married Beatrice Cook May 29, 1949.

by Viola Vande Noord

VANDE NOORD, JOHN GERRIT AND KATE CORNELIA (GEZEL)
F642

John Gerrit Vande Noord, the son of John Vande Noord and Geradina Klineart, was born in Utrecht, The Netherlands on Feb. 24, 1878. He came to the United States with his family in 1886, however, his twin brother died coming over and was buried at sea. His older sister was Hattie (1873), and his younger sister and brother, Jenny and Henry, were also twins born in 1879. The family came directly to Pella and settled on a farm one mile west of Pella.

On Feb. 24, 1909, John Vande Noord and Kate Cornelia Gezel were married at the First Reformed Church in Pella. Kate, the daughter of Henry Gezel and Gertrude Anna Sylvanus, was born in Pella on Feb. 24, 1880. Her parents were married in Pella on August 6, 1878. Kate was the oldest of twelve children, the others were: Gerrit "Bud" (1881), William (1883), Marie (1884), Elizabeth (1885), Gertrude (1887), Henry (1889), Edward (1891), Fred (1893), Hattie (1894), Janet (1896), and Raymond John "Hippy" (1903). Janet is the only living member of the family at this time. Henry Gezel, Sr. owned and worked in his blacksmith shop on Main St. from his early years until he died at the age of 78.

John and Kate Vande Noord moved to a farm west of Pella following their marriage, and three of their children, Geraldine (1910), Harris (1912), and Anna Mae (1914), were born while living on this farm. In 1917, they moved to a farm four miles east of Pella, where their youngest son, George (1917), was born. Geraldine is married to Jerome Christopherson, and they have two children, Dennis and Judith, and six grandchildren. Harris, deceased in 1965, was married to Esther Grootveld. Their family consists of two boys, Edwin and Richard, and two grandchildren. Anna Mae was married to Henry Gosselink who died in 1971, and has two children, Rodney and Kathy, and five grandchildren. George married Margaret Ann Neal, and they had two children, George Jr. "Dutch", who drowned in a scuba diving accident at the age of 21 in 1973, and their daughter, Ann Neal, and two grandchildren.

by Mrs. Henry G. Gosselink

VANDE REE, CASE
F643

Cornelius (Case) and Helen Vande Ree became residents of Pella in June, 1958, when they and their two daughters Cheryl and Caryn moved from Denver, Colo., where Case taught English at Denver Christian High.

Helen and Case Vande Ree

Although they enjoyed the mountains, the trout fishing, and the milder climate of colorful Colorado, the attraction of teaching at Pella Christian High proved too strong. Of course, the fact Helen was a native of Pella had more than a little influence on Case's signing the contract to teach English and direct school plays in Helen's home town.

A descendant of one of Pella's many clans, the Van Zees, Helen was born Jan. 16, 1931 and grew up one and one-half miles east of Pella on the New Sharon Road. Her parents, Anthony K., descended from the Antonio Martinus family, who settled in pella in 1889, and Junella Van Houweling, daughter of Adrian (Jim) and Tonetta Vermeer Van Houweling, owned a fertile 55-acre. farm where they raised hogs and grain. Although the house and several buildings exist at this writing, and are occupied by the Hubert Steenhoek family, the farm is now covered by acres of commodious "plants" owned by Vermeer Mfg. The Van Zees sold the farm to Gary Vermeer, a cousin of Junella, in 1973.

The farm was "home" to Helen, her brother Gene (Apr. 1, 1929), a medical doctor in his home town, Ronald (Mar. 14, 1944), a successful contractor in Grand Rapids, Mich., and their assorted pets – goats, raccoons, cats, and dogs. Helen, with her brothers and neighbors John and Harry Vermeer, trudged a mile to the neighborhood country school, Plainview. Nostalgically, she recalls the sack swing, the teachers who influenced her, the students she helped tutor (hence the desire to become a teacher!) and all the simple good times of the pre-television era.

After graduating from Pella High in 1949, Helen attended Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., where she majored in elementary education and minored in dating a six-foot four inch blond senior from New Jersey, who was a year ahead of her. This English major from the East had never set foot in Iowa but liked the women Iowa produced. Having grown up with three sisters: Ann Fisher, a teacher at Eastern Christian; Laurina Vander Aa, also a teacher at Eastern Christian; and Doris Houseman, the spouse of Dr. Barton Houseman of Goucher College, Md., Case had no difficulty communicating with Helen. He easily convinced her that it was all right to date a Dutchman from New Jersey and their first date was to the musical *Singing in the Rain*.

Case is indeed a true Dutchman, having been born to John and Bertha Van Dyke Vande Ree on Jan. 5, 1931. His dad immigrated to Midland Park, N.J., in 1924 and worked as a laborer for Bertha's contractor father, who emigrated from the province of Gelderland as a young man. John Vande Ree, from Stellendam in the province of Zuid Holland, was an uneducated man. He saw the importance of a solid education and worked long, arduous hours to provide a Christian education from kindergarten through Calvin College for his four children. He had always wished that he had had the opportunity to be a minister and volunteered to lead church societies in their Bible lessons. Although he expressed a wish that his only son would become a minister, he did not seem too disappointed when Case became a Christian educator.

Following his graduation from Calvin College in 1952, and while Helen was earning her B.A. degree from Calvin in 1953 and later teaching third grade at the Whitinsville, Mass. Christian School, Case was attired in the olive drab of the U.S. Army. Drafted right out of college in the third year of the Korean War, Case took infantry training in his home state and was assigned to the Third Infantry Division, which was fighting on the central front in Korea. Participating in such battles as Boomerrang, the Kumwha Salient, and Chorwon, he earned the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Korean Service Ribbon with three battle stars, and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Upon the much-delayed signing of the Armistice, he was re-assigned to a Troop Information and Education Unit, where he taught English to Korean troops attached to the U.S. Army, Puerto Rican G.I.s, and G.I.s who had not attained a sixth grade education. He enjoyed teaching and decided this was the career for him. His sixteen month "tour" in Korea ended, and he was home by July 4, 1954.

Even though he enjoyed teaching, he was not certified to teach. So it was back to Calvin College for a year of education courses, including student teaching. Helen, by now an "experienced" teacher after an enjoyable year among the hospitable New Englanders, returned to Grand Rapids and taught at Westside Christian. Despite his student teaching duties and demanding courses, Case found time to propose, and during a lull in making lesson plans and correcting papers, Helen said, "Yes!" That spring, wedding plans were finalized, and on a very warm Friday night, June 24, 1955, Helen and Case said their vows in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

After a lengthy honeymoon to New England and New Jersey, the couple moved to Iowa City, where Case began work on a Master's Program in English literature. Helen taught second grade at Mark Twain elementary school. Their first child Cheryl was born on June 17, 1956, interrupting for a time Case's thesis on Thomas Hardy. Case completed his course work and thesis that very hot summer and was eager to head for the Colorado mountains, where he had accepted a contract to teach English to all four grades at Denver Christian High.

Life in Colorado was fresh and exciting. Lesson preparation, test correcting, and paper evaluation were hectic, but the couple enjoyed the community and the challenge of parenting. Helen substituted at Denver Christian Grade, but when daughter Caryn was born on Dec. 22, 1957, it was back to being a full-time homemaker. In the spring of 1958, despite their love for Denver Christian and their fondess for the beautiful climate and mountain grandeur that Colorado offers, the couple accepted a contract to teach at Pella Christian High.

Upon their return to Pella, the Vande Rees settled in with Mom and Dad Van Zee until their home at 1332 Broadway, constructed by Duane Busby, could be occupied. Close to Case's school and located in a friendly neighborhood with lots of space, the new home was ideal for their family. Helen substituted at Pella Christian Grade before and after the birth of their third child Brian, Mar. 18, 1961. After attending the Christian grade school, the children apprehensively entered "their Dad's" school, where they pursued the college prep. program. Cheri and Caryn were active in athletics and band, while Brian participated in athletics, band, and speech-drama activities. All three swam on the city swim team during the summer. Case's summers from 1968-1972 were spent in Iowa City, where he earned a Master's degree in library science. A certified librarian, he assumed responsibility for the high school library and relinquished some of his teaching load.

Upon their graduation from Pella Christian, the Vande Ree children not only attended college but all three pursued careers in the health field. Cheri attended Calvin College and is presently employed as a pediatric registered nurse in a Muskegon, Mich., hospital. She is married to a Michigander from Allen Park, Dr. David Ottenbaker (Tom and Maryann), who has a family medical practice in Grand Haven, Mich.

Caryn graduated from Iowa Methodist School of Nursing and has had experience working as a critical care registered nurse in hospitals in Davenport, Ia., and the state of Washington. Married to Dr. Russell Van Hemert (Reuben and Marge), a Pella chiropractor, they are the parents of three children: Leslie, Jonathan, and Brittany.

Brian attended Calvin College and the Palmer School of Chiropractic. Dr. Brian is a chiropractor in Hoquiam, Wash. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Julie Van Gorp (Jacob and Bernice), who is also a registered nurse with considerable experience in progressive cardiac care and neonatal nursing. Brian and Julie have two sons, Cameron and Jamison.

Case and Helen moved from Broadway to 1005 Main (the Mrs. A.N. Kuyper home) in 1980. Helen has been an optometric assistant at Dr. Frank Overman's office since 1972. Case has spent his summers in home construction and house painting. Over the years, Helen has enjoyed sewing, knitting, and counted cross stitching. Case enjoys fishing, reading, and walking. They are members of the First Christian Reformed Church, where Case has served on the consistory and has been a youth leader for many years, while Helen has served as Calvinette leader and Sunday School teacher.

by Mr. and Mrs. Case Vande Ree

VANDE VOORT, EVERARD

F644

Willemina (Jansen) Vande Voort (Everard Vande Voort's mother) and Grada Agatha Vande Voort (Everard Vande Voort's grandmother).

Tulip Time parade showing Tudor Kempkis carrying a chicken coop made by Everard Vande Voort.

Dec. 10, 1867 - Feb. 6, 1948

Everard was born Dec. 10, 1867, to Jacob and Willemina Jansen Vande Voort. Their hometown was Dodewaard in The Netherlands. He was the oldest of four children. He had two sisters, Johanna and Datje, and two brothers, Albert "Bart" and Hendrick. His father's occupation was dredging gravel from the waterways in The Netherlands. He died when Everard was 14. At this time Jacob's mother, Grada Agatha Vande Voort, came to live with them, so Willemina could work to support the family. She worked at cleaning boats and ships coming into port. Everard's grandmother Grada was the daughter of a "Graaf" in Holland which is the same as a Duke; but she lost her title and nobility when she married the hired hand. This brings the royal blood down through our veins.. The

Everard (Everett) Vande Voort and his wife, Christina (Van Dorland) Vande Voort.

name Vande Voort came from living near the ford of the river (a crossing place): From the Ford. Everard worked for his uncle several years after his father passed away. He served in the Dutch Army for two years. He was a member of the royal guard for the Queen of the House of Orange. Jacob's wife Willemina lived to be 92 years of age.

Everard married Christina Van Dorland on June 15, 1893. Her parents were Arie and Marie Timmer Van Dorland. She had three brothers: Walter, Hendrik, and Marinus. Everard's main employment was that of basket maker, which was a year-round position. He made such items as: crates for hogs, cradles, laundry baskets, and just about anything in the weaving line. When he came to Pella, he still made baskets. He made some baskets out of willow branches such as the basket carried by Tudor Kempkes of the Tulip Time parade.

Everard and Christina had eight children: Jacob, Marie Elizabeth, Arie, Gerard, Willem, Christina, Johanna Gerdina, Alberta, and Hendrick, before coming to Pella. After arriving, they had Everart (Everett). It was very difficult making a living for such a large family. They also had a brother of Christina staying with them. When a child, he had fallen out of a bed that was built in the wall, causing him to be retarded.

Everard wanted to come to America, the land of opportunity. Several of his aunts and uncles were already here. Everard's brother Henry came first, got a job, and married. He then sent word to Holland for the rest of the family to come, as he had a house for them. His mother and brother came. Everard and his family started for America around 1909. The boat trip was rough, causing many to become sick, plus they were homesick. Not a lot of food was eaten on board, due to sea sickness. When arriving in America, the children were very hungry. Their father mistakenly bought tobacco, thinking it was rye bread. The children ate it and again became sick. They carried with them two gunny sacks of wooden shoes. On the train trip to Chicago, they lost the shoes. Eventually, they made it to Des Moines. While on the train trip they got tags, so the conductor would know where to let them off, as they couldn't speak any English.

They lived two years in Pella, where Everard was a brick maker. The summers were hot and hard for a brick maker. Later he worked for a farmer in Galesburg. From there they moved to Ocheyedan and lived there four or five years, farming. They moved back to the Pella area where he again farmed. During WWI they lost about everything they owned. Schooling was hard because they had to learn English first and they had to work to help make a living.

Just a little about the man Everard. He had a big, beautiful beard. One time he went to Des Moines and got his hair trimmed. The barber asked about trimming his beard. He didn't understand them and thus ended up with his beard being cut short. His family thought it terrible because they so liked his long beard. Everard had taught himself to read Dutch at home in The Netherlands because he hadn't had much schooling there. In America he learned to read a little from the Des Moines paper, but couldn't speak English very well. His son Arie helped him with his business for a number of years. It was very hard being a foreigner in a new country. He farmed for himself for 36 years. His last years he retired and lived in Pella.

Christina, his wife, passed away on Sept. 19, 1935, at the age of 66. Everard passed away on Feb. 6, 1948.

Jacob, born Nov. 29, 1894, married Minnie Van Peursem. Their children are: Darlene, Everett, and Jacob.

Marie Elizabeth, born Apr. 1, 1896, married Geritt Terpstra. Their children are: Gerald, Cecil, Crystal, Robert, Betty, and Donald.

Arie, born Sept. 5, 1897, married Gertrude Eeling. Their children are: Arie Jr., Marvin, and Louis.

Gerard, born May 6, 1899, married Cornelia Willimsen. Their children are: Everett, Jennie, Greta and Henry.

Willem, born Jan. 19, 1901, married Wilmina Dieleman. Their children are: Christina, William, Daniel, and Gerdena.

Christina, born Aug. 18, 1903, married Tony Willemsen. Their child is John.

Johanna, born Apr. 13, 1905.

Alberta, born Mar. 30, 1906, married Arie Van Norden. Their children are: Betty, Wanda, and Tunis.

Hendrik, born May 27, 1908, married Ella Korthuis. Their children are: Everett, Henry, Christine, Ruth, Paul, and George.

Everett, born Aug. 2, 1911, married Harriet Dieleman. Their children are: Louise, Christina, Ronald, Lois and Lucille (twins), and Larry.

Many of Everard's descendants still live in the Pella area. Also several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

by Jennie Van Zante

VANDE VOORT, GARY
F645

Gary Vande Voort family. Front, l-r: Calvin, Richard, Leona, and Gary; Back, l-r: Pamela, Katleen Smith, Vicki Rubin, and Sandra Luoma.

The earliest record I have is only the name Gysbert, that being my great, great, great, great-grandfather. His son Gysbert Gijsbertsen married Hendrikje Jacobsen; their son Willem Gysbertsen, was born in Lunteren, Netherlands. His son Hendrik, married Cornelia Roelofen Feb., 12, 1818, at Ede, Gelderland, Netherlands, the same year Napoleon required all families to take a surname. This family which for generations had lived near a small ford, took the name "Van de Voort" meaning "of the ford."

Their son Willem (great grandfather) married Maartje Wulven. They were large landowners, having two hired men, a servant working on the farm, and a maid in the house. They sold their farm, coming to the U.S. looking for economic improvments for the family. Six small children, their parents and one servant made the voyage. Enroute, at Liverpool, England, the officials would not let the family sail on, keeping them a week saying little four-year-old Gerntje had scarlet fever. The child was not sick, it was a scheme to blackmail them to get their money which they had in coins in boxes on the ship. Willem met a Dutch Jew who contacted a doctor declaring the child "not ill," allowing them to sail on. Willem threatened to expose the officials by writing a letter and having it published in The Netherlands. The officials begged him not to, as a result they were put on a new boat, crossed the Atlantic in the record time of nine days even though encountering severe storms. They arrived aboard the "City of Brussels" Oct. 25, 1860. They spent a night in Castle Garde, N.Y., in a hotel, then took a ferryboat across the river to the train. They spent two days and two nights on it, arriving in Pella, Ia., Nov. 2, 1869. There they lived for a year. Little Willem was born and died of the croup. The children went to school, could spell and read very well but didn't know the meanings. They slept in a trundle bed. The next year they bought a farm east of Pella, buying more later. Three more children were born. Willem died the winter of 1879 leaving Maartje with nine small children. She wanted no handouts, raised the large family, buying more farms, leaving a sizeable estate when she died in 1907. They raised sheep, chickens, hogs, cattle, and milk cows. They grew corn, oats, and hay using horses and oxen in the fields. Maartje cleaned, combed, dyed, and spun the wool while the girls knitted stockings for the four brothers, five sisters and mother. Rabbits were the main meat eaten in the winter. Indians frequently came to barter their wares for chickens. Maartje always wore a black Dutch cap with lace.

Willem and Maartje's son Hendrik (my grandfather) married Grada Gosselink. Their children were: Maartje, Dirkie, twin to Wilhelminne (died during the flu of 1918); Jennie, and Willem (my father). He married Grietje Schimmel. Two sons were born: Henry John and Gerritt (Gary) Eugene. Garry married Leona Mae Memmelaar. He served 1951-1953 in the U.S. Army's 47th Division stationed at Camp Rucker, Ala., and then sailed the Atlantic and was stationed in Bamburg, Germany, with the 1st Division. They now farm one mile east of Leighton, Ia., and drive part time, delivering new Winnebago motor homes to dealers across the U.S. They have six children. Vicki Kay has her Registered Nurse, Emergency Nurse Practitioner, Physicians Assistant and Family Nurse Practitioner degrees and certifications and is now the head nurse of a neurotrauma unit at Swedish Medical Center in Denver, Colo. Her husband, Kenneth Rubin, is a lieutenant and manager of Paramedics and Emergency Medical Technicians at Castlewood, Colo.

Kathleen Suzanne is a Medical Office Assistant in Marshalltown, Ia. Her husband John Wesley Smith is a brakeman/switchman and conductor on the Northwestern Railroad. Their children are Emily Lorraine, June, 21, 1977, and Joseph William, Mar. 14, 1981.

Pamela Jean is a Registered Nurse at Mercy Hosptial in Des Moines, Ia. She is acting head nurse on the oncology floor.

Sandra Fay is a lead word processor and computer operator, a real estate assistant for Prudential Realty Group (Insurance Co.) in Denver, Co. Her husband Matthew Richard Luoma is a Certified Public Accountant working for Arthur Young in Denver, Colo.

Calvin Eugene is farming in the Leighton area and Richard Allen works at Brummel Bros. feed and grain in Leighton. The family enjoys sports and hobbies as hand crafts, hunting, fishing, waterskiing, and woodworking. They are members of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church.

by Gary Vande Voort

VANDE VOORT, HENRY J. AND ANNA (KLEIN)
F646

Henry John Vande Voort was born on Apr. 10, 1875, in Dodewaard, The Netherlands.

His parents were Jaap and Willemina (Jansen) Vande Voort. Jaap died at the early age of 44 years, having been bedridden for seven years, due to complications of diabetes. His death left his wife, Mina, alone at the age of 35 years with five children to support. The children were Everart, Johanna, Albartus, Henry, and Grada. Mina's mother, Grada Agatha Meiring) Jansen came to live with them, to help care for the family while Mina would go to work.

The story that has been passed down for many generations is that Grandmother (Grada Agatha) would tell how her mother was of noble birth. She had married a commoner and, as long as she was alive, the noble family helped support her. When she died, the financial support and family recognition stopped. It was also the custom of the noble family that the name Cornelia Agatha and Grada Agatha would be given in alternate generations. This was done for four generations, but interest was lost with the last two.

Grada Agatha Jansen was a very respected woman in the town of Dodewaard. She had taken care of nearly half of the town as a midwife. She died at the age of 96 years.

All the sons of Willemina came to America at different times and settled in Pella.

Henry J. and Anna Vande Voort Family. Left to right: John, Grada (Vander Hart), Anna Maria (Klein), Henry J., Wilma (Vanden Oever), and Henry W.

Willemina emigrated after her mother passed away and lived with her son, Henry, and family. Mina died in 1940 and is buried in an unmarked grave at Graceland Cemetery in Pella.

Henry came to America in 1908, at the age of 33. In the same year he married Anna Maria Klein. Anna was born in Pella, Ia., on Oct. 7, 1885. She was the daughter of Willem and Cornelia Agatha (Jansen) Klein (Klyn).

Anna's and Henry's mothers were sisters.

Henry had various jobs. In 1915, he took over his father-in-law's meat smoking business. He would charge three cents to smoke a ham or a dried beef. In 1925 he was awarded the contract from the city to lay the sidewalks in the West Market Park. He hired Marion De Reus and Bob Beyer to help him. This was all done by hand, even the mixing of the cement.

For many years, Henry made bologna for Van's Food Market, which was owned by his son, Henry. Anna would make "komijne kaas" (cummin cheese) that was also sold at the grocery store.

Henry and Anna had four children. Willemina Agatha (changed to Wilma A.) was born in 1909. She married Marion (Boots) Vanden Oever. Henry William was born in 1913. Henry married Bernice Langerak. Grada Agatha was born in 1915. She married Godert C. Vander Hart. John Henry was born in 1920. John married Wilma Meppelink.

Henry died on Dec. 2, 1959, and Anna passed away on Mar. 1, 1966. They are buired in Graceland Cemetery in Pella, Ia.

by Mari Savery

VANDE VOORT, MARVIN AND ILENE

F647

Marvin Vande Voort was born in Mahaska Co. near Pella on Jan. 16, 1939. He was the second child of Arie and Gertrude Eeling Vande Voort Sr. Marvin attended a rural school and graduated from Pella Public High School in 1957.

In 1960 Marvin married Ilene Lanser, first daughter of Arie J. and Johanna Wielard Lanser. Ilene ws born Feb. 10, 1940, in Jasper Co., near Kellogg, Ia. Ilene attended the Sully Christian School and the Pella Christian High School. Marvin and Ilene had four children: Kenneth Marvin born May 11, 1961; Marla Ilene born Jan. 13, 1963; Vivian born Aug. 10, 1965; Kevin Gene born Jan. 9, 1970.

Kenneth was married to Jana Lynn Van Wyk Feb. 10, 1980. Jana is the daughter of Arvin and Anna Mae Van Wyk. To this union two daughters were born: Kendra Lynn on Aug. 25, 1980, and Kandis Janae on Jan. 10, 1982.

Marla was married to Bruce Terlouw Apr. 2, 1982. Bruce is the son of Reuben and Carol Terlouw. To this union a daughter, Jaci Lynae, was born Dec. 23, 1986.

Vivian married Douglas Vriezlaar May 4, 1984. Douglas is the son of Keith and Betty Vriezelaar. They expect a child to be born in Mar. 1987.

Kevin is a junior at Pella Christian High School and lives at home.

Marvin and Ilene lived on an acreage northeast of Pella. Marvin was a draftsman at Rolscreen Company beginning full time employment after high school until his sudden death at his rural residence on Apr. 19, 1980.

by Ilene Meppelink

VANDE WALL, GILBERT J. AND FREDA

F648

Gilbert J. and Freda Vande Wall.

Gilbert (Gib) John Vande Wall was born Apr. 9, 1919, at his parents' farmhome near Leighton, Ia. He was the eighth child of John P. (1862-1945) and Sarah Kaatsma (1880-1934) Vande Wall, and had five brothers and five sisters. Gib attended Leighton's two-room, two-teacher school. Irene Hasselman was his teacher for the entire eight grades as she taught the lower grades but switched to the upper grades when Gib reached fifth grade. Gib's family attended Leighton Christian Reformed Church. The children walked to catechism classes on Saturday. The mother died in 1934 and they moved from the area.

When the U.S. mobilized for W.W.II, Gib was a farmhand for the late Gradus Kuiper receiving $30 per month plus room and board. He was drafted from Marion Co. in Mar., 1941, and received $21 per month. After war was declared in Dec., 1941, his original one-year term was "frozen" for the duration. He was trained as a medic and served with the 8th FAOB until Oct., 1945. His father died early in 1945 while Gib was in Europe.

Gib and his fiancee Freda R. Van Wyk were married Aug. 16, 1945, at her parents' farm home northeast of Pella. Freda was born Sept. 15, 1923 the fourth child of Neal (1893-1964) and Hilda Grandia (1897-1976) Van Wyk. She had three brothers and six sisters. They grew up in the Sully-Pella-Peoria area and attended the Reformed Churches of Sully and Pella First. Freda attended Jasper Co. rural grade schools and graduated from Pella High in 1941. She worked at the Pella City office for a short time and then was secretary to Attorney Geo. G. Gaass of Pella.

After Gib's Army discharge, he and Freda lived in Pella. She continued working at the law office and he worked for the Rock Island Railroad Company, handling freight and express for the late Charles Dykstra.

In 1948 Gib and Freda began a farming career. They lived in the Otley and Coalport area before moving in 1950 with their little daughter Nela to a farm north of Pella in Elk Creek Twp., Jasper Co. Their second daughter Carol was born the next year and son Wayne was born in 1954 shortly after they had purchased the farm. The children attended Pella schools. They helped with farm chores, getting the cows, gathering the eggs, etc. The Vande Walls did general farming through the years, sharing labor with their neighbors as needed. Gib later specialized in hog production. In 1978 Gib and Freda moved to Pella and Wayne and his family lived on the farm until he returned to Iowa State University in 1982. Gib and Freda returned to the farm temporarily to finish out the year, held a farm sale in December and rented out the farm. Their grandchildren Cristin and Carter Spoelstra lived with them during this time because of illness in the children's family.

Back in Pella, Gib and Freda keep busy with family responsibilities, helping others, and participating in church and community activitiies and projects. They are active members of the First Reformed Church. Gib enjoys bowling and coffeetime with "the guys" uptown. Freda likes gardening and family histories.

Their children are: Nela Jean (June 28, 1948) married Nov. 17, 1967, to Charles H. Spoelstra of Otley, Ia. She works for Enduro Corporation, Pella, and Charles is a former Rolscreen employee. They live in Pella with Cristin Dawn (Apr. 15, 1974) and Carter John (June 1, 1976). Their first child, Corwin John (1971-74) was fatally injured in a car-truck accident.

Carol Louise (Jan. 7, 1951) married Sam L. Bidrawn of Clinton, Ia., on Mar. 9, 1973, after their graduation from Iowa State University of Ames. Carol is a superviser for AT&T, Bell Laboratories, at their national headquarters in Naperville, Ill. Sam is plant manager and assistant vice-president for Northwestern Chemical Company of West Chicago, Ill. They live in Napervills, Ill., with Jessica Marie (Nov. 25, 1986).

Wayne Allen (Feb. 5, 1954) graduated from Iowa State University of Ames in 1976 with a B.S. in agricultural engineering and earned his M.S. in industrial engineering in 1983. He is employed by AT&T, Bell Laboratories, Naperville, Ill., having recently transferred from their offices in Holmdel, N.J. He married the former Debra Flynn of Moline, Ill., on Mar. 13, 1978. They plan to live in Naperville with Jennifer Leslie (Apr. 6, 1976) and David Wayne (Mar. 2, 1981).

by Freda Vande Wall

VANDE WALL, JOHN P. AND SARAH

F649

John P. and Sarah Katsma Vande Wall were married in Pella on Feb. 2, 1899, by the Rev. J. Kaizer, Pastor of Hall Church.

John was born at Peoria, Mahaska Co., Ia., on Apr. 28, 1872, the son of Peter (1825-1897) and Gertie Gosselink (1837-1923) Vande Wall. He had three brothers, Bart, Bassel and Gradus; and two sisters, Gysie and Lizzie. His

mother came from Steendren, Netherlands, The Pella with her parents, the G.H. Gosselinks, in 1847. John's father also came from The Netherlands. He and his wife, Gertie, are buried in Graceland Cemetery, north of Pella.

Sarah Katsma was the only child of Albert and Anna Riemersma (Stursma) (1833-1911) Katsma, who married in The Netherlands and came to Pella in 1891 when Sarah was 11 years old. Sarah was born in Burem, Friesland, The Netherlands on Oct. 23, 1880. She had two half-brothers and three half-sisters, Tillie and "Lip" Katsma; and Trina, Annie and Henry Postma. Sarah's mother died of old age in 1911. Her father had died of stomach cancer sometime before 1900. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

John and Sarah farmed in the Reasnor, Monroe and Leighton areas and attended the Christian Reformed Church. While they lived in the Leighton area, their friends from Pella would come to visit them. The friends would board the train at the Pella depot and be met at the Leighton depot. They would spend the day, stay overnight and return to Pella by train the next day. John and Sarah were the parents of six sons and five daughters. In 1933 Sarah became ill and died of brain cancer on Jan. 29, 1934.

John moved with his family from the Leighton area after Sarah's death and lived in surrounding communities for some years. In 1942 his youngest son, Clifford, was fatally injured when the farm tractor he was driving on a Mahaska Co. rural road was struck from the rear by a loaded gravel truck.

John retired from active farming in 1938 and moved to Pella in 1943 where he continued to enjoy gardening. He left Pella in 1944 when his youngest daughter married and the home was broken up. He died of leukemia at Oskaloosa, Ia., on Apr. 28, 1945, his seventy-third birthday. Two of his sons, Gilbert and Edward, were serving with the Army in Europe and were unable to return home for his burial. Both John and Sarah are buried in Graceland Cemetery.

The names of the children of John and Sarah Vande Wall and their spouses are: Peter (1900-1978) and Gertrude Steenhoek; Albert (1902-1973) and Susie Leydens; Anne (1903-1978) and Cyrus Louwsma; Gertie (1906) and Baastian Van Woerkum; Henry (1907-1966) and Ruth Klein; Bessie (1910) and Jake Meinders; Angelena (1915) and james Harvey; Gilbert (1919) and Freda Van Wyk; Kathryn (1921) and Henry G. Nieuwsma; Edward (1922) and Anne Nieuwsma; and Clifford (1924-1942). Bessie, Angelena and Edward live in the Oskaloosa area; Gertie, Kathryn and Gilbert live in Pella. Of the spouses, Louwsma, Van Woerkum, Meinders and Nieuwsma are deceased.

by Freda Vande Wall

VANDEN BERG, CORNIE

F650

Peter Vanden Berg's sons Cornie and John P. farmed the two farms, and helped him with all of his other businesses.

Cornie married Beryle Melba Reynolds (born Jan. 17, 1891, at Coalport, Ia.), daughter of F.W. and Sarah Davis Reynolds, on Apr. 18, 1917. Cornie's father took them by horse and buggy to Flagler, Ia. where they flagged the train to stop and take them to Oskaloosa for their marriage. They were baptized by immersion in the Des Moines river at Coalport.

Front row: Beverly, Kristi, and Chad Douwstra, Blain De Heer, Don, Helen Douwstra, Brice De Heer, Beryle and Cornie Vandenberg, Mikki and Mia Van Dusseldorp, Greg Vandenberg and Shanna. Back row: Jeremy and Craig Douwstra, Donna and Gene De Heer, Wayne and Jeanne Vandenberg, Larry Van Dusseldorp.

The couple had two children, Helen Marie (Mrs. Don Douwstra born June 12, 1918), and Cornie Wayne (born May 15, 1924) both born at Fifield and educated at White Breast rural school and Pella High School.

They bought the Fifield Mercantile business, where Beryle managed the store in 1919, and Cornie continued farming. They sold the store in 1920, and stayed in farming until 1943, when they had a farm auction, and bought the Klyn and De Winter Meat Market at 723 Main St. in Pella. They also started the Pella Slaughter House at West Sixth and Fifield Rdied and had these businesses until 1959.

Cornie was a member of the Board of Supervisors of Marion County for six years (1960-1966). Beryle was Chairwoman of Farm Bureau work and President of Legion Auxiliary for four years.

Their son, Wayne, married Jeanne Gregory (born Dec. 6, 1928) on Sept. 22, 1947, at Knoxville. He worked for his folks as a butcher, served in South Pacific during World War II, and he worked for the State Commerce Commission as a state grain inspector and later in the office for 27 years.

Wayne and Jeannie's children are Michelle (born Sept. 21, 1948) and Gregory Wayne (born Oct. 3, 1956). Michelle Van Dusseldorp's children are Jeffrey Todd (born Nov. 10, 1966) and Mia Lynn (born Nov. 17, 1973). Gregory Wayne was married on Mar. 15, 1985, to Tammy Johnson (born July 27, 1967). His children are Shanna (born Mar. 28, 1978) and Cricket (born Dec. 14, 1985).

In their lifetime Cornie and Beryle have lived from the horse and buggy days to travel in cars and planes, working with horses to modern day tractors, watching man step on the moon, and people orbiting the earth. They have traveled over most of the United States. What a wonderful era to have lived in!

by Cornie Vanden Berg

VANDEN OEVER FAMILY

F651

Willem Vanden Oever and Leentje (Van Steenbergen)

Willem Vanden Oever was born in The Netherlands on Dec. 24, 1813. He came to America on the *Catherina Jackson* in 1848 at age 35. At first he had a brick yard in the Amsterdam neighborhood or the Des Moines River bottom. Malaria fever made it necessary to give up that work. He later was a huckster or teamster. He met the incoming trains when people came from Holland and took them to his home for lunch and then delivered them to their destination. His wife Leentje was always ready to serve lunch to them and hear about Holland.

Leentje (Lena) Van Steenbergen (Dec. 20, 1826 – Apr. 24, 1907) came to Pella from Holland as a young lady. As a girl in Holland she had had her fortune told. She would "cross the big waters" and then would meet her husband who would be riding on a horse with a white star on its forehead. She replied she would *never* cross the ocean. Well, after she arrived in Pella she worked for a family living in what is now the Holland Theatre in the 800 block of Washington St. She was standing in the front doorway when Willem came by on a horse with a white star on its forehead. He stopped to ask directions. They were married on Jan. 4, 1855.

Eight children were born to this couple:

Willem and Leentje Vanden Oever family. Front, l-r: Mary, Leentje (mother), and Dirk; Back, l-r: Henry, Teuntje, and Cornelia. Willem was deceased.

John #1; John #2 (both died in infancy); Cornelia (Kate), Mrs. Roelof Brinks and later Mrs. Teunis A. Vanden Hoek (Sept. 8, 1868 – Aug. 27, 1933); Henry (Sept. 15, 1859 – Apr. 18, 1942); Richard (Dirk) (Dec. 18, 1860 – July 25, 1907); Mary, Mrs. Peter W. Noteboom, (Sept. 27, 1863 – Dec. 8, 1910); Jan Franke (Feb. 8, 1866 – approx. May 3, 1868) who was two and one-half to three years old when he died; and Teuntje (Aug. 5, 1868 – Sept. 22, 1898).

Willem was hauling brick for the building of the original First Reformed Church, Pella, at the corner of Broadway and Union where the present church stands. His horse was frightened and he was thrown from the wagon and crushed between the double-tree and the wagon. He died two days later, on July 23, 1871, at the age of 56, from injuries caused by the accident.

Willem and his direct descendants have been members of this same church continuously for five generations. The Vanden Oever name has been on the church records without interruption for over 130 years, even to the present time.

by Henrietta Vanden Oever

VANDEN OEVER FAMILY

F652

Hendrik (Henry) Vanden Oever and Neeltje (Nellie) Boot or Boat

Hendrik (Henry) Vanden Oever, the son of Willem Vanden Oever and Leentje Van Steenbergen, was born in Pella on Sept. 15, 1859, one of eight children, five of whom lived to adulthood. His two older brothers, both named John, died in infancy; and another brother, Jan Franke, born Feb. 2, 1866, died approximately May 3, 1868 — he lived two and one-half to three years. Henry had one other brother, Richard (Dirk) (1860-1907), and three sisters: Cornelia (Kate) (1858-1933), who married Roelof Brinks, and, after his death, Teunis Vanden Hoek; Mary (1863-1910), Mrs. Peter W. Noteboom; and Teuntje (1868-1898) (died on Sept. 22).

Henry and Nellie (Boat) Vanden Oever in front of their home at 504 Washington St., approximately 1940.

Henry was only 11 at the time of his father's tragic death while hauling brick for the building of the old First Reformed Church in Pella. Although he then found it necessary to terminate his formal schooling in order to support his mother, brother and sisters, he continued to educate himself. He was an avid reader, and even in his latest years could often be found studying the dictionary.

The five children of Henry and Nellie Vanden Oever, taken at the home of William Vanden Oever, Otley, Ia., Aug., 1955, during a family reunion when Edward and family were home from the West Coast.

Approximately 1891, after working at the Stegeman shoe store for several years, Henry formed a partnership with Henry J. Vanden Berg as "The Two Vans Shoe Store", which partnership lasted about 38 years, until 1929, when he retired.

On Nov. 18, 1897, Henry married Nellie Boot, daughter of Marinus Boot and Hendrika Ver Steeg Boot. Nellie was born in Pella on Nov. 14, 1873, one of eight children. She went to "sewing school" and, at the age of 16, became an excellent seamstress and dressmaker, bringing her 25¢ to 35¢ a day home to her mother to help with living expenses. Her brothers and sisters were: Gertrude (1853-1928), Mrs. Edward C. Varenkamp; Emma (1857-1941), Mrs. Henry Kaldenberg; Jacob Boot (1859-?); Johanna Mack; Mary (1864-1947), Mrs. Dick G. Gosselink; Cornelius (1868-1950); Barbara Langerak; Aart (Charles) (1870-1947), Gertie Wisgerhof; and Hendrika (Hattie) (late 1878 to ?).

Henry and Nellie were the parents of five children, all born in Pella: Helene (Sept. 12, 1898); Marion (Boots) (Aug. 2, 1900 – Sept. 1, 1975); William (July 23, 1903 – July 28, 1976); Henrietta (Mar. 2, 1906); and Edward Henry (Aug. 2, 1910). Marion married Wilma A. Vande Voort, daughter of Henry J. and Anna Klein Vande Voort, in 1933 and they are the parents of four children: Dick, Mari, Dorothy, and John. William married Alice J. Zandstra in 1928 and they have two sons: Loran and James. Edward married Esther Evelyn Butler of Ames in 1940 and they have three daughters: Mary, Lynn, and Janis. At the present time there are nine grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren, and 23 great-great-grandchildren of Henry and Nellie.

Henry and Nellie were lifelong residents of Pella. He died of pneumonia on Apr. 18, 1942, and she of a heart ailment on Feb. 1, 1952. All of Edward's family live in Portland, Oregon.

At the age of four and one-half, Helene was stricken with either rickets or polio and was

unable to walk for seven months. She was delayed in starting school, but was in the first class to attend kindergarten in the new Lincoln building which had just been completed. She attended the Pella Public Schools and was always active in church groups, having been a member of the Sunshine Mission Circle of the First Reformed Church for 70 years.

Henrietta attended both Lincoln and Webster schools and in 1924 graduated from Pella High School. The next year she took advanced shorthand and typing which helped prepare her for office work as a secretary which she held for 45 years — at the Woodrow Washing Machine Company, Pella, from June 27, 1927, until Jan. 31, 1935, and at the Rolscreen Company, Pella, from Feb. 1, 1935 until Mar. 15, 1972, when she retired. She was always very active in church-related organizations: Sunday School, Bible Class, Christian Endeavor, Societies or Circles, Choir (25 years), as well as regular church services.

by Henrietta Vanden Oever

VANDEN OEVER FAMILY

F653

Marion Vanden Oever

Marion Vanden Oever was born on Aug. 2, 1900, in Pella, Ia. He was the oldest son of Henry and Nellie Boot (Boat) Vanden Oever. Marion was best known as "Boots". It seems that his older sister Helene had difficulty pronouncing broertje (Dutch for brother) as a very young girl. She would say boertje, which was eventually shortened to Boots.

Boots attended the Pella Community Schools and Central College.

In 1929 Boots purchased his father's share of the Two Van's Shoe Store and operated it

Wilma and Marion (Boots) Vanden Oever

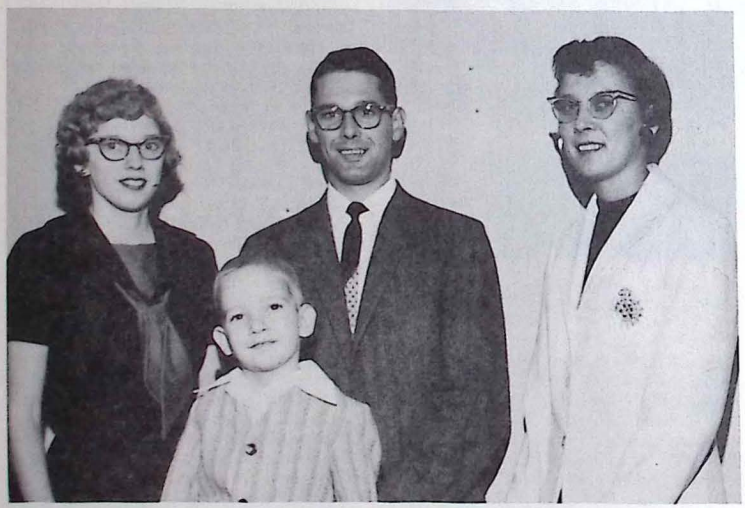
until 1936, when he sold it. He then took over the Pella agency of the Fuller Brush Company. From 1937 to 1939, Boots operated Vanden Oever's Conoco gas station. It was located on the south side of the 400 block of Oskaloosa St. In 1939 he started working at the post office. After working there for 26 years, he retired in 1966.

In 1933, Boots married Wilma A. Vande Voort. Wilma is the daughter of Henry J. and Anna Klein Vande Voort. Boots and Wilma met while both were working at the Puritan Drug Store in the 1920's.

Wilma was born on May 22, 1909, in a log cabin which was located at 1207 Franklin St. She attended both Christian and Public Schools, graduating from Pella High School in 1926.

Their four children are: Richard Henry (Mar. 22, 1934), Marianne (Oct. 19, 1936), Dorothy Nelle (Mar. 28, 1938) and John William (May 31, 1956).

by Mari Savery



Marion Vanden Oever children, left to right: Dorothy Toom, John, Dick, and Mari Savery.

VANDEN OEVER FAMILY

F654

William Vanden Oever, (1903-1976)

William Vanden Oever was born on July 13, 1903. He was the son of Henry Vanden Oever and Nellie (Neeltje) Boot. He was the third of five children and was raised in the Pella area, except for a short family health-related residence in New Mexico. He was educated in the Pella Public School system and chose agriculture as an occupation, spending his early employment years on the farms of Con Ver Ploeg and Hubert Van Steenis.

He was married on Dec. 28, 1928, to Alice Josephine Zandstra, daughter of Gerban (Gerrit) Zandstra — born July 29, 1883 in Ylst, Friesland, and Adrianne (Peternela) Kommer — born Mar. 17, 1884, in De Hague. Alice was raised and attended school in the Otley area. William spent most of his life farming in the Pella/Oskaloosa/Otley area.

To this union were born two sons: Loran Wayne on Oct. 7, 1929, and William James (Jim) on Jan. 12, 1931.

They spent their retirement years living in Otley, a good share of those years as custodians of the Otley Reformed Church. William died on July 28, 1976, at the Pella Community Hospital, after several months of battling a respiratory disease.

by Loren Vanden Oever

VANDEN OEVER FAMILY

F655

Edward and Esther Vanden Oever, Christmas, 1957.

Edward Henry Vanden Oever and Esther Evelyn (Butler)

Edward Henry Vanden Oever, the fifth and youngest child of Henry and Nellie Boat Vanden Oever, was born Aug. 2, 1910, in Pella. He attended Pella Public Schools, graduated from Pella High School, attended Central College one year, then graduated in forestry from Iowa State University, Ames, Ia.

He was head of the Iowa State Nursery in Ames for a few years, then moved his family

to the west coast in 1943 where he worked for Weyerehauser Lumber company, Boeing Aircraft (in the mock-up or design department), and Signal Oil Company until his retirement. He and his wife are now living in a Royal Gardens Condominium in King City, Portland, Ore.

Edward married Esther Butler of Ames on Oct. 6, 1940. Esther was born Jan. 21, 1914, attended Iowa State University in Ames, and later worked at the switchboard at the university for several years.

The Vanden Oevers have three married daughters, all living in Portland — Mary Evelyn (Mrs. Ray Ashmun), Lynn Ellen (Mrs. Michael Akerman), and Janis Leigh (Mrs. Gary Johann) — and six grandchildren.

by Henrietta Vanden Oever

VANDEN OEVER, DICK AND RITA FAMILY

F656

Richard H. Vanden Oever was born on Mar. 22, 1934, in Pella, Ia. to Marion and Wilma A. (Vande Voort) Vanden Oever.

He attended the Pella Community Schools. After working as a lab technician at Maytag in Newton for one year, he enrolled in Central College. After a year in college, and still undecided as to what he wanted as a life's vocation, he volunteered for the draft. He served in the U.S. Army, serving 17 months in Germany.

At the end of his tour, he again enrolled in Central College. In 1959 he graduated with a major in business.

On Dec. 26, 1958, he married Rita Koenen of Aplington, Ia. Dick and Rita met while they were both students at Central College. Rita's parents are the Rev. Peter and Jennie Koenen.

After graduation, Dick worked at the Rolscreen Company in purchasing for ten years. He also held the same position at Clow Inc. in Oskaloosa, Ia.

In 1973 the family moved to Indiana. Residing in Milford, Ind., Dick is manager of purchasing and transportation at Goshen Rubber Co. in Goshen, Ind. Rita is a purchasing agent at Stroker Craft Boat Co. in New Paris, Ind.

Kerry Lee Vanden Oever was born in Oskaloosa, Ia., on Jan. 8, 1960. She attended the Pella Community Schools through the seventh grade. She graduated from Goshen High School and received her RN from Anderson College, Anderson, Ind. She is employed at Children's Hospital of Los Angeles in California, in the neonatal unit. On Aug. 31, 1985, Kerry married Tom Guy of Pasadena, Calif.

Kent Eric Vanden Oever was born on July 13, 1966, in Pella, Ia. He graduated from Goshen High School. At this writing, Kent is a student in Finance and Statistics at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

by Mari Savery

VANDEN OEVER, REV. JOHN AND KATHY

F657

John William Vanden Oever was born on May 31, 1966, in Oskaloosa, Ia. He is the son of Marion and Wilma A. (Vande Voort) Vanden Oever.

John's birth was quite unique in that he was born 18 years after the next youngest in the family.

John attended the Pella Community Schools and graduated from Central College in 1978. Following graduation he was a member of a small musical group for about a year. After another year of working in a music store in Cedar Rapids, Ia., he entered

The Dick Vanden Oever family. Left to right: Kent, Rita, Dick, and Kerry.

Rev. John and Kathy Vanden Oever.

New Brunswick Theological Seminary in New Jersey in 1980.

In 1951, John married Kathleen Goldzung. Kathy is the daughter of the Rev. Harold and Mary Goldzung of North Bergen, N.J. John and Kathy met while they were both students at Central College.

After graduating from seminary in 1983, John and Kathy accepted the call to be the minister of the Queensborough Hill Community Reformed Church in Flushing, N.Y.

by Mari Savery

VANDEN OEVER, LORAN WAYNE

F658

Loran Wayne Vanden Oever, the son of William Vanden Oever and Alice Josephine Zandstra, was born on Oct. 7, 1929. His childhood and teen years were spent participating in activities on the family farms in the Oskaloosa, Pella, and Otley areas. His grade school education was completed at Given, Iowa, a small community southwest of Oskaloosa. His high school education began at Oskaloosa and was concluded at Pella in 1947.

Loran began his professional career in 1947 at the Rolscreen Company at Pella. At the time of this writing, he is still employed with that organization as manager of administration, control, and production in the M.I.S. department. He spent two years of active duty in the U.S. Army during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953.

On July 2, 1954, he was married to Naome Ruth Kaldenberg, daughter of Doris Kaldenberg, (July, 1880 – Mar. 11, 1952) and Bessie Alice Downing (1910-). She was born and raised in the community of Otley, completing her high school education in Pella, where she was active in vocal music activities.

Six children were born to this union: Victor Lynn, Aug. 7, 1955; Melody Ruth Feb. 5, 1957; Lora Renee Aug. 24, 1958; David Eugene Sept. 16, 1960; Naomi Shalom Aug. 19, 1968; and Rachel Rebecca Aug. 12, 1971.

by Loran Vander Oever

VANDENBERG FAMILY

F659

Johann Vandenberg

Johann Vandenberg came to America in a sailing ship which was becalmed at sea taking 93 days to reach America. Many on board perished from hunger. Johann's family had only rye bread to eat. There was a little bread left when they landed and after getting food, they gave the last of the rye bread to some pigs, which refused to eat it. "Well," Johann's father said, "we have been living on food that even the hogs won't eat." Each family furnished its own food. Johann became a minister.

by Edward H. Vandenberg, Jr.

VANDENBERG FAMILY

F660

July '86 Vera and Edward H. Vandenberg, Jr.

Gerret Vandenberg

We are descended from Gerret Hendrick Vandenberg. Gerret was a twin, the other being named Henry. Gerret was born Nov. 11, 1855, and died Aug. 15, 1945. His parents were Gertrude and Johann. Gerret married Jane Harmon and they had three children: Gertrude who never married, Edward Herman, and John who died at birth. Gerret's wife, Jane, was born in 1852 and died in 1882.

Gerret then married Mary Sophia Mayer on July 22, 1885. They had nine children. Gerret, John, Vitis, and Fred are all deceased. Nick lives in Artesia, N.M. The girls are: Ann Dunchie; Wilhelmina Blagg (both deceased); Mary Folsom of Rt. 1 Hydro, Okla.; and Gettis Carothers of Hamshire, Tex. Most have descendants.

The following is the family of Edward Herman Vandenberg who was born in Pella June 27, 1879, and died Nov. 27, 1959, in Windsor, Mo. He married Edna May Harr in 1909. She was born Aug. 9, 1892, in Hall Summit, Kan. and died Jan. 3, 1966, in Windsor, Mo. They had eight children.

Gerret H. was born Sept. 26, 1910, in Weatherford, Okla. and died March 24, 1967, in Kansas City, Kan. His widow is Verda Vandenberg of 1246 Douglas, Kansas City, Kan., 66103. They had four children: Edward O.; Dora Ruth (now Mrs. Pete Smith; Robert; and Harold. All live in the Kansas City area. All are married and have children.

Ruden L. was born Dec. 3, 1914, in Aurelia, Ia. and died Sept. 3, 1969. His first wife was Maxine Baker. They had four children and were divorced. The children are: Barbara Ann who lives in Virginia; Betty who lives in Springfield, Mo.; Brenda (now Mrs. Jamie Glore of 1219 N. Pine, Marshfield, Mo., 65706; and Bob of San Diego. Ruden's second wife was Lena Price who is now Mrs. Charles Rumford and lives at McLouth, Kan. Rt. 1, Box 85. They had two sons: Bill with the navy in Hawaii; and Don who lives in San Diego, Cal. with his wife Kathy and two daughters, Adele and Jennifer.

Eliza Bell was born May 9, 1916, and died Dec. 31, 1973, in Windsor, Mo. She was married to W.H. Harper and they had four children: Edna May Vochatzer; Harriet Ann Warren; and Bill, all of Independence, Mo.; and Gertrude Jane Clouse of Windsor, Mo. Rt. 3, 65360.

Arthur Ray was born Mar. 15, 1918, and died on May 22, 1981, at Windsor, Mo. He was married to Ona Mae Wiseman Hix in 1967. She resides at 303 Montgomery, Windsor, Mo., 65360.

Edward Herman Jr. was born Dec. 30, 1920, in Aurelia, Ia. He was married to Vera Jean Driggs on July 4, 1942, at Parkville, Mo. They had two sons. Vera was born on Dec. 10, 1923, in Kansas City, Kan., the daughter of Benjamin W. and Mary Pearl Williams Driggs. They are retired and living on the Lake of the Ozarks at Edwards, Mo. Rt. 2. Son Edward Herman III was born Oct. 2, 1946, at Kansas City, Kan. and married Charlotte Kay Peters June 18, 1966, at Kansas City, Kan. She was born Sept. 2, 1945, the daughter of Frank and Nelda Peters. They had two sons: Michael Edward born Feb. 7, 1972; and Scott Alan born Nov. 8, 1980. Son Richard Eugene Vandenberg was born Mar. 19, 1950, and married Catherine Laskowski on Dec. 12, 1967. Daughter Sandra Kay was born June 5, 1968, adn son Richard Eugene Jr. was born May 5, 1969. They divorced in 1971. Richard married Barbara Gail Hicklin on July 14, 1972, at Kansas City, Kan. She was born Jan. 9, 1951, to Jack and Ruth Hicklin, Kansas City, Kan. Their son, Gerrett Paul was born on Dec. 19, 1973, son Mark Christopher Oct. 19, 1975, and daughter Kara Jean Apr. 22, 1977. Edward III and family live at 8642 N. McGee, Kansas City, Mo., 64155. Richard and family live at 6002 N. Garfield, Gladstone, Mo., 64118.

Ernest L. was born July 13, 1922, and married Leona Jones on July 31, 1946, at Kansas City, Kan. Beverly, Leona's daughter by a previous marriage, lives in Dallas, Tex. Ernest and Leona have two daughters. Diane, Mrs. Bill Ufford, 6144 Edith, Kansas City, Kan., 66104 has three children: Chip, Hilary, and Stella at home. Linda, Mrs. Ben Dixon, 1731 S. 49th Place Kansas City, Kan. 66106, has two children: Richard and Jennifer at home. Ernest and Leona live at 11324 W. 67th. Terr., Shawnee, Kan., 66203.

Gertrude, born Feb. 24, 1928, married Dean Ray on July 31, 1946, in Kansas City, Kan. They live at 723 Fuller, Kansas City, Mo., 64125. They have three children. Gary Dean lives at Edwards, Mo., 65326 with his wife Lela and her daughter Vanessa. Jim lives in Independence, Mo., with his wife Becky and daughter Dusty and Becky's son, Adrian, by a previous marriage. Vinita and her husband and baby son live in Kansas City, Mo.

Harry James was born in Camden, Mo. Aug. 21, 1933, and died Nov. 6, 1955 at Windsor, Mo. as the result of a car accident.

by Edward H. Vandenberg

VANDENBERG FAMILY

F661

Then and Now

Our first records of the Vandenberg family begin with Garrid Van Den Barg (No. 1) who married Janna Schothorst Mar. 14, 1732, both of Vorden, Netherlands. Children – Klasina, Trientje, Teune, Jenneken, Hendrik Jan, Aeltjen, Hendrik, and Gerrit (No. 2) born Apr. 7, 1745. Garrid died Dec. 11, 1783. Janna died Dec. 26, 1778, in Vorden, Netherlands. (The names Ten Berge, Ten Barge, Van Den Berg, and Van Den Barge are the same names pronounced differently due to time and locality.)

Garrit Ten Berge (No. 2) married Hendrika Velhorst. Children were Gerrit Jan, Antoni, Hendrik Jan born June 6, 1789, (No. 3). Gerrit died in Vorden, Jan. 31, 1791. Hendrika, Oct. 8, 1810, Vorden.

Hendrik Jan Ven den Berg (No. 3) was a mason by trade. He married Willemina Catherina Van Spanckeren on Aug. 9, 1816. Children – Gerrit Hendrik, Hendrik Jan, Anthony, Johannes (No. 4) mason by trade, born Oct. 11, 1822, Zutphen, Netherlands, Willemina Hendrika, Henry J. – Hendrik Jan was born June 6, 1789, Vorden, Netherlands, died July 18, 1839, Zutphen. Willemina Catherina born in Zutphen Dec. 6, 1791, died June 19, 1839.

(No. 4) Johannes Vandenberg, a mason by trade, married Geertruida Evaarts, born in Gorssel Jan. 11, 1820. They were married Sept. 6, 1849. Children born in the Netherlands were Willemina Catherina, born in Zutphen Feborn 15, 1850; Nicolaas, born in Zutphen Nov. 24, 1851; Maria Aleida, born in Zutphen Oct. 4, 1853.

On Mar. 20, 1854, Johannes and family departed the Netherlands by sailing ship to come to America and to Pella, Ia. They paid in advance for their passage including food for the trip. Weather was very favorable and they were all happy when land was sightedied Passengers and crew gathered on deck to cheer mightily for the sight. However, in that small distance and time a very severe storm came upon them and drove them back and battered the ship mercilessly for many, many

days. Some of the crew and most of the passengers had given up hope of ever seeing land again, when suddenly the storm left them. When the skies cleared they were once again in sight of the chalk cliffs of Dover showing on the horizon. By this time food was getting low and the passengers implored the captain to put in to shore to replenish the food supply, but the captain refused to do this and again set his course for America. Therefore food was rationed so short that some of the weaker ones perished at sea. They once again had a good voyage and needless to say everyone was very happy to be on dry land again, (93 days at sea).

Johannes established a home in Pella where the twins, Hendrik Johannes and Gerret Hendrik (No. 5) were born Nov. 11, 1855. Geertruida did not survive the ordeal. Johannes was remarried to Hendnrika Lamendina Visser on Dec. 14, 1863. Children were Johannes and Jansje both born in Pella. Hendrika died Oct. 16, 1873, and Johannes died Mar. 27, 1880.

Gerret Hendrik (No. 5) married Jane Harmon in 1875, in Pella. Children were: Geertruida, born Oct. 3, 1877, in Pella, Ia., died Dec. 17, 1950, Weatherford, Okla.; Edward Harmon, born June 27, 1879. Jane died 1882 in Pella, Ia.

Gerret Hendrik Vandenberg (No. 5) married Mary Sophia Mayer on July 22, 1885. Mary, daughter of Vitus and Antonia Mayer, farmer and wheelwright, was born in Vandalia, Ia. Oct. 20, 1865. Children – Johannes Hendrik; Antonia May; Vitus Mayer; Wilhelmina Catherina; Gerret Hendrik; Frederick Joseph; Mary Sophia; Gettis Elizabeth, and Nicholas Charles Vandenberg (No. 6) born Oct. 31, 1906, Hampton, Territory of Oklahoma. Hampton was a store and post office eight miles northeast of Weatherfordied Ceased to exist soon after Oklahoma became a state in 1907. Gerret Hendrik died at Weatherford, Okla., Aug. 15, 1945. Mary Sophia died at Weatherford, Okla., on May 30, 1953. Farmers.

Nicholas Charles Vandenberg (No. 6) married Irene Evelyn Milward, daughter of Byron H. and Flora E. Milward on Jan. 8, 1946. Farmers. Children are: William Nicholas, Aug. 28, 1946, Weatherford, Okla.; Irene Evelyn, May 23, 1948, Weatherford, Okla.; Wilhelmina Katherina, May 4, 1950, Weatherford, Okla.; Rose Mary, Apr. 17, 1952; Charles Robert, June 12, 1954, Weatherford, Okla.; Vitus Mayer, Sept. 29, 1956, Gettysburg, S. Dak. – and NOW Nick and Evelyn Vandenberg – Retiredied

by Nick and Evelyn Vandenberg

VANDENBERG FAMILY

F662

Roelanus Vandenberg was born in 1761 at Lienden, Gelderland, married Mar. 15, 1795, at Varik, Gelderland to Marie de Kok who was christened Sept. 29, 1765, at Meteren, Gelderlandied Marie's parents were Cornelis de Kok and Helena de Graam. Roelanus and Marie's son Corneius was born Aug. 31, 1795, at Varik. He and his wife and four children, Cornelius, Geertruida, Syntje and Pieternella were passengers on the ship "Maastroom",

Peter and Jennie (Korver) Vandenberg on their 50th wedding anniversary in 1942.

one of the four ships to sail from Holland in Apr., 1847 for America. This ship didn't arrive in Baltimore until June, 1847. G.H. and Isaac Overkamp were the leaders and Captain Scott was commander of this ship.

The family first settled in Lake Prairie Twp. and Cornelius was elected a constable in 1849.

Their son Cornelius was born in South Holland, Nov. 13, 1824. He was raised on a farm and educated in the schools of Hollandied On Oct. 5, 1856, he married Cornelia Van Hemert near Pella who was born Oct. 13, 1824, in Broek, Province of Gelderlandied He was one of Marion County's successful farmers and stock raiser, owning over 400 acres of land in Polk Twp., sections 3 and 10, Twp. 76, Range 19. He acquired this land on May 24, 1884 and Dec. 31, 1899. Being one of the first settlers they endured many hardships. He was a good neighbor and friend of many. The story is told of how he walked along the Wabash railroad to visit with the neighbors and relatives, and on such a visit to the Van Lint family a pack of wolves began to follow him. He lit matches and threw them at the pack until they retreatedied

The couple had six children, three died in infancy and are believed to be buried in the T'Lam Cemetery, because of a record where it cost 15 cents a year to maintain a grave in the cemetery, and Cornelius had paid $1.00 in 1887. It is thought from this record that his parents were also buried there. Their living children were Celia (Mrs. Wm. Verwers), Cornelius (Neal), and Peter who all were born at Fifield and received their education at White Breast School at Fifield, Ia. In about 1895 he bought land in Monroe Co., Prairie, Miss. and sent his two sons and their families by railroad boxcar to live there. They moved back in 1896.

Cornelius died June 21, 1905, and his wife Cornelia died Nov. 8, 1896, at Fifieldied He left a farm to each of his children. Celia lived on hers, Neal moved to Armour, S.D., and sold his farm to his brother Peter.

Peter was born Dec. 15, 1867, married Jennie G. Korver, Feborn 17, 1892, at Leighton. She was born June 20, 1867, near Leighton to Sijmen (Simon) Korver and Gertrude Vandeer Myde both of the Province Vinkeveen, Utrecht. They resided on this farm in Fifield where they raised their family of seven children; Cornelius (Cornie) born Apr. 4, 1893; Simon (Sam) 1895-1915; Cornelia 1899-1900; Gertrude 1902-1902; Selia (Mrs. Lewis De Vries) 1903-1980; John P. 1905-1981; Peternellia (Nellie, Mrs. Ralph G. Kuiper) born 1908. All were educated at the White Breast School.

Peter was owner and operator of the creamery, churning butter twice a week in a huge steam powered churn, and making cheese and shipping it out by rail to east coast until 1907. He owned and operated his own ice house, supplying ice for creamery and Fifield Store. He had a sawmill where they sawed logs into lumber for people, used the sawdust in the ice house. He also made picket fencing, operated a sorghum mill, did custom threshing, and clover hulling. He installed pumps and repaired windmills for miles around or almost anything mechanical which needed fixing, dug artesian wells when they lived in Miss., also had many bee hives and sold honey by crates to the train men. Peter died July 16, 1948, and Jennie died Jan. 3, 1947, in Pella.

by Mrs. Don Douwstra

VANDENBERG, GERRET HENDRIC

F663

Gerret Hendric Vandenberg, son of Johannes Vandenberg, was born in Pella, Ia., in 1855. He grew up there and worked at many jobs: miner, railroad worker, etc. He became a farmer after his marriage to Mary Mayer and farmed in Ia. for many years, mostly raising corn and hogs. In the fall of 1901, Gerret rented land near Guthrie, Okla. and in the spring of 1902 he loaded all farm equipment on a freight train. His wife Mary, daughter Ann, and small son Fred, and baby girl Mary went on the passenger train to Guthrie, Okla. Then with all of their household goods loaded on three covered wagons, Gerret Sr. on the lead wagon, John (age 14) on the second wagon, and Ed (age 22) on the third wagon, with Vitus (age ten) and Gerret (age six) on horseback bringing up the herd of 12 horses and 65 cattle, with Gertrude (age 24) and Wilhelmina (age 8) doing the cooking and general housework. They began the trip that had some good and some very, very bad weather. With all the troubles and hard work they were at their new home in just over three weeks. They farmed one year and then made a similar journey from Guthrie to Weatherford, Okla., where Gerret bought a farm. Here they lived the rest of their lives.

Gerret Hendrick Vandenberg, born Pella, Ia., Nov. 11, 1855, died Weatherford, Okla., Aug. 15, 1945. Mary Sophia (Mayer) Vandenberg, born Vandalia, Ia., Oct. 20, 1865, died May 30, 1953. Their final resting place: Greenwood Cemetery, Weatherford, Okla.

by Nick and Evelyn Vandenberg

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F664

In Abilene, Kans., on Sept. 18, 1921, being named Maxine Leona Marshall, I was very fortunate to have been brought into this world as the youngest daughter of Mary Anna Cassat Marshall and Leo Chester Marshall. My father is now deceased and my mother, daughter of Rozina Vandenberg and granddaughter of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg, is now living in Phoenix, Ariz. The only relative that I have

living near me is my uncle (Mom's brother) Paul Milton Cassat and his wife "Aunt Evelyn", who live in Abilene, Kans., It is through Paul's extreme family heritage interest that the Nicholas Vandenberg history is being collected and submitted.

Shortly after my birth, Mom and Daddy, my two sisters, and I moved from Abilene to Wichita, Kans. where I grew up and attended schools. I had a very interesting childhood and close family relationship through music being our hobby. We had our family orchestra and were kept quite busy with engagements in Kansas and Colorado. When radio station KFBI was in Abilene, we made many appearances on the radio while we were there visiting at the home of my grandmother and uncle-the Cassats. One of the highlights of our engagements was when our orchestra played at a banquet for Vice President Curtis at the Lassen Hotel in Wichita. My love for music and singing will always be enjoyable and relaxing for me.

At the age of 18, I married Wesley Dale Calvert from Wellington, Kan. My mother and Wes' mother were school friends in Abilene, so there was a long time acquaintance before our marriage. Wes and I lived in Wellington until the beginning of World War II when we moved to Wichita where Wes was employed at Cessna Aircraft before he entered the service. During the time that Wes was in the service, both in the States and Germany, I stayed in Wichita and worked for the Boeing Airplane Company. While Wes was gone, my parents, both of my sisters, and their husbands moved to Washington state; therefore, I have been the only member of the Marshall family to remain in Kansas.

Upon Wes' return from the service, we moved back to Wellington where Wes became associated in business and I got "over-involved" in church and civic activities. In July of 1948, our little daughter Susan Dalene, came to our home by adoption and in Aug. of 1952 Marshall Alan was adopted to complete our family for many years of happiness. Susan is now married to Colonel Jim McSlarrow and they reside in Columbia, Md. Susan is in office management at Army Headquarters at Fort Meade, Md. Marshall is in business with the A.L. Williams Company in Anchorage, Alaska and is also in the air force national guard as a major. He and his wife Darcy have provided our only grandchild Cara who was nine years of age in Feb. 1987.

My mother, the oldest living descendant of the Nicholas Vandenbergs is not in very good health; and I do not get to see her as often as I would like, due to my working for a local doctor and having a totally disabled husband.

Although I don't see my "Uncle Paul and Aunt Evelyn" very often, it is certainly a satisfaction to me to have them as close as they are so that we can visit at least a few times each year. Paul has made contact with many of the descendants of the Nicholas Vandenbergs and I appreciate the hospitality that has been shown to both him and Evelyn.

I shall be eternally grateful that I have been "involved" with such a great ancestry and I shall treasure the happiness that has been mine through the years. My hope is that there will always be descendants of the Nicholas Vandenbergs and may they all be as kind and as thoughtful as their ancestors.

The Vandenbergs, Nicholas and Anna, were very special, I'm sure,

For they raised my grandmother, Rozina, who was good and kind and pure;

Then Rozina married Carl Cassat and they added to their fold

My mother Mary Anna and then Paul came along to hold;

In her late teens, Mary Anna married Leo Marshall, you see,

And to this marriage were three daughters, the last one being ME.

Now, many years have come and gone since the Vandenbergs started this tree,

But grateful I am that I am a part of such a wonderful family.

by Mrs. Maxine L. Calvert

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F665

Nicholas Vandenberg, next to the youngest child of Nicholas and Anna (Paardekooper) Vandenberg, was born in Abilene, Kan. on May 5, 1889. He was raised and educated in Abilene. After he was grown, Nick (as he was known to everyone) moved to Salina, Kan., where he worked as a cement finisher for a contractor. He met and married Mabel Mathews on Aug. 18, 1909. A son, Cecil, was born but passed away as a small baby. On Aug. 2, 1916, a daughter, Lucille Caroline, was born in Salina.

As Mabel's parents and other family members had moved to Idaho, Nick and Mabel thought the west would be a great change. They sold their Salina home and moved to New Plymouth, Ida. in Sept., 1918. Idaho farming was a challenge to Nick so he rented a farm and started raising crops and milking cows. As the valley had lots of fruit, Nick became a top picker of apples and prunes. He still did cement work in the new, growing little town.

On Nov. 26, 1918, a son, Kenneth Leon, was born in New Plymouth. Lucille and Kenneth were raised and educated in New Plymouth.

Kenneth married Emma Rhinehart. While living in Council, Ida., they had a little daughter born. They named her Cheryl Verlene. In the Fall of 1941 the family moved to Seattle, Wash., where Kenneth worked for Boeing Aircraft. While in Seattle, they had a son, Larry Leon. Later, the family moved to Sutherlin, Ore. Kenneth, who worked as a lumber inspector, is now retired and he and Emma still make their home in Sutherlin.

Cheryl married Kenney Moore and they live in Sutherlin. Their son, Rick, is a teacher in Ashland, Ore. Their daughter, Sherri, married Karl Hoppe and they live in Portland, Ore.

Kenneth's son, Larry, married Diane Peterson. They moved to Portland, Ore. where they and their three children, still at home, are now living.

On June 30, 1935, Lucille married Walter Carl Gerlach of Payette, Ida. Walter was farming east of New Plymouth and there they set up housekeeping.

On Apr. 17, 1937, a daughter, LaVeryl Ruth, was born. As there was no hospital in New Plymouth, LaVeryl was born in a maternity home in Ontario, Ore.

LaVeryl was raised and educated in New Plymouth. On Mar. 9, 1956, she married Ralph Allen Pearcey at the First Baptist Church in New Plymouth. Ralph had a little three-year-old daughter, Allena Christine, who LaVeryl and Ralph raised. The family moved to Brookings, Ore. On Aug. 7, 1957, a daughter, Carmie Lee, was born in Crescent City, Calif.

In 1958, they left Brookings and moved to Nampa, Ida. where they made their home. On Mar. 21, 1960, a son, Chris Allen, was born in Nampa.

On Aug. 18, 1975, Carmie married Leon Harper at Nampa. They made their home in Boise, Ida. On Dec. 9, 1976, a little daughter, TaNelle Lee, was born at the Nampa Hospital. On Aug. 14, 1980, a son was born at the Nampa Hospital. They named him Brandon Leon. January, 1981, the Harper family moved to Sacramento, Calif., where they now reside.

As for the deaths: Nicholas (Nick) Vandenberg passed away Mar. 18, 1957, at the Ontario, Ore. Hospital. His wife, Mabel, passed away Oct. 17, 1974, at the Nursing Home in Ontario, Ore.

LaVeryl Pearcey lost her husband Ralph and 18-year-old son Chris in an auto collision on Aug. 4, 1978. Nick, Mabel, Ralph and Chris are all buried in the Parkview Cemetery in New Plymouth, Ida.

On Nov. 28, 1980, LaVeryl married Melvin Floyd Landers. They are living in Nampa, Ida.

In Jan., 1973, Lucille and Walter sold their ranch, retired, and are now living in the town of New Plymouth.

by Lucille Gerlach

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F666

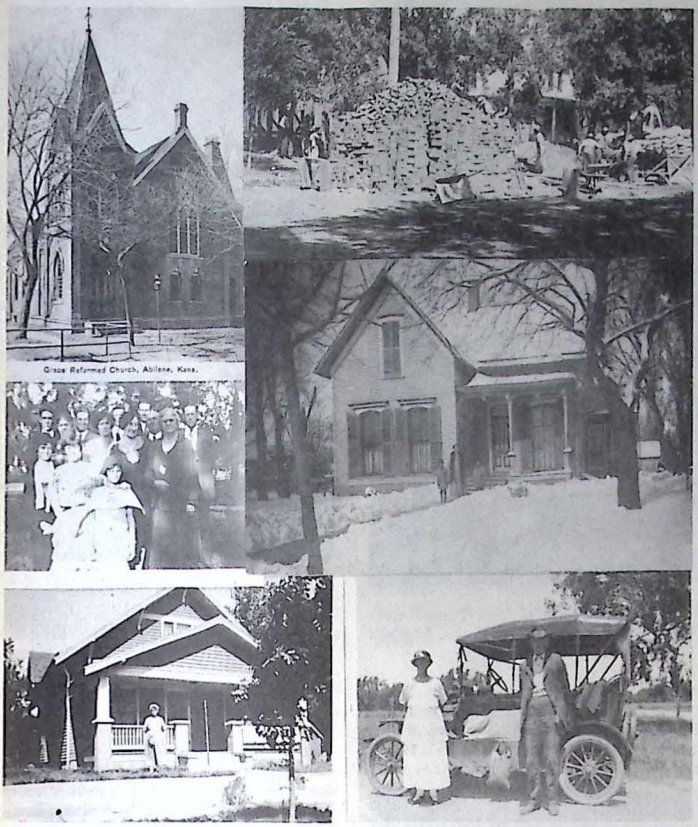
Nicholas and Anna (Paardekooper) Vandenberg

Nicholas Vandenberg, the second son of Johannes Vandenberg and Gertruid Everts Vandenberg, was born Nov. 24, 1851, in Zutphen, Holland, and came with his parents to Pella in 1854. Johannes, born Oct. 11, 1822, in Zutphen and Gertruid, born Jan. 11, 1820, in Gorssel, Holland, were married Sept. 26, 1849, in Zutphen.

Nicholas and his wife, Anna Paardekooper, who was born Mar. 5, 1853, and who had come with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Paardekooper, from Holland to Pella in 1856, were married Aug. 27, 1872, and in 1885 moved with their five children – John-1873, Rozina-1875, Henry-1877, Martin-1881, and Mattice-1884 to Abilene, Kan., where Gertrude-1886, Nicholas-1889 and William-1891 were born. For a time the Vandenberg children remained in Abilene.

John owned and operated a shoe store, The blue Front, on Cedar St. and rented the back room to R.H. Viola, who owned and operated a shoe repair shop there, the first of 11 businesses later owned and operated in Abilene by members of the Viola family. Later John owned and operated a grocery store in Talmage, across the street north from the present bank.

Henry was a long-time employee of the



Clockwise, from upper left: Last high chimney repaired by Nicholas Vandenberg when he was 77 years old. Unloading masonry to be used by Nicholas Vanderberg on a job in Abilene, Kan. in early 1900's. The Nicholas Vandenberg home at 221 NE Third in Abilene where their daughter Rozina and Carl Milton Cassat were married; Mrs. John Vandenberg and sons Floyd and Harold are on the front walk. Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Vandenberg 100 miles from Denver in 1921, standing beside the 1915 Model Ford owned by their son Mattice. The last home that Nicholas Vandenberg constructed and owned in Abilene, the house and cement work are still in good condition. Relatives who attended the Nicholas Vandenberg funeral in Oct., 1931, in Abilene, Front, l-r: Dorothy, Rozina, and Maxine Marshall; Middle, l-r: Rozina Vandenberg Cassat, Mary Cassat Marshall, Mrs. Forest C. Stetler (mother of Floyd and Harold Vandenberg), and Henry Vandenberg (brother of Nicholas Vandenberg, father of Will Vandenberg, and Henry's second wife); Back, l-r: Paul Cassat, Floyd Vandenberg, Will Vandenberg (nephew of Nicholas Vandenberg), Harold Vandenberg, and (far right) Mattice Vandenberg.

J.H. Gleissner Drug Store; he never married, and died in 1900 and, like John, is buried in the family lot in the Abilene cemetery. Until Martin left Abilene, he worked in the Railway Express office. He is buried in Boulder, Colo. Both of the daughters were married in their parents' home, at 221 N.E. Third St. when Rozina was married and at 209 N.E. Seventh St. when Gertrude was married and for whom Kate Veenstra of Pella was a bridesmaid.

Nicholas, like his father and his grandfather, made masonry his occupation. As Mattice, Nicholas, and William grew up, he taught them to be masons. Cement sidewalks he built in the business district are still in use and are in good condition. He did all of the masonry work on the three new homes he built in Abilene; and when one of them was razed recently to make room for new construction, the contractor stated that he had never seen a "finer constructed basement." Curbs he built around two of his homes are still in excellent condition. He also made cement building block which he used and also sold to other masons.

His last job of any size was done for his daughter Rozina on a home she bought after her husband died. He built a chimney, replastered some of the rooms, and repaired the foundation. Later when he repaired a high chimney on the Grace Reformed Church at 77 years of age, he decided he did not want to repair any more that high. Matttice built the cement sidewalks his sister's home needed. Mattice was one of the bricklayers who worked on the construction of the Union Pacific depot in Abilene.

Anna, a friendly person with a happy disposition, enjoyed serving coffee in the afternoon to those who visited in their home. During WWI she prepared and served coffee to the soldiers on many of the troop trains that stopped on the Union Pacific tracks near their home.

Nicholas used a horse and spring wagon to haul his masonry equipment, but he and his wife enjoyed making trips to Pella and Keokuk in Iowa and to Denver and Lafayette in Colorado to visit relatives. Sometimes they went by train and sometimes with Mattice in his 1915 Ford touring car, the brass radiator of which Mattice shined almost every morning. During the winter they sometimes stayed away from home three or more months visiting family members in Colorado.

Anna died in her home in 1924; Nicholas in 1931 in a hospital in Ontario, Ore. He had gone to New Plymouth, Ida. with Mattice in his 1922 Ford coupe to see his son Nicholas and his family. While living in the area, he fell and broke his hip and died from complications. He was returned to Abilene for burial beside his wife. The family gathering for his memorial service was the largest and the last family gathering. For some it was their first and/or their last time to see one another.

by Paul M. Cassat

(See photo next page.)

Nicholas Vandenberg family taken in Abilene, Kan. in 1895. Front, l-r: Nicholas, Anna (Paardekooper) Vandenberg, Gertrude, Nicholas Vandenberg, and William; Back, l-r: Mattice, Henry, Rozina, John, and Martin.

Carl Milton Cassat and his wife Rozina Vandenberg Cassat with their son Paul Milton, 10-months old, and their daughter Mary Anna, 10-years old. (Taken in Abilene, Kansas in 1910.)

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

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Top, l-r: Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cassat take their son Paul and their two granddaughters Rozina and Dorothy Marshall for a Sunday drive and picnic east of Salina, Kan., in 1921 in a Chalmers; Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cassat, their daughter Mary Anna, and their son Paul Milton near Fort Riley, Kan. in 1916 with the first capitol of Kansas, before restoration, in the background; Bottom, l-r: Mrs. Carl Cassat, taken by her son, Paul (the first picture he ever took; on the first day he went to school in Abilene, Kan. in 1915); Carl Cassat uses his team to haul asphalt for city streets in Abilene (Taken at W. First and Cedar in about 1910.).

Carl Milton and Rozina (Vandenberg) Cassat

Rozina Vandenberg was the second child of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg. She was born in Pella Feb. 24, 1875, and moved to Abilene, Kan., with her parents and four brothers in 1884.

Rozina learned from her mother how to be an excellent cook, an immaculate housekeeper, and a capable seamstress. Rozina remembered helping her mother scrub the boards in their kitchen floor and their using ashes to scour and polish them.

On Mar. 13, 1898, Rozena married Carl Milton Cassat, the fifth child of Samuel Cassat and Mary Freeman Cassat, who had come to Abilene from Gettysburg, Pa., in 1877. Carl was born in Abilene on Oct. 24, 1878, on a farm on which his father worked and on part of which all of the Eisenhower Center has been built.

For the first six years following their marriage the couple lived on farms within six miles of Abilene and located northwest or northeast of there. Their first child, Mary Anna, was born Sept. 23, 1899. In 1904 they moved to Abilene; and Carl, who was recognized as being a good worker and a hustler, used his team on construction jobs and did hauling for some of the local businesses. Their son Paul Milton was born Sept. 24, 1909, at 610 N.W. Sixth St.

One time when Carl had been working for two weeks in Manhattan, Kan., Rozina decided to take their two children and go by train to visit him. Near Detroit they saw, from the train window, Carl driving his team home. The three got off the train at the next stop, Chapman, and caught the next west bound train, arriving in Abilene. They had walked home just as Carl was driving his team into the back yard. When Rozina told Carl what had happened, he really laughed. Rozina

doubted Carl ever believed her story.

Paul remembers holding his father's finger to help him keep his balance while he rode an empty scoop down into an excavation his father was helping to make for a public swimming pool being built in Abilene. Paul walked to the top to be ready to ride down again after the next scoopful of dirt was emptied.

Their daughter married Leo Chester Marshall on Nov. 21, 1916. They lived in Abilene until they moved to Wichita in Apr., 1920. Their daughter Rozina (1918), Dorothy (1919), and Maxine (1921) were born in Abilene.

Carl had become shop foreman at the Redman Motor Company – the Maxwell, Chalmers, Chrysler Agency in Abilene – at the time of his unexpected death on Apr. 16, 1925, at the shop as he and the other shop employees were returning to their work following their lunch hour.

For many years Rozina won the red ribbon and her mother the blue ribbon or vice versa in the home baked bread category at the county fair. After her husband's death, to supplement her income, Rozina sometimes sold extra loaves of bread from her regular family baking to neighbors who were always glad to have the opportunity to buy them.

The family made frequent pleasure trips by car within the state, and Rozina had gone by train in 1918 to Colorado to visit her sister and three younger brothers and their families. Following her husband's death Rozina made three trips to Pella by car and visited her Uncle Tice Paardekooper, Cora and John Onstine, Kate and Herman Veenstra, and Cora VerDught and her son Verl and family. In Keokuk she visited Nellie Paardekooper Smith's daughter, Gertrude Hasset, and family. All of those she visited were relatives of hers. She also visited her Uncle Gerrit Vandenberg on a farm near Weatherford, Okla., and her Uncle Henry Vandenberg, who had moved to California from Wichita.

After leaving Pella, the rest of her life she lived in Abilene except for about five months during which she and her son lived in Salina while he worked full time for the United Telephone Company and attended Kansas Wesleyan University. When they returned to Abilene, her son drove to Salina to work and attend college for about one and one-half years.

After a short illness, she died in her home; she was buried on Aug. 8, 1943, in the Abilene cemetery beside her husband.

by Paul M. Cassat

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

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Paul Milton and Evelyn (Hendren) Cassat

Paul Milton Cassat, son of Carl Milton Cassat and Rozina Vandenberg Cassat, was born Aug. 24, 1909, in Abilene, Kan. His paternal grandparents had given his father Carl, "Milton" as a middle name because of the high regard the Cassats had for their neighbor, Milton Valentine, president of

Top, l-r: Paul Cassat with his 1929 Hudson on Easter 1935 in Abilene, Kan.; with his bride Evelyn Hendren, taken in July, 1946, during their wedding trip to the Northwest; at the testboard in the Abilene, Kan. exchange in 1946; Bottom, l-r: Because of his father's influence Paul developed an early and continuing interest in and appreciation of cars — With his first car, a gift from his father in 1924; in Abilene, Kan. in 1915 receiving driving lessons in a Republic truck from his father; enjoying a motor trip which he made to the first capitol of Kansas with family members.

Gettysberg College. Daughters of the two families played together.

Contracting flu the first year Paul enrolled in the third grade and pneumonia the second year caused him to discontinue attending school both years and also participating in boys' band, his first musical activity. When his father died, Paul was an eighth grader rather than a sophomore.

While Paul was in junior high school, he had made crystal sets and had sold some to friends. To supplement his mother's income, he continued making them to sell, and his mother painted the cabinets. He also began working after school and on week-ends making picture frames and being a handyman for a local photographer. He also repaired radios for individuals on his own. Later he worked at an electrical appliance store doing the repair work and sometimes going house-to-house to sell radios and appliances.

Because he had no time to participate in and very little time to attend high school athletic activities, Paul did not develop much interest in sports except for baseball, a sport in which one of his cousins, Harold (Hy) Vandenberg, the younger son of Paul's Uncle John Vandenberg, was a pitcher in major league baseball.

Paul was interested in music, science, and technology. He was president of the high science club his senior year, and he began working part time for the United Telephone Company during the summers, after school, and on week-ends beginning May 28, 1928. He became a full time employee after he completed high school.

When Paul began working full time for the United Telephone Company, Mr. David Eisenhower, father of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, was head of the benefit committee; and Paul delivered information, which was dispersed to all department heads, to Mr. Eisenhower's office each morning. Paul was involved in setting up the network which covered each of Gen. Eisenhower's trips home and his memorial service.

While Paul attended Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, he was a member of the KWU philharmonic choir, and he was one of those that drove a car to Columbus, O., to sing at the International Convention of the Methodist Church, which was the first extended trip to be made by the choir. Later Paul also sang with the local SPEBSQSA and participated in their concerts.

Paul served as president of the Young Peoples Council at the Abilene Christian Church of which all of his family and his mother's parents were members. Later he served as choir director, chairman of the board, and as church treasurer. He was also Sunday School superintendent one year.

When, with 21 years of service, he qualified for membership in Telephone Pioneers of America, he served as vice president and president of the active and later the retired Mid-Kansas clubs; in the state Sunflower Chapter he was a life member representative for two years and chapter publicity chairman for one year.

On July 26, 1946, Paul married Evelyn D. Hendren, daughter of John Q. Hendren and Ruby M. Crandall Hendren, in Salina. She was born May 30, 1912 in Helper, Utah.

Paul retired in 1974 as a repeaterman for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company with a service record of 46 years. In 1939 Southwestern Bell Telephone Company took over the United Telephone Company of Kansas which comprised 58 exchanges including Abilene. At different times Paul had been offered three other jobs in which he had had considerable interest — a job for which he would have received company training to be a factory representative for a division of General Motors; employment at NBC in Los

Angeles offered by the chief engineer; and a management position with the Fowler Telephone Company in Pella, offered by W.H. Fowler.

by Paul M. Cassat

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F669

Mattice Vandenberg made many out-of-state trips to and from Abilene, Kan. in his 1915 Model Ford and family members often accompanied him on his pleasure trips. (Taken in 1915 in Abilene.)

Mattice and Yanna Vandenberg

Mattice Vandenberg, son of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg, was born June 10, 1884, in Pella. He moved with his parents to Abilene, Kan. Before he moved to Colorado in 1911 or 1912, he had worked for the American Railway Express and was married to Yanna, whose maiden name family members do not remember; and, because of a fire, county records are not available to be used for research.

In Colorado he worked several years at

Mattice Vandenberg's 1915 Model Ford is parked in front of home his parents constructed and owned at 225 NE Third Street in Abilene, Kan. The house is built on a cement-block foundation. The blocks were made by his father. The foundation and house are still in good condition. To the left is a partial view of his parents' home at 221 NE Third Street where they had previously lived. Later, on a joining lot, 304 N. Olive, his parents built and lived in their final Abilene home, their third in this particular area.

Standard Mine as a fireman. He was separated from his wife, and they later divorced.

He worked in Gary, Ind., for a short time, lived with his sister Gertrude and her family in Colorado for several years, and worked for a few years in Idaho, in the early 1930's, in the apple country before he moved to Kansas City about 1935 where he worked in a large hotel until he retired. He died Feb. 23, 1966, and is buried in Kansas City, Kan., in the Memorial Park Cemetery.

by Bruce Hetherington

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F670

Wedding picture of Gertrude Adeline (Vandenberg) Hetherington and Van L. Hetherington.

Van L. and Gertrude Adeline (Vandenberg) Hetherington

Gertrude Adeline Vandenberg, born Oct. 21, 1886, in Abilene, Kan., was the younger daughter of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg. She had six brothers.

Gertrude grew up in Abilene, and on July 22, 1904, she married Van L. Hetherington. She was the mother of two children: Anna, born Feb. 11, 1906, and a son Bruce born Aug. 7, 1907.

The family moved to Littleton, Colo., in 1909 and went from there to a coal mining camp near Lafayette, Colo. where Van found work in a Standard Mine in 1911.

They were joined there by Gertrude's brothers, Nicholas and Mattice, and Mattice's wife Yanna. The brothers worked in the mine, and Yanna worked in the boarding house there.

The next move was to a home purchased in Lafayette, Colo., in 1912. Van took the family to Cripple Creek, Colo., in 1915 for about a year, and then they returned to their home in Lafayette.

Van's work took the family to the Columbine Mine settlement near Erie, Colo., where Gertrude died on Dec. 11, 1921. She is buried in Denver, Colo.

by Bruce Hetherington

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F671

Anna May Hetherington and Homer Jones

Anna May Hetherington, daughter of Van L. Hetherington and Gertrude Vandenberg Hetherington, was born in Abilene, Kan., on Feb. 11, 1906. After her mother died in 1921, Anna lived with her grandparents, Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg, in Abilene, Kan. for a time until her father could establish another home for his family, first in Trinidad, Colo., and then to a more permanent place in Kansas City, Mo., where she met and married Homer Jones in 1932. One child, Virginia, was born in 1933. This marriage ended in divorce three years later, and Anna worked and supported the family until her death on Nov. 25, 1949. Anna is buried in Kansas City, Kan.

by Bruce Hetherington

Anna May Hetherington with her mother Mrs. Van L. Hetherington, and her brother Bruce Henry on Easter, Apr. 12, 1914, in Colorado.

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

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Bruce Henry Hetherington and his wife Bessie Butler at the time of their marriage.

Bruce Henry and Bessie (Butler) Hetherington

Bruce Henry Hetherington, son of Van L. Hetherington and Gertrude Adeline Vandenberg Hetherington, was born Aug. 7, 1907, in Abilene, Kan.

The family moved to Littleton, Colo. in 1909 and then to Lafayette, Colo., a mining town, in 1912. Bruce attended school in Lafayette through the sixth grade, except for one year when the family moved to Cripple Creek, Colo., in 1915 where the father worked in the Cresson Gold Mine for about one year, after which they went back to their home in Lafayette.

They moved next to a mining camp, the Columbine Mine, near Erie, Colo., where Bruce attended school for four years. After his mother's death in 1921 the family, his father Van, his sister Anna, and Bruce, moved to Denver, Colo., following which they made a series of moves – to Antonita, Colo., to Trinidad, Colo., and to Cokedale, Colo. before finally settling in Kansas City, Mo. in 1926, where Bruce met and married Bessie Butler in 1927.

One child, Robert Eugene, was born in 1941. He is now married and living at Norwood, Mo.

After Bruce retired in 1975 as a hoisting engineer for Local 101 in Kansas City, MO., he and his wife began spending the winter months in Apache Junction, Ariz.

After they sold their home in Kansas City, in 1981, they moved permanently to Apache Junction until 1987 when Bruce and his wife moved to re-locate for the purpose of being nearer to their son and daughter-in-law.

In the late spring of 1987 Bruce and Bessie moved their doublewide trailer home to Norwood, Mo., where they are living in and operating a trailer camp, Plant Place Trailer Camp, which is owned by their son.

Bessie is interested in crafts and is an accomplished wood- carver. Since Bruce and Bessie have moved to Norwood, Bessie is able to assist her daughter-in-law with the operation of her craft shop which also affords both women a market for the many beautiful and useful articles make.

Bessie shares the pleasure her husband receives from traveling and fishing. They have owned a recreational vehicle since 1952 and have made many trips in the U.S. and Canada.

The area around Norwood affords them many opportunities to fish.

by Bruce Hetherington

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F673

Robert Eugene and Linda (Barns) Hetherington

Robert Eugene Hetherington, son of Bruce Henry Hetherington and Bessie Butler Hetherington, was born May 30, 1941, in Kansas City, Mo. He is a great-grandson of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg of Abilene, Kan.

Robert grew up in Kansas City and is a graduate of Bishop Hogan High School. He worked for the Gas Service Company for several years and married Sharon Woodward in June, 1960. One child, Teresa, was born July 16, 1962. This marriage resulted in divorce, and Robert married Linda Barns in 1966. Teresa was reared by her father and Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Eugene Hetherington and daughter Teresa, taken at their home in 1980.

The family moved to a farm near Ava, Mo., in 1969 and began a grade A dairy operation which they have now moved to a larger place which they purchased near Norwood, Mo. where they still reside.

Teresa is employed in Kansas City as a legal secretary and resides there.

by Bruce Hetherington

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F674

Cora Mae (Ledy) Vandenberg and William Vandenberg with their two children, Verl and Eileen. Picture was taken in Colorado in about 1918.

William and Cora Mae (Ledy) Vandenberg

William Vandenberg was the youngest of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg's eight children. He was born in Abilene, Kan. June 13, 1891, and died May 1, 1971, in Riverside, Calif., where he and his wife Cora are buried in vaults at Crestlawn Memorial Park in a 12-story mausoleum.

William's wife, Cora Mae Ledy, was born in Hope, Kan., and they were married in Abilene, Kan. Cora died May 19, 1935, on her daughter Eileen's birthday. Eileen was born May 19, 1910, in Abilene, Kan. Their son Verl was born in Abilene on Apr. 11, 1914.

While living in Abilene, William and his brother Mattice worked with their father doing masonry work. In 1915 William and his family moved to Denver where William worked in flour mills and in coal mines.

Later William contracted painting jobs for business buildings and homes. When Verl was old enough to help, he and his father worked together.

Their daughter Eileen continues to live in Colorado; their son Verl moved to California.

by Paul M. Cassat

John Vandenberg and Anna Rebecca (Aker) Vandenberg's wedding picture.

Wedding picture of Anna Rebecca Aker Vandenberg and her second husband, Forest C. Stetler.

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F675

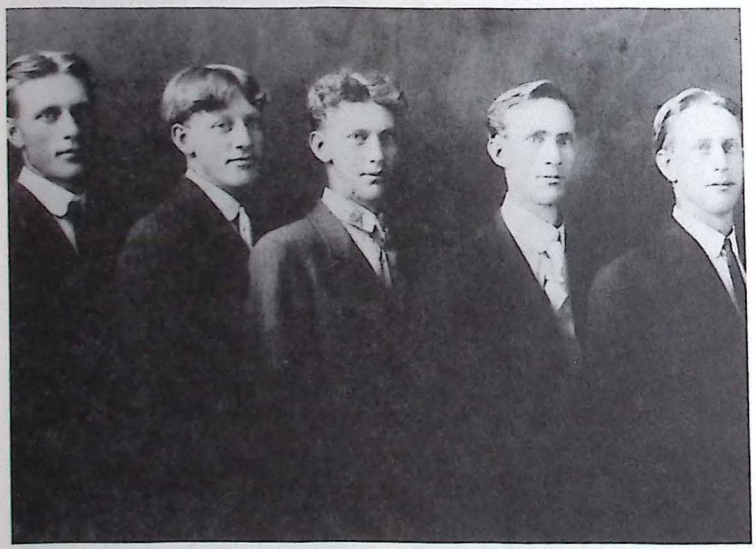
John and Anna Rebecca (Aker) Vandenberg

John Vandenberg, the oldest of Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna Paardekooper Vandenberg's eight children, was born in the Dutch settlement of Pella, Ia. on Mar. 16, 1873, and was one of the five Vandenberg children who moved with their parents in 1884 to Abilene, Kan., where the Vandenberg's other three children were born and all eight grew up.

As an adult, John's vocational activities included owning and operating a shoe store in Abilene and later a grocery store in Talmage, located about 10 miles northwest of Abilene. John's extreme desire to be fair in all his business transactions resulted in his often being referred to as "Honest John."

One of his recreational activities was serving as captain of a uniform-attired drill team which was sponsored by a fraternal organization in Abilene.

John Vandenberg, Captain of a Drill Team in Abilene, Kans., about 1900.



John, fourth from left, was one of six brothers and was the oldest of the eight Nicholas Vandenberg and Anna (Pardekooper) Vandenberg children. The brothers, are left to right: Mattice, William, Nicholas, John, and Martin. Henry was deceased in 1900 and was the first member of the family to be buried on the family lot in the Abilene cemetery. (Picture taken in Abilene about 1905).

Here on Mar. 30, 1904, John married Anna Rebecca Aker, who had been born in York, Pa., on Aug. 20, 1884.

Their two sons were born in Abilene: Floyd Henry on Jan. 28, 1905, and Harold Harris on Mar. 17, 1906.

John Vandenberg died Sept. 21, 1912 and became the second of the five members of the Nicholas Vandenberg family to be buried in the family lot in the Abilene cemetery.

Following her husband's death, Anna Vandenberg and her two sons moved to Minneapolis, Minn., where the boys attended public school and grew to manhood.

In 1928 Anna Vandenberg married again. Anna's second husband, Forest C. Stetler, died on Oct. 25, 1948; Anna, on May 7, 1954;

and both are interred in Fort Snelling National Cemetery, Minneapolis, Minn.

by Harold Harris Vandenberg

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F676

Floyd Henry Vandenberg

Floyd Henry Vandenberg, the older son of John Vandenberg and Anna Rebecca Aker Vandenberg, who grew to manhood in Minneapolis, Minn., was in the radio repair business for a number of years and for several years was the oldest of the ham operators in Minnesota. He carried a short wave operator's license for sixty years.

He organized a dance band called "Van's Vagabonds" who played in most of the towns in Minnesota. Floyd, who played a banjo and the drums and did the vocals, contributed much talent to the group.

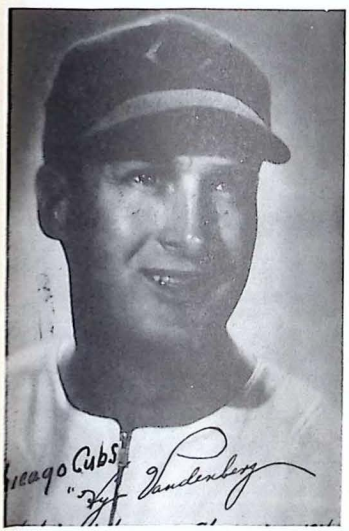
He also worked at Grant Battery, and for the 20 years preceding his retirement at age 65 he worked for Pako Corporation, Inc. of Minneapolis.

Following his death on Apr. 1, 1983, he was cremated.

by Harold Harris Vandenberg

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F677



"Hy" (Harold Harris) Vandenberg, a professional baseball player 16 years, pitched in the World Series in 1945.

Harold Harris Vandenberg gives his final speech to the Hennepin County Highway Department employees at his retirement party in 1971.

Harold Harris and Florence Norvella (Melquist) Vandenberg

Harold Harris Vandenberg, the younger son of John Vandenberg and Anna Rebecca Aker Vandenberg, like his brother Floyd, grew to manhood in Minneapolis, Minn. While attending high school he participated in playing football, basketball, and baseball. At graduation several colleges offered him scholarships, but he chose to sign up and play professional baseball with the Minneapolis Millers. In a short time he was playing Major league baseball. The right-hander, weighing 215 pounds and standing 6 feet 3 inches tall received the nickname of "Hy."

During 16 years of professional baseball, he played for the Boston Red Sox of the American League, the New York Giants, the St. Louis Cardinals, and the Chicago Cubs of the National League. He pitched in three games of the 1945 World Series, Chicago Cubs versus the Detroit Tigers.

On Apr. 14, 1934, Harold married Florence Norvella Melquist of Bird Island, Minn., who was a secretary to Betty Crocker. During the years her husband played major league baseball she sometimes accompanied him on his baseball schedule.

After retiring from professional baseball in 1947, Floyd became an engineering technician of highway construction for the Hennepin Co. Highway Department of Minnesota for 17 years. He retired in 1971.

Following her husband's retirement from professional baseball, Florence worked for a while making telephone interviews associated with market research until an extended illness terminated her work before her death on Dec. 18, 1967. She is buried in Lakewood Cemetery, Minneapolis.

Their only child, Gretchen Ann Vandenberg, was born in Minneapolis on Feb. 24, 1944.

After retiring from professional baseball, Harold sometimes pitched demonstration games for teams in the local area. His other recreational activities are fishing, bowling, and playing golf. An ailing knee interferes with playing golf, but he remains active in the other two sports; and in addition to fishing in Minnesota lakes, he sometimes makes fishing trips with friends into Canada and Alaska.

He resides in Bloomington, Minnesota.

by Harold Harris Vandenberg

VANDENBERG, NICHOLAS

F678

Gretchen Ann (Vandenberg) Lancaster, Jack Laurance, and Paul Bruce Lancaster

Gretchen Ann Vandenberg, the only child of Harold Harris Vandenberg and Florence Norvella Melquist Vandenberg, has lived most of her life in the Minneapolis area where she was born.

After graduation from high school she chose as her vocations working as a cosmetologist and a paper hanger.

In 1968 she married Jack Laurance in Watertown, S. Dak. Both of their daughters were born in Minneapolis – Jacqueline Anne on Sept. 28, 1969, and Kelly Anne on Oct. 11, 1970. Gretchen Vandenberg Laurance divorced Jack Laurance in 1973.

In 1975 Gretchen (Laurance) married Paul Bruce Lancaster of San Diego, Calif. in Minneapolis. Their son, Zachary Allen, was born in Minneapolis on June 30, 1976. In 1981 the Lancasters divorced.

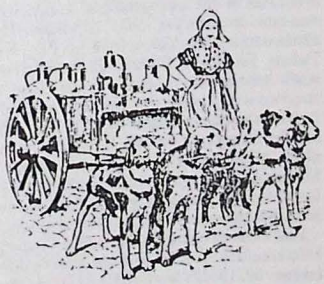
Both girls sing in the Kennedy choir at their high school and enjoy the extended trips the choir makes to present programs. At present both girls plan to become cosmetologists after graduating from high school and plan to own and operate a shop with their mother in about three years after they are graduated from high school and complete the required training to obtain licenses to be cosmetologists.

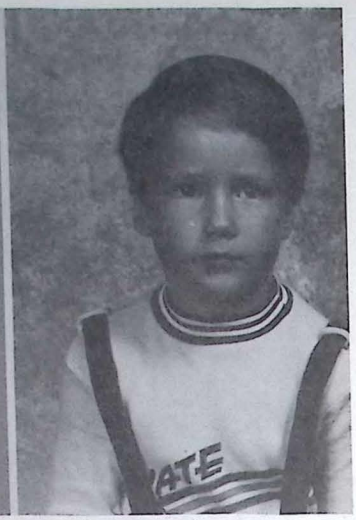
Playing defensive ice hockey, which Zachary Allen does very well, is his favorite activity at present.

Gretchen Lancaster and her three children reside in Bloomington, Minn., with her father.

by Harold Harris Vandenberg

(See photo next page.)





Gretchen Ann Vandenberg Lancaster (upper left) and two of her children. Upper right, Zachary Allen Lancaster; lower left, Jacquelin Anne Laurance. No photo available for Kelly Anne Laurance.

1914 wedding picture of Govert and Kate (Van Reulder) Vander Beek.

VANDER BEEK, GOVERT

F679

On Jan. 29, 1882, Govert John Vander Beek was born in Alemkirk, North Braband, The Netherlands, the fifth child of Jan and Helena De Pender Vander Beek. In 1889, when he was seven years old, he came to America with his parents, four brothers, and two sisters. At first they lived in Colorado where his youngest brother Jan was born and died. A sister Teuntje was also born in Colorado. Then in 1893 they moved to Pella, Ia. where his youngest sister Johanna was born. She later married Mr. Arie Schilder.

Govert spent some time working in Canada before he was married to Kate Van Reulder on Dec. 29, 1914. They lived in Pella on East First St. where their daughter Walterena was born. In 1918 they bought six acres at 920 Hazel St., which is now occupied by the Prairie Village Apartments. Their two sons Roy and Elmer were born in this home. They lived there until after Govert's death June 2, 1944.

Govert worked for the city of Pella. He hauled coal from the mine south of Pella with his team of mules and wagon. He also picked up garbage at the stores and places like the college and Rolscreen. This he fed to his hogs. It was his job to wash the Pella Streets, using his team of mules and wagon.

Walterena, who lives on the east edge of Pella on the New Sharon Road, married Anthony John Ver Meer Feb. 18, 1936, during a big snowstorm. Four children were born to this union. Kenneth John, born July 3, 1940, died at the age of 14 months after a car accident. Delores, Donald John, and Linda were the other three children.

Tony Ver Meer was owner and operator of Ver Meer's Livestock Truck Line. He was also a livestock buyer. He died in Nov., 1951, at the early ge of 40 from cerebral hemorrhage.

Delores later married Dale Kane Jr. and they live south of Pella on the elevator road. They have three children. Curtis married Sheri Kaster and they live in Omaha, where he works for a building contractor. Brenda married farmer Douglas Hoksbergen and they have one child named Paige Nicole. They live near Grinnell, Ia. Joel is a sophomore in Pella High School.

Donald John Ver Meer married Sandra Van Weelden. "Doc" is foreman at the Van Weelden Construction Company. Their children are Anthony John and Gayley Ver Meer. "Doc" is now married to Beth Schroder. He has three stepsons: Brent, Brain, and Brad Schroder.

Walterena's youngest daughter Linda is married to Willis Roose. They are living on a farm north of Pella. They have two sons, Jason Vander Linden and Tyler Roose.

Govert Vander Beek's oldest son Ray was born March 9, 1920. He married Verda Ver Steeg. To this union one son Dennis was born. Roy operated the Vander Beek Produce Company on hazel St. for 40 years. Dennis married Joyce Herrin, who operates Joyce's Beauty Shoppe on Hazel St. Dennis works for the Rolscreen Company. They have two children, Dan Lee and Julie Renae, both attending Pella Community High School.

Govert's youngest son Elmer was born May 27, 1922. He became a farmer. He married Janet Hol in 1943. They live near Leighton, Ia. They had three children. JoAnn married Steve K. De Cook, a commodity broker. They live in Johnston, Ia. They have two sons, Steve S., who attends Central College in Pella and David, a junior at Johnston High School. Elmer's two sons both live in Federal Way, Wash. Robert married Jill Snyder. He is a pilot for Alaska Airlines. Marvin married Anne Tanasse. To this union Sarah and Michael were born. Marv is a computer programmer analyst.

by Mrs. Elmer Vander Beek

VANDER HEIDEN, MARTIN

F680

Martin Vander Heiden and his wife Elizabeth Dingeman Vander Heiden on their wedding day. They were married Nov. 25, 1903, in Pella, Ia. Martin was 30 years old and Elizabeth was 22.

Martin Vander Heiden, son of Arie and Altje DeWit Vander Heiden, was born Jan. 10, 1873, in Tiel, The Netherlands. When Martin was 15 years old, his parents decided to leave their home in The Netherlands and come to America. Martin and six of his brothers and sisters; Albert, Marinus, Dora, Marie, John, and Rene, made the long ocean voyage with their parents to the famous processing point of Ellis Island. Martin had an older brother, Arie Jr., who was already old enough to have a job and chose to remain behind in The Netherlands. He also had a sister, Gertrude, who was born to his parents shortly after their arrival in Iowa.

The family had to travel from Ellis Island across country by railroad. While waiting in Chicago for train connections further west, they decided to buy some food from the cart vendors in the rail area. Since they spoke no English, they had to buy the food by pointing at it. Well, Martin thought he had purchased an apple. He bit into it and threw it away thinking it was spoiled. Later he found out the real name of the fruit he had purchased was "tomato", something he had never eaten in The Netherlands. The family continued their trip across the country finally settling in Sioux Co., Ia.

Martin's parents Arie and Altje Vander Heiden bought a farm near the town of Rock Valley, Ia. They bought it complete — the crops in the fields and the livestock on the land. In The Netherlands, Martin's father Arie had been a nurseryman specializing in fruit tree grafting. Much to his dismay, farming in Iowa was totally different from what he thought it would be. After trying unsuccessfully for five years to farm, Martin's parents decided it would be best to sell the farm. Arie and Altje Vander Heiden still spoke no English and decided to move to a Dutch community.

In 1893 the family loaded their furniture, some livestock, and all other possessions into a boxcar and moved to Pella where they bought a house at the west end of Washington St. The family lived there for seven years. In about 1900, Martin's father Arie, his brother Marinus and sister Marie, decided to go to Washington State to the fruit country area. Martin's mother Altje and youngest sister Gertrude remained behind in Pella with Martin. They later also moved to Washington State and then on to California.

Of the seven children that accompanied Martin Vander Heiden's parents from The Netherlands and the daughter born in Iowa, Martin was the only child who chose to remain in Pella where he raised his family. His older brother, Arie, Jr., came over from The Netherlands at a later date. Arie Jr. and his wife Elizabeth, also lived and raised three sons in the Pella area.

On Nov. 25, 1903, Martin Vander Heiden married Elizabeth Dingeman. Four children were born to this couple: Alice, Marion, Lester, and Raymond. The daughter Alice died in 1924 when she was 19 years old of pneumonia. Marion died in 1932 at the age of 25, of appendicitis. Lester died on Mar. 1, 1987. Raymond is still living in Pella. In 1932 Martin and Elizabeth Vander Heiden adopted Beverly, Marion Jr., and Robert, the orphaned children of their son Marion. Beverly (Mrs. Don Gingery) now lives in Oregon; Marion Jr. now lives in Missouri; and Robert lives in Illinois.

After his arrival in Pella in 1893, Martin learned the mason trade and practiced it in this community for more than 54 years. He was active in this line of work until he retired at 82. His son, Lester Vander Heiden joined his father in the business. Lester, who learned the masonry trade from his father Martin, worked as a mason for more than 50 years until his retirement in 1980. Martin Vander Heiden's grandson, Fred Vander Heiden joined the family business of masonry construction in 1961. He too learned the trade from his father, Lester Vander Heiden. Fred is currently working in this field of business making Vander Heiden Masonry of Pella a family business that has spanned three generations.

by Janie Vander Heiden

VANDER LAAN, RICHARD T. AND ARLENE B. (GOEMAAT)

F681

On Jan. 1, 1937, Arlene Bernice Goemaat was born at home south of Pella, on the site now known as Vander Streek Acres, to Bastian A. and Johanna Vander Wiel Goemaat. A sister Shirley Joan was born Aug. 1, 1939. After a few years the family moved to Pella (402 Lincoln), where Johanna died of cancer at age 37. Bastian and daughters then moved to Otley, where Johanna's sister, Mrs. Klaas (Sarah) Van Buren, helped care for the girls. Bastian worked for the Pella Rolscreen Company.

Schooldays for Arlene began, and she walked to the two-room Otley schoolhouse. A favorite stop was Jim Van Vliet's grocery for penny candy or five-cent ice cream. In 1949 the Goemaats returned to Pella, where Arlene attended Pella Christian Grade and High Schools. She enjoyed music and began playing for church services in 1950. Bastian Goemaat died in 1951, and is remembered as a kind father and avid sportsman. Arlene and Shirley then lived with Klaas and Sarah Van Buren, who had built a new home at 600 Peace St. Klaas died in 1953, but "Auntie" was a dear substitute mother until her death in 1979 at age 87.

Arlene attended Calvin College in grand Rapids, Mich., and received a two-year teaching certificate. In 1956 she met and dated Richard Thomas (Dick) Vander Laan. Dick was born on Sept. 14, 1937, in Jenison, Mich., to Peter J. and Anna Hiemstra Vander Laan, and has one brother, Rev. Jack L. Vander Laan. Dick and Arlene were married on Aug. 14, 1957, in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella. They lived one year in Jenison, Mich. where Arlene taught and one year in Grand Rapids. During this time Dick continued his education at Calvin College, receiving his B.A. in 1959. A daughter Lori Ann was born on Oct. 14, 1958.

In 1959 the Vander Laans moved to Pella (402 Elm), and Dick began teaching at Pella Christian High School, primarily in the sciences, was athletic director, and boys basketball coach for 15 years. He also coached baseball for several years, started the track and cross country programs, and a senior biology course. Dick found much satisfaction in the work of these years. Further education ws at Drake and Central Michigan Universities, and Dick attained his M.S. in 1964. Dick and Arlene were blessed with the birth of a son Mark Richard on Apr. 22, 1964, and another daughter Lisa Joy on Jan. 10, 1970.

In 1976 Dick made a difficult decision resulting in a career change, when he became personnel director at Vermeer Manufacturing Company. Dick is finding this to be interesting work with a variety of responsibilities and especially enjoys getting to know many of the workers.

Lori Vander Laan attended Pella Christian Schools and Dordt College where she received a two-year Secretarial Science degree. On Nov. 24, 1979, she married Galyn Wayne Vande Zande (born Nov. 20, 1956), a native of Waupum, Wis. They have one son Eric Timothy, born Sept. 10, 1982. After living in Pella for five years, they are now in Des Moines, where Lori works for an insurance firm and Galyn is a medical student at the College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Mark Vander Laan also attended Pella Christian Schools and graduated from Dordt College in 1986 with a B.S. in science/education. On July 19, 1986, Mark was married to Darlene Jane Brouwer, (born Oct. 31, 1964), in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. They now live in Napa, Cal., where Mark teaches science courses and Darlene is a teacher aide, both in the Napa Valley Christian School.

Lisa Vander Laan is a student at Pella Christian High (Class of 1988). Her special interests include art, music, and business courses.

Dick's parents have both died-his father in 1970 at age 57 of a heart attack, and his mother in 1982 at age 66 also of a heart attack

Richard and Arlene Vander Laan.

while visiting in Pella.

Dick and Arlene have built three homes-at 1341 East Third, at 311 Elm where they lived 18 years, and their present home at 1428 Edgewood Drive.

Arlene enjoys homemaking and has worked part-time as a substitute teacher, piano teacher, and clerk at Gosselink's Bookstore. She is presently selling Avon products.

Dick and Arlene are members of Calvary Christian Reformed Church, and enjoy singing in the church choir. Dick also enjoys walking, biking, golfing, and travel. Arlene's interests include reading, music, walking, and travel. Dick and Arlene are thankful for God's loving care and guidance through all of life's experiences.

by Arlene Vander Laan

VANDER LEEST, LOGAN AND MARCIE

F682

My great-grandfather was Jacob Vander Leest. He was born in Freisland in 1838. He and his wife, Dora De Boer, immigrated to Pella with their two sons, Eelke (born 1863) and Gerber or Gerrit (born 1866). Three-year-old Eelke died at sea. After the death of Dora, Jacob married Efertie Bieshaar on Jan. 31, 1873. To this union Koenrad (Conrad) was born in 1875. Efertie died Nov. 10, 1880, at the age of 41. On Feb. 1, 1881, Jacob married Gerrigje De Jong, widow of Walter De Kraai. Jacob had his two sons, Gerrit and Conrad (Koen). She had a son Walter. Jacob and Gerrigje had six children as follows: a nine-month-old son died Sept. 10, 1882; Neal (1883-1970); Nettie, Mrs. Adam Terpstra (1884-1978); John (1888-1915) died from an automobile accident; Richard (1886-1945); and Sarah, Mrs. Reiner Dieleman, (1891-1943). Jacob died Oct. 5, 1910, at the age of 71. Gerrigje died May 26, 1918, three days after a stroke.

My grandparents were Conrad (Koen) (1875-1960) and Aueke (Orphia Van Ryswyk) (1874-1908). They were married Mar. 2, 1898. Two children were born to this union: Dick (1901-1970) and Effie, Mrs. Pete Vande Geest (1899-1970). Orphia died in 1908 at the age of 35. At the time they were living on a farm about ten miles north of Pella. In Mar. of 1915 Conrad married Susanne Dieleman (1876-1962). No children were born to this union. They farmed in the Galesburg and Pella areas until they moved to Pella in about 1925. Conrad (Koen) became actively engaged in promoting the Farmer's Union and subsequent to that, he worked for the Co-op Burial Association in the sale of memberships. He also was a salesman for Sunburst Memorials for a number of years.

My parents were Dick (1901-1970) and Janet Den Hartog (1903-1986). They were married on Jan. 24, 1921, at the home of the bride's parents. My father, Dick, left the farm upon marriage. They moved to Monroe where my father operated the Central Bakery in the late twenties and early thirties. Bread was only five cents a loaf. After moving to Pella, Dick worked about ten years for John Dykstra in the Western Auto Store. He also worked for Cornie Schuring in a local garage. He worked for A.B. Van Howeling Auto Firm and Ulrich Motor Company as a parts man. He was employed by Fred Veenstra in his General Electric Store. My parents moved to Des Moines in 1954. Dick worked as a maintenance man for Hillcrest Hospital until his retirement. Janet, upon becoming widowed, moved back to Pella in 1970 until her death in 1986.

Dick and Janet had one child, Logan, born on Sept. 10, 1928. I spent the first eight years of my life in Monroe. I moved to Pella with my parents in 1936 to live with my grandfather, John W. Den Hartog, who had recently been widowed. My formal education was the Pella schools and Central College, graduating in 1951. I then served two years in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, 1951-53. I took my basic training in Hawaii and served the remainder of the time in Korea. During a Christmas furlough in 1951, I married Marcie Valster (1930), daughter of Cornelius Valster and Henrietta (Bensinik) Valster, of Leighton, Ia. My wife taught rural school for five years in Mahaska Co. and also worked part time for J.C. Penney Co. in Pella. She then spent a number of years at home raising our three children. After which she returned to teaching as a substitute in the Pella schools for about twelve years. In 1977 Marcie began working in the office at Vermeer Manufacturing Company where she is presently employed. I worked the first year after military

Seated, l-r: Logan Vander Leest, Nicole Kenworthy (granddaughter), and Marcie Vander Leest; standing, l-r: David Kenworthy, Adam Kenworthy (grandson), Lola Kenworthy, Dr. Wayne Vander Leest, Alysa Tanis (granddaughter), Carol Tanis, and 1st Lt. James Tanis.

service for Calvert Fire Insurance Company as an adjuster. Since that time I have worked for thirty-three years as a Job Service interviewer for the State of Iowa in Newton, Ia., where I am presently employed.

Logan and Marcie have three children: Dr. Wayne the eldest, was born Dec. 10, 1954. A graduate of Illinois College of Optometry, he presently has an office and practices in Pella. Lola, born Apr. 28, 1956, a graduate of the University of Iowa as a recreational therapist, lives with her husband David Kenworthy, near Cumming, Iowa. David is associated with his father in Storey-Kenworthy Office Furnishings in Des Moines. They have two children, Nicole Lea born Mar. 31, 1983, and Adam David born June 12, 1985. Our youngest daughter Carol, born Nov. 2, 1959, a graduate with a degree in business from Central College, is married to 1st Lt. James E. Tanis (1958) of Sheldon, Ia. They have one daughter, Alysa Marie born June 26, 1986. James is presently a jet pilot with the Marine Corp. They are stationed in California at the present time.

by Logan Vander Leest

VANDER MEIDEN, ALBERT AND JENNIE (VAN HAAFTEN)

F683

Albert and Jennie Vander Meiden. 25th Wedding Anniversary, Feb., 1952.

After his mother died in 1916, Albert lived alone for five years until a nephew, Gerrit Van Haalen, married Bess Pipple in 1921. They lived in the same house and farmed together a short while. Albert's first car was an Overland. On Feb. 17, 1927, Albert married Jennie Van Haaften in the Third Reformed Church parsonage. It was the first ceremony for Rev. Ralph Menning in Pella. Jennie was born Sept. 19, 1890 and died Aug. 11, 1977. She was the daughter of Henry Van Haaften and Mary Gosselink. Henry Van Haaften was born Dec. 11, 1863, and died Dec. 4, 1926. Mary Gosselink was born Feb. 14, 1863, and died Mar. 8, 1942. Jennie's mother lived with the newly married couple until she died.

Albert and Jennie's only child, Gerrit Henry Vander Meiden, was born Nov. 27, 1927. Gerrit attended eight years of grade school at Wheat Grow rural school and spoke only the Dutch language when he started school. He graduated from Pella High School in 1946. After graduation he helped with the farming, most of which was done with horses and a two-bottom plow. The first tractor was purchased in 1945. During the early 1940's the oats were still threshed with a threshing machine, and the corn was picked by hand. In 1941 Gerrit was kicked by his horse, resulting in a broken arm. He had a white horse which he rode to the neighbors.

The 1940's were boom years. The war had made the prices go up and people were making money again. Some timely improvements were made on the house. An old wash room was torn down north of the house. A back room and a bathroom were built on in 1948. Their was an old rock foundation well outside the east kitchen door. This well was the first source of running water in the house. Electricity was also added. The house was heated at this time with two oil heaters and a combination wood and electric stove in the kitchen. The furnace was not put in until 1966.

Gerrit Henry Vander Meiden and Florence Terpstra were married April 24, 1953, in the Protestant Reformed Church in Oskaloosa.

In the fall of 1953 Albert and Jennie bought a small house in Pella and moved there when Gerrit was inducted into the U.S. Army. Jennie continued to live there after Albert's death. She died in the Pella Nursing Home in 1977.

by Florence Vander Meiden

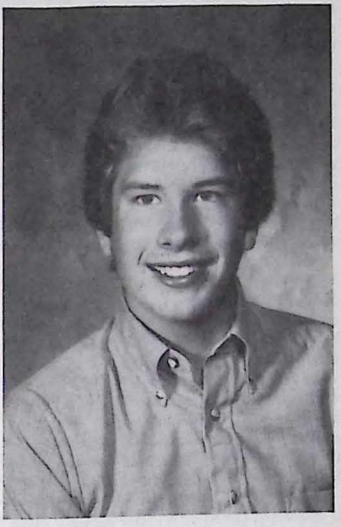
VANDER MEIDEN, GERRIT H.

F684

Gerrit Henry Vander Meiden married Florence Esther Terpstra on Apr. 24, 1953. She was the daughter of Frank Terpstra Sr. and Pietje (Pearle) Memmelaar. Florence was born the third of ten children on June 8, 1932. She attended several grade schools in Mahaska Co. because her parents moved often. She graduated from eighth grade in 1945 from Rochester grade school. In 1949 she graduated from Oskaloosa High School. She worked while attending high school at the Mahaska County Hospital and did house work for Drs. Voight and Clark. She attended Central College and taught grades one through four at the Redlands, Calif. Christian Grade School in 1950-52. She attended the Christian Teachers Institute in Ripon, Cal., in Oct. 1950 and again in Ontario, Cal. in 1951.

While growing up, Florence helped with the chores, milking cows, turning the cream separator, running the threshing machine, and shocking oats. In the winter she helped pick corn by hand to open the fields and also picked up the down row of corn behind the horses and wagon. Hay was baled in square wire bales and then pulled into the barn with a hay fork. Florence and her sister Harriett

Gerrit and Florence Vander Meiden.



Keith Vander Meiden, 1986.

cleaned chickens at home and for other people. The Frank Terpstra family had a large vegetable garden and all the girls learned cooking and canning from their mother.

After Gerrit and Florence were married they lived with Gerrit's parents until Nov. 13, 1953, when Gerrit was inducted into the U.S. Army. He received eight weeks of basic training in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. and eight weeks at Fort Riley, Kan. In Apr. 1954, he went to Japan and served his tour of duty in Seoul, Korea. Florence moved back home to live with her parents until Gerrit returned. She worked part-time in an appliance store in Oskaloosa. On Apr. 23, 1954, Linda Faye was born. She was the first of five children. She first saw her father when he was released from Fort Ord,Cal. on Sept. 16, 1955. Gerrit, Florence, and Linda then returned to their home on the Vander Meiden family farm.

Linda Faye was married on Sept. 14, 1985, to Gregory William Steensland. They make their home in Huxley, Ia.

Lyle Eugene Vander Meiden was born Dec. 18, 1956. He is the first son of Gerrit and Florence and the first great-grandson of Frank and Pearle Terpstra. Lyle married Kathy Sue Veenstra, daughter of John J. Veenstra and Jennie De Kock. Mark Alan Vander Meiden was born Feb. 4, 1959, and married Belinda Joy DeJong, daughter of Francis Lee DeJong and Cleora Helen Van Kooten.

Marcia Pearl Vander Meiden was born Feb. 22, 1961. She is now in Maracaibo, Venezuela working for TEAM missions.

Keith Lee Vander Meiden, the youngest child, was born Jan. 5, 1971, and is a sophomore at Pella Community High School. He is active in 4-H, F.F.A., A.F.S., and French Club. He is planning on going to France for 15 days in June of 1987 with the French club.

All the children were raised on the farm, helping with the chores, gardening, and field work. Gerrit continues to farm and raise corn, oats, hay, and soy beans. He also feeds cattle and raises hogs. Florence had milked several cows and raised chickens to sell the eggs. Now she raises broilers to eat. Keith has a rooster and a few hens. They hatch baby chicks for the grandchildren to enjoy.

Gerrit and Florence made many improvements on the farm. They built ear corn cribs, a large cattle shed, and laid cement for feed lots. The kitchen was remodeled in 1966 and the front porch cemented. A machine shed was built in 1970. They remodeled their large barn and built a double garage in 1973. In 1978 they bought 40 acres of land from a neighbor. In 1980 they put new floors and walls in the home, and in 1981 a new patio.

Gerrit and Florence are both active members of the Third Reformed Church in Pella, Ia. They are also active in many farm-related organizations such as Beef Producers, Cowbells, Pork Producers and Porkettes, Mahaska Co. Farm Bureau, 4-H leaders (Gerrit 10 years and Florence 19 years), 4-H committee, 4-H Extension Council, and Township Trustee. Flowers have also become an important part of Florence's life. She is an accredited flower show judge. The family also have a large vegetable garden every year.

The farm still serves the same purpose as it did when Gerrit L. Vander Meiden came over from Holland to farm, which is to make a living. Gerrit and Florence are presently living and farming on the Vander Meiden family Century farm.

by Florence Vander Meiden

VANDER MEIDEN, GERRIT L. AND HEINTJE (VAN GINKEL)

F685

Gerrit L. Vander Meiden was born Apr. 5, 1833, in Province 3, Gelderland, in the city of Scherpenzeel, The Netherlands. He died Feb. 25, 1907, in the new home he had just built on his farm three miles east of Pella. He is laid to rest in Graceland Cemetery. He was

Gerrit L. Vander Meiden family. Front, l-r: Gerrit, Wilhelmina and Heintje; Back, l-r: Hattie, Albert, and Cornelia.

Home built by Gerrit L. Vander Meiden and his son Albert in 1900. Today it is lived in by his grandson Gerrit H. Vander Meiden. Taken in 1987.

23 years old in 1857 when he left his family in Holland to come with his uncle to the U.S. as a farm laborer. Gerrit L. Vander Meiden became a citizen of the U.S. in Marion Co. on Nov. 11, 1863. He was the son of C. Vander Meide. The name of his mother is unknown. The family was bitter about his leaving them for the U.S.A. He worked as a farm laborer for Gerrit and Dirkie Gosselink in Black Oak Twp. where he also made his home. On May 29, 1860 Gerrit Vander Meiden bought 40 acres of ground from Jacob Van Donselaar. This 40 acres was originally given to William Mellen by President Franklin Pierce for services in the War of 1812. Mellen sold this ground to the General land office in Fort Des Moines, Ia. Henry Scholte then bought this 40 acres on Feb. 1,1854. this is the original Vander Meiden farm.

Gerrit was farming this ground when he married Heintje Van Ginkel Apr. 1, 1863. Heintje was born June 4, 1842, in The Netherlands and died June 4, 1916. Her father was Aald Van Ginkel. On Mar. 2, 1886 Gerrit and Heintje bought the adjoining 44 acres from Hendrickus Vos. Gerrit and Heintje Vander Meiden had four children, all born in Mahaska Co.

Cornelia Vander Meiden was born in 1870 and died of tuberculosis on June 19, 1894, at 24 years of age. The Vander Meiden family has a diary and letter of hers telling of her parents' plan to build a new home on the original 40 acres. Because of her death the home was not built until 1900 and is still the home of the Gerrit Henry Vander Meiden family.

Hattie Vander Meiden was born Aug. 11, 1874, and died Mar. 17, 1967. She was married to Pete Van Haalen on Mar. 18, 1897. Wilhelmina Vander Meiden was born Sept. 28, 1877, and died Jan. 28, 1955. She married Martin Thomassen May 1, 1901. The only son, Albert Vander Meiden, was born Jan. 2, 1880, and died Aug. 13, 1969. He attended the Wheatgrow country school located one mile east of his home. He attended school only in the winter. Al, as he was called, helped build the new home. After his father died in 1907 he lived with his mother. Heintje continued to run the farm with Albert's help. On Jan. 24, 1911, Al bought the 84 acres farm from his mother. Heintje died in 1916 on her birthday.

by Florence Vander Meiden

VANDER MEIDEN, LYLE EUGENE AND KATHY (VEENSTRA)

F686

Left to Right: Kathy, Bryan, Lyle, and Aaron Vander Meiden.

Lyle Eugene Vander Meiden was born Dec. 18, 1956 at the Mahaska County Hospital, the second child and first son of Gerrit H. Vander Meiden and Florence E. Terpstra Vander Meiden. Lyle attended Pella Community grade school and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1975. In high school Lyle was involved with F.F.A. and 4-H Club. AFter graduation he worked as a hired hand on a dairy farm of Stanley Beyer.

On Apr. 28, 1978 Lyle married Kathy Sue Veenstra, daughter of John J. Veenstra and Jennie De Kock Veenstra. Since Kathy's grandparents and parents both immigrated from Holland, Kathy was raised knowing Dutch language and her mother cooked many Dutch meals. Kathy attended the Pella Christian Schools and graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1977. After graduation Kathy worked at the Rolscreen. Lyle and Kathy built a new house at 1540 West Third St. when they got married. They spent many nights finishing the upstairs, and made their home in the basement the first year of their marriage.

In 1981 Lyle started working for Midwest Sanitation as a garbage truck driver. In 1983 he purchased the business from Gordon and Johanna Vander Hart. Now Lyle keeps busy taking care of the business and maintaining the trucks. Kathy does the bookwork.

Lyle and Kathy have two sons: Aaron John born Aug. 17, 1981 and Bryan Eugene born June 19, 1984. Both children were born at the Pella Community Hospital.

Lyle and Kathy are members of the Third Reformed Church. They enjoy traveling and have taken many trips. As the children are

starting to grow up they find they enjoy swimming and bicycling together.

by Kathy Vander Meiden

VANDER MEIDEN, MARCIA P.

F687

Marcia Vander Meiden, 1984.

Marcia Pearl Vander Meiden, born Feb. 22, 1961 at Mahaska County Hospital, was the second daughter and fourth child of Gerrit H. and Florence Terpstra Vander Meiden. Marcia grew up on her parents' farm and was a nine-year member of Richland Bluebells 4-H, using many things she learned then in her work now in Venezuela.

Marcia attended Pella Community grade schools and graduated from Pella Public High School in 1979. That summer she went to Panama as an A.F.S. exchange student and lived with the Menottis family in Aquadulce. They had two children. While there Marcia attended school and learned a lot about the social life and family traditions. The father was a dentist and the language was Spanish. After returning home Marcia entered Iowa State University in Ames, Ia., where she was also R.A. of her floor. Finishing her studies in Dec. of 1983 she did her practice teaching at Kennedy grade school in Cedar Rapids, Ia., fourth grade. She came home for her grandmother's funeral and was busy getting her passport and visa and overseas shots before leaving for Caracus, Venezuela on Mar. 12, 1984 to get in eight more weeks of practice teaching in a grade school there.

Marcia graduated from Iowa State University in 1984 with a double major in elementary education and family environment.

While in Caracus, Marcia visited a boarding school in Tachua, had a tour of Rubio, a school for Missionary children, and a school in El Limon which is sponsored by the Evangelical Free Church. On the way home the first of June Marcia flew to Panama and visited her A.F.S. family of five years ago. While in Panama she also worked for eight weeks through Campus Crusade, giving out pamphlets and showing the "Jesus" film on the New Testament. In August she returned home to her family. A short while later she received a phone call from T.E.A.M. Missions to fill in a teaching position in Rubio, Venezuela in the Missionary School for Children, for a teacher who took sick. She immediately went to fill out that position, came home and studied Bible, and went to Orientation through T.E.A.M. Missions in Wheaton, Ill. Marcia left again in Nov. 1985 to work for T.E.A.M. missions in Maracaibo, Venezuela. She will complete her term in June of 1988. Her prayers were answered and she is able to do this because of the prayers and monetary gifts from friends and relatives.

by Marcia Vander Meiden

VANDER MEIDEN, MARK ALAN AND BELINDA (DE JONG)

F688

Easter, 1986: Mark and Belinda Vander Meiden, Shauna and Andrew.

Mark Alan Vander Meiden was born Feb. 4, 1959, second son of Gerrit H. Vander Meiden and Florence E. Terpstra Vander Meiden. Mark was born at Mahaska County Hospital, attended Pella Community Grade School and graduated from Pella Community High in 1977, and from Indian Hills at Ottumwa, Ia. as an auto mechanic in 1978. In school he was active in 4-H, F.F.A., wrestling, and band and he loves to hunt.

On Oct. 5, 1979, Mark married Belinda Joy De Jong, born June 30, 1960, daughter of Francis Lee De Jong and Cleora Helen Van Kooten De Jong. Belinda was raised in the Oskaloosa area where she attended Oskaloosa Grade School and graduated from Pella Christian High in 1978.

Mark and Belinda have two children, Shauna Joy born Jan. 29, 1981, and Andrew James born Oct. 29, 1982, both at Mashaska County Hospital in Oskaloosa.

Mark and Belinda are members of the Leighton Christian Reformed Church, where Belinda is a Sunday School teacher. They are licenced foster parents and Belinda operates a day care center out of their home at R.R. 3 Oskaloosa, Iowa. Mark drives truck for Lynch Trucking. Shauna attends the Oskaloosa Christian Grade School. As a family they love water sports and Mark and Belinda love to snow ski.

by Belinda Vander Meiden

VANDER MEULEN FAMILY

F689

Catrinus H. Vander Meulen and Merilla (Jansen)

Catrinus (Charles) H. Vander Meulen became a part of Pella's history in 1919 when he moved his family there from Sioux Center, Iowa, but his personal history goes back to his native Holland.

He was born March 31, 1867, in Gaast, The Netherlands. After his mother died, he was placed by his father in an orphanage, a not uncommon practice in those days, when a man could not care for his children alone. For unknown reasons, Catrinus remained in the orphanage (located in either Niemegen or Nierbosch) even after his father remarried. At age 18, he emigrated to America (1885-86), arriving in New York. He then journeyed by train to Chicago and was stranded on the way in the record-breaking snowstorm of 1886.

After he reached Chicago, he was directed by fellow countrymen in that city to Sioux Center, Ia., a small Dutch community in western Iowa, where he settled. He worked as a laborer for a time but then took up newspaper work and eventually bought and ran the Sioux Center *Nieuwsblad*.

On Dec. 25, 1895, he married Merilla Jansen who was born July 15, 1871, in Muscatine, Ia., to Grietje Cleveringa and Broer W. Jansen. (As a baby, Merilla had traveled with her family across Iowa to Sioux Center in a covered wagon.) Charles and Merilla had three children: Herman Christian (1897), Myrtle (1900) and Clarence (1909).

In 1918, as W.W. I ended and son Herman returned from serving in France, Charles sold the *Nieuwsblad* and moved his family to Pella so his children could attend Central College. For a time, he was unable to work because of vision problems and briefly tried his hand at chicken-farming. Later, when an eye doctor fitted him with glasses, he was able to return to newspapering. He worked as editor of the Pella *Weekblad* until it closed down in 1941, at which time he retired.

He died Feb. 11, 1950, in Pella and Merilla died May 24, 1960.

by Elma Vander Meulen

VANDER MEULEN, HERMAN CHRISTIAN AND ELMA L. (LeCOCQ)

F690

Eldest son of Catrinus and Merilla Vander Meulen, Herman C. was born on October 7, 1897, in Sioux Center, Ia., he was educated there, graduating with a Normal Training diploma in 1915. He taught in the rural schools of Sioux County, Ia., until he resigned to enlist in the medical corps of the Second Iowa Infantry in June of 1917 during W.W. I. He was later transferred to the medical corps of the 109th Engineers at Camp Cody, N. Mex., and served in the American Expeditionary Force in France from 1918 to 1919.

Upon his return to the U.S., he moved with his family to Pella, Iowa, where he studied at Central College (1919-1922), and in 1923 taught mathematics and physics in the Central Academy. He graduated in 1923 and then entered the Medical College at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, earning his M.D. degree in 1927.

Herman interned at Lutheran Hospital in Los Angeles, CA, and completed his residency at Riverside County Hospital in Riverside, CA. For one year, he was with the ambulance service in Los Angeles, and then was railroad physician with the Union Pacific Railroad in Las Vegas, Nev., from 1930 to 1933. In 1930, he married Clara St. John. She passed away after the birth of their daughter, Marilla Claire, in 1933.

Dr. Vander Meulen returned to Pella in 1933 and began what would become a half-century of medical practice. During these years, he maintained an interest in maternity, and in 1940 even started a maternity hospital, but help was difficult to get during wartime and he was forced to discontinue the enterprise.

Even so, he delivered more than 2000 babies during his long practice, sometimes traveling by bobsled, tractor, and mail truck to reach remote farmhouses. The conditions under which he practiced medicine would probably stymie the physician of today, who almost routinely enjoys the benefits of the most modern facilities and most recent advances in medical technology.

On August 6, 1936, Herman married Elma Lucille LeCocq, the youngest daughter of Charles and Sarah LeCocq. Although born in Missouri, Elma lived in Pella all her life and attended Central College, graduating in 1932. The couple had three children: Nancy Kay (1938), Connie May (1941), and David Lee (1948).

During his years of service to the Pella community, Dr. Vander Meulen served as an Elder at Second Reformed Church and was a charter member of the Kiwanis Club and the American Legion. He was a member of the American Medical Association during all the years of his practice. In 1970, Dr. Vander Meulen was honored by the American Legion for his service to the town; in 1977, Dr. and Mrs. Vander Meulen were honored by Central College as "Mr. and Mrs. Alumni," as they had sent all four of their children to school there; and in 1978, Dr. Vander Meulen was given the Pella Community Service Award in recognition of what he had given to the town during the years of his medical practice.

Dr. Vander Meulen practiced in Pella until 1970 and also served as the Central College physician from 1945 until his retirement in 1983. He died Feb. 2, 1986, at age 88 in the Pella Community Hospital, where he had delivered the first baby in the newly built facility in 1960. In one sense, life had come full circle.

by Elma Vander Meulen

VANDER MILEN, GERRIT AND MARIE

F691

Gerrit and Marie Vander Molen in front of log cabin at the Pella Historical Village that was moved from their farm in 1968. Photo taken in 1981.

Gerrit Vander Molen, youngest son of Bendert and Gretje Stouwie Vander Molen was born south of Sully on Dec. 20, 1902. Marie Roose Vander Molen, second daughter of Jim and Mary Van Gorp Roose, was born southeast of Peoria on Mar. 21, 1907.

Gerrit and Marie both were educated at Peoria Grade School until the church and school burned on June 14, 1918, and Marie finished her education in the public school but Gerrit did not graduate the eighth grade.

Gerrit and Marie Vander Molen were married on Jan. 31, 1929, at the bride's home north of Peoria. Because the roads were closed, the minister and guests came to the afternoon wedding by bobsled. The cousins came in the evening for the reception, and a few shivareers despite the weather. They spent 33 years on the farm northwest of Peoria and in 1962 built a new home and moved to Peoria.

In 1934 Gerrit started a cream route and was burned down one side with hot steam at the Sully Creamery. Gerrit was always active in politics and for many years was a township trustee and on the election board.

To this union two sons were born. Marvin James was born Mar. 29, 1930, and Donald was born Oct. 8, 1934. Marvin is married to Gladys Valdhuizen and they have three sons and one daughter. They are Dennis Rene, Gary Lee, Byron Jay, and Brenda Lou. Donald is married to Rachel Blaukamp, formerly from Borculo, Mich., and now lives in Phoenix, Ariz. They have two sons, Daniel Wayne and Jeffrey Dean.

Portions of many winters were spent in Florida and Arizona during their latter years. They both were lifelong members of Peoria Christian Reformed Church and societies. Gerrit died Oct. 19, 1984, and Marie moved to Hilltop South in Dec. 1985, where she presently resides.

by Marvin J. Vander Molen

VANDER MOLEN, BEN AND CHRISTINE (STRUIK)

F692

Ben (Bennie) VanDer Molen was born on Sept. 27, 1916, to Martin and Tillie (Ozinga) VanDer Molen. He was the third of nine children. In 1931 he, along with five other classmates, graduated from the Peoria Christian Grade School. On Jan. 18, 1940, he was united in marriage to Christine Struik of Sully. The wedding took place on a very cold wintry evening at the home of the bride's brother, Kryn, at Sully. The Rev. John Griffeon performed the ceremony. Christine was born on May 3, 1918, to Johannes and Fytje (Stam) Struik. In 1932 she graduated from the Sully Christian Grade School.

After Ben and Christine were married, Ben worked as a hired man for Joe Dahm. They lived south of New Sharon and here took care of one cow and 50 chickens which they received from Ben's mother. About eight months later they returned the livestock and moved to 909 East 3rd St. in Pella. At that time their three-room apartment was owned by Jennie Schippers. While living here, Ben became cream hauler for his uncle Cecil VanDer Molen. After approximately one year, the couple moved to a four-room apartment at 506 East 3rd St. Mrs. Martin Hiemstra's father owned this while she lived upstairs. During this one-year stay, Martin John was born on Mar. 8, 1942. Since the apartment was too small, the family moved to 307 Main St. Hattie Hospers kept the family company while living upstairs, a four-year stay here with many changes to come.

First, Ben bought the cream truck and route from his uncle Cecil. Second, a daughter Viola Mae was born on Apr. 14, 1943. Third, the family decided to move to uncle Cecil's farm located two miles west of Peoria. At this time Ben also became a livestock hauler for his uncle. During the years on the farm, four children were born. Judith Joan was born on Dec. 1, 1948; Rita Diane was born on Jan. 19, 1950; Byron Carl was born on Jan. 1, 1951, making him the first baby born that year in Mahaska Co.; Christy Lynn was born on Nov. 29, 1954. The six children were delivered either at home or in the hospital by the good doctor, H.C. Vander Meulen. All the

The Ben VanDer Molen Family. Kneeling: Curt Kelderman, Wesley Van Maanen, LaVon Engbers, Vicki Engbers, Russell VanDer Molen; Seated: Judy Kelderman, Randy Kelderman, Arvin Kelderman, Rita Van Maanen, Brenda Van Maanen, Don Van Maanen, Lynda Engbers, Lora Engbers, Robyn VanDer Molen, Joyce VanDer Molen; Standing: Ryan Kelderman, Christy VanDer Molen, Brent VanDer Molen, Jeff VanDer Molen, Mike VanDer Molen, Peggy Kelderman, Betty VanDer Molen, Marty VanDer Molen, Darren Van Maanen, Christine VanDer Molen, Ben VanDer Molen, Larry Engbers, Viola Engbers, Tammy VanDer Molen, Byron VanDer Molen.

children attended Peoria Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School.

In 1964, the two oldest children were married: Martin married Betty Schuring on Jan. 17 and Viola married Larry Engbers on Aug. 5. Both brought added excitement. On Jan. 18, 1965, Ben and Christine celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at Pella Christian Grade School, which included a supper and program attended by many friends and relatives. Rita married Don Van Maanen on June 22, 1971 and Byron married Joyce Swank on July 16, 1971. At this time the remainder of the family moved to their new home at 1208 Washington St. in Pella. Shortly after this move, Judy married Arvin Kelderman on May 19, 1972.

After moving to town, Ben continued hauling livestock as well as becoming a hog buyer. His buying station was located at the Pella Sale Barn and was later moved to the Bogaard and Rietveld place north of town. When Ben reached retirement age, he sold his straight truck to Ray Newendorp and discontinued his hog buying business. Some six years later, Ben and Christine, with Christy, moved to a newer home at 504 Monroe St.

On Feb. 2, 1980, Ben and Christine celebrated 40 years of married life. Many guests shared this happy occasion. Today Ben and Christine enjoy their family which includes 17 grandchildren, good health, and some traveling.

by Christy VanDer Molen

Ben Vander Molen Family. Front: Father Ben, Byron, Mother Christine, and Christy; Back: Rita (Mrs. Don Van Maanen), Judy (Mrs. Arvin Kelderman), Martin, and Viola (Mrs. Larry Engbers).

VANDER MOLEN, BYRON AND JOYCE (SWANK)

F693

Byron VanDer Molen Family. Left to Right: Joyce, Russell, Byron, Robyn, and Tammy.

Byron VanDer Molen, son of Ben and Christine, was united in marriage to Joyce Swank on July 16, 1971, at the Sully Reformed Church. Joyce was born on Jan. 5, 1950, to Marvin and Sophie Ann (Terlouw) Swank. Sometime before they were married, Bryon was diagnosed with colitis. Because of this it was decided that the newlyweds would live on the family farm near Peoria and Byron's parents would move to town. Byron's colitis was continually watched for further treatment. On Apr. 1, 1973, the couple received their Apr. Fool's baby, Tammy Lynn. July 21, 1976, found Joyce in the Pella Hospital having an unexpected surgery to have her appendix out. Although a seven-month pregnancy had to be dealt with, the healing process went well. Soon after, came the birth of their bouncing baby boy, Russell Jay, on Sept. 14, 1976. Now the family was full of activity! Still to come was Robyn Renae, born on Aug. 21, 1978.

In 1979, Byron and Joyce bought and moved to the Jacob Van Hal farm west of Sully. Besides grain farming, they also set up a hog farrowing house. About the time everyone got settled in their new location, Tammy having found new friends in the Sully Christian Grade School, everything seemed to be going well, until one morning, about 4:30, on July 30, 1979, a tornado damaged the farm. Electricity was cut off, but at daybreak reality struck hard. Eight buildings were either totally destroyed or damaged, including the house. A 2 x 4 was driven through the bedroom wall. A 4 x 6 foot hole was in the roof

of the kids bedroom. Yes, the family was fortunate that no one was hurt. Some sows and pigs were killed, but no family member even scratched. Thanks to relatives and a lot of friends, by nightfall most of the pieces were picked up. A new farrowing house roof was put on and a machine shed was built to replace the damaged buildings. Once again, everything seemed to be going well. Once again the funnel cloud appeared on Apr. 3, 1981, at 8:30 P.M. Thankfully, no one was injured this time either. However, the new machine shed was lying in the field east of the house, in pieces. The farrowing house was slightly damaged, but nothing serious. By this time, the family has a respect and fear for storms.

Byron continually kept up with his medical checkups for colitis. Various complications over the years involved sinus-throat infection, quinsy, and his tonsils were taken out in Feb. 1986. He also had emergency gall bladder and appendix surgery on Sept. 27, 1981.

As the family grows up, they become more and more involved in school activities. They also enjoy being members of the Killduff Hotshots 4H Club. Joyce enjoys working for the *Diamond Trail* newspaper of Sully and also does volunteer work for the Sully Christian School Circle. Byron continues to farm.

by Christy VanDer Molen

VANDER MOLEN, CHRISTY

F694

Christy VanDer Molen

Christy VanDer Molen was born on Nov. 29, 1954, to Ben and Christine VanDer Molen. While living on a farm with her family west of Peoria, she attended the Peoria Christian Grade School. She graduated from the eighth grade in 1969. She then attended Pella Christian High School. When she was a sophomore, she moved to 1208 Washington St. in Pella with her parents and one sister. In 1971, she began working in the kitchen at the Pella Community Hospital as well as doing janitor work in the office at Vermeer Mfg. Co. In Sept. 1972 she began working at Vermeer's in the sales department. She worked after school and on Saturday mornings. Because of this opportunity, she had to quit her job at the hospital. After her high school graduation on May 28, 1973, she became a full-time employee at Vermeer's. Besides working in Sales Department she also worked in the center office with production layout and time study departments.

Christy VanDer Molen feeding a kangaroo on her Australian tour.

Christy has a variety of hobbies. Probably the most prominent are travel and photography. In 1975, Christy began her first travel experience. She and a girl friend joined a bus tour to Canada and the northeastern United States. One of the first things learned was even though most of the people on the tour were older, they had more spunk than the younger ones. The next year Christy found herself on an Alaskan tour, including a first plane trip, flying to Seattle, cruising the Inside Passage and later traveling by train and bus. A most memorable experience!

Every year since, Christy has enjoyed some type of touring. She began touring with a dear friend, Margaret Gardner, from Ottumwa, who plans different bus tours as a hobby. In the later years, Christy has planned her own tours. She finds some friends and away they go. Over the years she has visited most of the states in the U.S., most of the provinces of Canada, and several different countries. Countries visited include England, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Nigeria in Africa, Israel, Australia, and New Zealand. Of course while traveling, Christy keeps busy snapping the shutter on her 35 mm camera. Upon her return home Christy spends much time organizing her photos and experiences into travelogues. This way her family and friends can share the experience.

Christy also enjoys being a member of the Pella Business Women's Club and a volunteer for Hospice. She belongs to the Calvary Christian Reformed Church where she has sung in the choir, as well as serving on various committees. Probably the biggest decision in her life was the opportunity to buy her parents' home at 504 Monroe St. in 1985.

by Christy VanDer Molen

VANDER MOLEN, MARTIN AND BETTY (SCHURING)

F695

On Jan. 17, 1964, Marty (Martin) VanDer Molen was united in marriage to Betty Schuring at the Sully Christian Reformed Church. Marty is the son Ben and Christine while Betty is the daughter of Cornie and Wilhelmina (Vanden Berg) Schuring. Betty was born on Dec. 11, 1943. After their marriage, Marty continued working at the Peoria Stockyards while Betty worked at the Kellogg Savings Bank. They lived on Water Street in Sully. While living here their son Michael Lee was born on July 11, 1966.

Mike was just nine months old when he was rushed to the emergency room of the Mahaska County Hospital. His mother and grandma Shuring knew something was wrong when he began turning blue, but reality came when the doctor told them that an hour later would have been too late. Mike was rushed into surgery because of a telescoping intestine. Two years later Jeffrey Dean was born on Nov. 15, 1968. In Mar. of 1972, Jeff entered the Mahaska County Hospital to have his tonsils taken out. A third son, Brenton Jay, was born on Jan. 28, 1974. On Jan. 21, 1976, Mike had hernia surgery while on Feb. 12, 1982, Brent had his adenoids taken out and tubes put in his ears.

In 1968, Marty and Betty bought the farm of Jacob and Wilma Nikkel which is located 3/4 mile east of Sully. Marty soon bought into the Lynnville Transport livestock trucking business. He then set up a building on his farm and moved the trucking business there. Marty also became involved with the Lynnville Seed and Feed Company, the hog buying business, and then buying cattle from Montana for various area farmers. With three boys around, it seems as though there is never a dull moment. Each of the boys became much involved in the Lynn Grove Hustlers 4H Club. They also became active in the South Devon Cattle Breed Association. Thus cattle breeding and showing became big 4H projects. The boys entered various cattle shows, including the Denver National Western Stock Show and won a variety of prizes and ribbons, grand championships, and a 4H Chicago trip to mention a few. School also kept the boys busy, as they attended the Sully Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High. Both Mike and Jeff have driven the Sully-Pella school bus while attending high school.

With an active family like this, Betty keeps busy doing the bookkeeping for the business and keeping up with everyone's activities. Probably the biggest family event was on Dec. 12, 1986, when Mike married Pamela Jordan. The brothers were asked to be groomsmen and it sure is nice having a girl in the family. Pam was born on Sept. 5, 1966, and is the daughter of Jim and Karla (Kingerey) Jordan from Monroe. Mike and Pam live south of Sully while he drives truck for his dad and Pam works in a flower shop.

by Christy VanDer Molen

Martin VanDer Molen Family, Left to Right: Martin, Betty, Mike, Pam, Brent, and Jeff.

VANDER MOLEN, MARTIN AND TILLIE (OZINGA)

F696

The name VanDer Molen is of Dutch origin. The meaning is "one who came from the mill". In the United States today there are over 400 heads of households with an estimated 1200 plus people bearing this name. There are many different spellings; the most common being Vander Molen and Vandermolin.

Martin VanDer Molen was one person bearing this name. He was born on Dec. 21, 1883, in Summit Twp. He was the oldest child of 12 children of Bendert and Greitje (Stouwie) VanDer Molen. He had five brothers and six sisters: Sarah (Mrs. Adrian Vos); Carrie (Mrs. John L. Veenstra); Cecil, who died in infancy; another brother Cecil; Lewis; Gertie (Mrs. Richard Veenstra); Rendert who died in infancy; Anna (Mrs. Rense Nieuwsma); Rachel who died of appendicitis when planning to marry; Gerrit; and finaly Ella (Mrs. John W. Veenstra). Martin's mother died on July 17, 1934, and his father died on Nov. 2, 1940.

Martin Vander Molen Family. Front, l-r: Margaret (Mrs. Case Boerefyn); Martena (Mrs. Ray De Groot), Mother Tillie, and Anna (Mrs. Ralph Corbin); Back, l-r: Louis, Cecil, Jacob, Ben, William, and Rachel (Mrs. Cornie Vander Hart).

At the age of 27, Martin was united in marriage on Feb. 1, 1912, to Tillie Ozinga. Tillie was 20 years old and was the daughter of Jacob and Antje (Stursma) Ozinga. She had two brothers, William and Lewis. The marriage ceremony took place in Richland Twp. at the bride's home. Rev. F. Drost performed the ceremony. The couple spent their married years living on a farm in Peoria, Ia. Tillie was born on May 21, 1890, in The Netherlands. She came to America when she was four years old in 1894. Martin and Tillie were blessed with nine children: A daughter Margaret (Mrs. Case Boerefyn) was born on Sept. 20, 1912; a son Jacob born Sept. 20, 1914; another son Bennie born Sept. 27, 1916; a third son William born July 29, 1919. Three years later a fifth child Cecil was born on Sept. 13, 1922; a daughter Anna (Mrs. Ralph Corbin) was born on Jan. 24, 1925; a son Louis born on Apr. 7, 1927; a daughter Rachel (Mrs. Cornie Vander Hart) was born on Oct. 4, 1929. Four months before his last child was born Martin died. On Mar. 25, 1932, he was taken home after suffering at least two years from cancer. This left a very poor widow striving hard to raise a family to the glory of God. Her last child was still to be born on July 15, 1932 – a daughter Martena (Mrs. Ray De Groot).

The family had times of struggles as during the depression, times of joy as with marriages, births, and times of mischief. Yes, these kids weren't always the good kids they wanted people to believe they were. Often times, Halloween brought their naughtiness out. Neighbors would find themselves milking someone else's cows, or they would go out only to find their shanty had been upset, sometimes when it was occupied. And there were those things you hope nobody finds out about. The children all attended the Peoria Christian Grade School and some of the younger ones were fortunate enough to attend Pella Christian High School.

Soon after her children were grown, Tilie died on Nov. 18, 1946. She was 56 years old and had suffered from cancer. The funeral service took place in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church with Rev. J. Mulder officiating. She was buried along side her husband at the Peoria Cemetery.

by Christy VanDer Molen

VANDER MOLEN, MARVIN JAMES AND GLADYS

F697

Marvin J. Vander Molen, eldest son of Gerrit and Marie Roose Vander Molen of Peoria, Ia., was married to Gladys veldhuizen on Sept. 26, 1952, at the Peoria Christian Reformed Church, Peoria, Ia.

Marvin was born Mar. 29, 1930, at home west of Taintor, and after 12 school years at the Peoria Christian Grade and Pella Chris-

Marvin Vander Molen Family – photo taken in 1983. Front, l-r: Dennis, Megan, Gary; Middle, l-r: Linda, Gladys and Brett, Barbara; Back, l-r: Brenda, Marvin, Byron, Carla.

tian High, and after four years at home on the farm enlisted in the United States Air Force in 1951 for four years during which, some time was spent in Mississippi, Japan, and California.

Gladys was born the third child of Jacob and Marie Van Zee Veldhuizen of Lynnville, Ia. Gladys was born Nov. 29, 1931, at home south of Lynnville, Ia., and at two years of age, her parents moved south of Taintor. After seven years of schooling at Taintor, one year at Peoria Christian Grade, and New Sharon High, she worked a couple years before marriage. After 30 days, Marvin went to Japan for 18 months while Gladys worked at the Pella Coop Grocery Store. Upon his return, Gladys went with him to Oakland, Calif., to finish his term of service.

In 1956, they began farming five miles south of Sully for four years and then lived southeast of Lynnville for 25 years. In Feb., 1986, they moved to Peoria into the home formerly built by Marvin's parents while continuing to farm west of Taintor. Farmland values rose from about $300.00 to $3,000.00 during this farming period and during the past three years has dropped by 60 %.

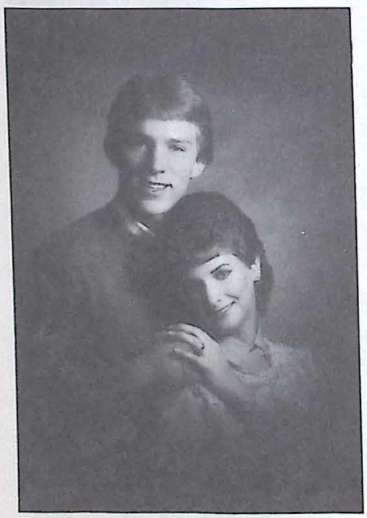
Three sons and one daughter were born to this union. Dennis Rene was born Mar. 30, 1955, in California. Dennis married Linda Kay Pol and they have one son, Corey Jon. Dennis is now managing his Ver Meer store in Jackson, Miss. Gary Lee was born July 27, 1956, and is married to Barbara Lynn Boomsma and they have three children of which Ryan Lee is deceased as a result of a school bus accident at Waterloo, Ia., on Feb. 25, 1982. Gary, Barb, Megan Lynn and Brett Alan now live in Cleveland, Ohio, where Gary is a mechanical engineer for Bendix Corporation. Byron Jay was born Oct. 22, 1957, and is married to Carla Joy Van Hal. They live west of Taintor on a farm and Byron is an electrician for Gritters Electric. Brenda Lou was born May 19, 1963, and lives in Pella, Ia. She is an accountant for Walter, Timmins & Company, C.P.A. in Knoxville, Ia.

Along with farming, some traveling has been enjoyed by the family.

by Marvin J. Vander Molen

VANDER MOLEN, VERNON

F698



Vernon and Carla (Steenhoek) Vander Molen.

Vernon Vander Molen was born Nov. 28, 1964 to Lawrence and Mary Ann Bruxvoort Vander Molen. He grew up on a farm three miles east of Pella. On Apr. 4, 1986 he was married to Carla Sue Steenhoek at Third Reformed Church in Pella. Carla is the daughter of Simon and Corinne Ver Ploeg Steenhoek. She was born July 18, 1966 and grew up on a farm four miles south of Pella. Vernon and Carla now live at 1118½ Broadway in Pella.

Vernon works for his dad at Pella Feed service and also helps him farm. Carla works as an accounting assistant in the office at Precision Pulley.

Vernon attended Pella Christian High School. He enjoys bowling, golfing, and softball. While Carla attended Pella Community High School, she was a member of the girls' basketball team and marching band color guard. Carla's interests are cross-stitch, sports, and baking. Together they belong to a co-ed volleyball team and enjoy playing ping pong and sports in general.

by Vernon Vander Molen

VANDER PEUT FAMILY

F699

Left to right: Albert Vander Peut, Betty Vander Peut, Jan van Appeldoorn, and Arda van Appeldoorn, taken Dec., 1982 in Holland.

The Holland Connection

In July, 1978, former neighbors of Albert and Betty Vander Peut, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew De Kock, went to Holland to visit their family. While there they attended a wedding anniversary of Mrs. De Kock's niece. They were talking to the parents of their niece's husband, Jan van Appeldoorn of Woudenberg. Mrs. van Appeldoorn mentioned that she had an uncle who went to the United States and that they did not hear from him anymore. De Kocks asked what his name was and it was Chris Vander Peut. When the De Kocks asked if he had a son named Albert, Arda van Appeldoorn said, "Yes". De Kocks said Albert and his family had been neighbors of theirs at Otley.

In Sept., 1978 Jan and Arda van Appeldoorn came to America to see Albert and his sister Josephine (Vander Peut) Roorda and

their families. They couldn't believe that so many of us could speak Dutch so well. Since then, our daughter Maryann and her husband Dale Klyn have been to visit them in Holland twice; and our son Al and his wife Gloria once, in July, 1980.

In Dec., 1982, Albert, Mary Ann, Alvin, and I went to a wedding of Jan van Appeldoorn's daughter. A wedding in Holland is very different. They are married in a civil ceremony at the courthouse, then there is a service at the church. Limousines picked us up at the bride's home, took us to the courthouse, the church, and then to a large hotel for a dinner and reception.

In Sept., 1983, Jan and Arda van Appeldoorn visited us again. Dale and Mary Ann (Vander Peut) Klyn took them to Colorado.

Al visited the van Appeldoorns in May, 1984; Mary Ann and Dale in Sept., 1985.

Van Appeldoorn's granddaughter, Eveline Mol, decided to go to Central College in Pella for one year. Jan and Eveline's mother, Mrs. Henk Mol (Willy van Appeldoorn), brought her to Pella in July, 1986. Eveline has had many opportunities to travel since arriving in Pella. She traveled throughout Iowa with the Central tennis team. She has visited nearby cities of Kansas City and Chicago. In Dec., 1986, she went to Hawaii with Al and Gloria and their children.

In Feb., 1987, Eveline's brother, Hendrik Jan Mol, came to visit her. He went to Colorado skiing with my grandsons, Mike and Mark Klyn. In late Feb., 1987 Eveline and a friend went to Arizona during spring break.

Eveline goes home in June, 1987. We will miss her as she is like a member of our own family, but we look forward to seeing her and all of our recently-found family in future visits.

by Betty Vander Peut

VANDER PEUT, ALBERT AND BETTY (VAN ZEE)

F700

On Jan. 17, 1941, Albert Vander Peut, son of Chris and Jennie (Willemsen) Vander Peut, was united in marriage with Betty Van Zee, daughter of Dick J. and Margaret (Vande Gaarde) Van Zee.

We were married at the home of my parents, four miles west of Pella, Ia. After our marriage we moved to a small farm close to Coalport Church northeast of Knoxville, Ia. We rented the farm from Mrs. Ethel (Backman) Andrews. We borrowed $700 to start farming. We had no electricity or telephone. Albert and his father, who was living with us, would go to the timber to cut firewood to burn in the stoves, so it didn't cost much for utilities. Selling a half case of eggs (15 doz.) would more than buy groceries and miscellaneous items for a week. We also had five or six milk cows and every other week we could put the cream check in the bank.

On Dec. 8, 1941, we rented and moved to Jim De Young's farm on the crossroads west of Pella on Fifield Road, only a half mile from my parents. We still had no telephone or electricity. Albert rented some extra ground

Albert and Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut.

from John Rietveld, paid off the debt and bought a tractor.

Our daughter, MaryAnn was born on Feb. 18, 1944, two weeks before moving to a farm north of Sully, Ia., on Mar. 1. MaryAnn and I stayed with my folks till Mar. 8. While living at Sully we did have a telephone and in 1947-48 REA came through and we had electricity. Soon after, we bought our first refrigerator.

In the fall of 1948 we bought a 90-acre farm southwest of Otley from Neal Van Wyk. We moved there Feb. 8, 1949. A week before we moved we had a bad snowstorm that closed the roads. The neighborhood men were shoveling to open the road. Albert's father Chris was helping and had a heart attack and died. At the time MaryAnn was very sick. She stayed at our neighbor, Herman Jansen's, while we made arrangements for the funeral.

On Nov. 9, 1951, Alvin Lee was born.

We did a lot of papering and painting on the house near Otley. Most of it was done in the evenings. We had been milking 10 to 12 cows at Sully, but started milking nearly 20.

In 1958 Albert started having back problems. The doctor advised not lifting over 40 pounds. After one and one-half years of trying to do that, with the help of relatives and neighbors, the decision was made to sell the farm. In July of 1960 we sold the farm to Martin Sukhuis of Pella. We bought a house at 508 Jefferson in Pella, Ia., and moved there in Feb., 1961. At that time Alvin was in fifth grade and Mary Ann in high school.

Albert first worked at Pella Community Hospital as a custodian. In Mar., 1961, we both started at Pella Rolscreen as office custodians. I worked there until Jan., 1978, when I suffered a massive heart attack. Albert worked at Rolscreen until July, 1979, when he resigned, and then worked for Red Rock Rubber, Inc. until Sept., 1980, when he retired.

We moved to the Pella Manor in Apr., 1082. We have been happy here. Albert passed away July 24, 1986.

by Betty Vander Peut

VANDER PEUT, ALVIN LEE AND GLORIA JEAN (VANDER WILT)

F701

The Alvin Vander Peut Family. Clockwise from left: Todd, Alvin, Gloria, and Brenna.

Al was born Nov. 9, 1950, to Albert and Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut. He has one sister, Maryann (Klyn). Al lived on a farm near Otley and attended Otley schools 'til fourth grade when his family moved to Pella.

Al graduated from Pella Community High School in 1968. He was a member of Thespians and the National Honor Society. He attended Central College for one year and Iowa State University for two years. He has a B.S. from I.S.U.

Gloria was born Mar. 8, 1951, to Alvin Gene and Iola Joyce (Marinus) Vander Wilt. She lived on a farm on Highway 163 six miles east of Pella. She has two brothers, Mark Leo and Marion "Craig," and one sister, Judy Ann (Dunham).

Gloria attended Black Oak Center School for two years, then went to Leighton schools through sixth grade. She graduated from Pella Community High School in 1969. She was a member of the band and Quill and Scroll. She was co-editor of the 1969 Duchess. Gloria went to I.S.U. for one year.

Gloria's family had an airplane for many years. This gave her a love of flying and traveling. She held many offices in the Iowa Flying Farmer Teens.

Al and Gloria met in high school but started dating at I.S.U. in the fall of 1969. Gloria worked at Clow Corporation in Oskaloosa for a year starting in Aug., 1970.

Al and Gloria were married in Pella's First Reformed Church on June 4, 1971. They moved to Iowa City in Aug., 1971, where Al began dental school at the University of Iowa. Gloria worked for the University of Iowa for four years in the admission office and at the dental clinic. Al received his D.D.S. degree in 1975.

In May, 1975, Al and Gloria moved to Pella

where Al set up his dental practice. Gloria worked at the Pella Chronicle for one year.

Todd Spencer was born on July 22, 1976. Brenna Leann was born on July 6, 1979.

The Vander Peuts lived at 1345 Broadway until 1981, when they designed and built their current home at 1203 Bruce Lane.

Al has been active in many organizations since moving to Pella, including Kiwanis, Marion County Board of Health, Pella Historical Society Board and Community Development Committee. He has made trips to Yucatan and to Haiti to do volunteer dental work.

Gloria has been busy with the Welcome Wagon and the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority. She was a 4-H leader for five years. She enjoys reading and is a member of a book club. Gloria has also been active in the Pella Historical Society and is now serving on its board.

The Vander Peuts are members of First Reformed Church. Al has served on committees there. Gloria is a member of the bell choir. They have both taught Sunday School.

Todd and Brenna both attend Lincoln School. Todd likes playing baseball and football. He is a big Hawkeye fan. Brenna enjoys school and likes to read. They both enjoy playing the piano.

The Vander Peuts belong to two Dutch dance groups, Dutch Heritage Dancers and Dutch Family Singers. They are involved in many aspects of Tulip Time and enjoy commemorating their Dutch heritage.

by Gloria Vander Peut

VANDER PEUT, CHRIS AND JENNIE (WILLEMSEN)

F702

Chris and Jennie Vander Peut, wedding photo.

Josephine and Albert Vander Peut, 1921.

Chris Vander Peut was born in Woudenberg, The Netherlands, on Apr. 25, 1882. He emigrated to the United States in 1911 or 1912. In Feb., 1913, he married Jennie Willemsen, daughter of Henry and Johanna Spronk Willemsen, and lived at Killduff, Ia. On May 30, 1916, their daughter Josephine was born and four years later on Apr. 6, 1920, their son Albert was born.

Chris bought a farm at Killduff and had it paid for when he bought an acreage at Sully. He also bought two more farms, paying $500 down on each one. He took a mortgage on his Killduff farm to do this. In 1920-21 land prices fell dramatically and he lost everything.

On Apr. 21, 1921, his wife Jennie died in Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines, where she had been a patient for six weeks after surgery for an appendectomy. She had never felt well after the birth of her son. Chris lost his farm and acreage and his wife all in the same year.

Chris and his children went to live with his in-laws, Henry and Johanna Willemsen. He worked for area farmers until the Willemsens moved to the A.B. Van Houweling farm northwest of Otley. In addition to working as a farmhand, he took a job as a section man for the Rock Island Railroad.

In 1936 Mr. and Mrs. Willemsen retired and moved to Pella, Ia. Chris decided to start farming. His daughter kept house for him. He rented the Lautenbach farm southwest of Pella close to the Des Moines River, neighbors to the Van Lint brothers. In Oct., 1938, Josephine married Merlin Roorda from Bussey, Ia. His son, Albert, was working as a hired man at Leighton so rather than stay by himself on the farm, he decided to quit farming. He had borrowed $900 to start farming. When he had his farm sale, he barely received enough money to pay off the debt. He moved to Otley, Ia. and rented a house from Gerrit Dykstra. He lived alone and worked by day for area farmers until his son, Albert, married Betty Van Zee on Jan. 17, 1941. He made his home with them until he died on Feb. 1, 1949, of a heart attack while shoveling snow to open a snow-filled road north of Sully, Ia.

by Betty Vander Peut

VANDER PLOEG, CHARLES AND BERNICE

F703

Front, L-R: Bernice and Charles Vander Ploeg; Back, L-R: Thomas Lee, Carla Jeanne Poldberg and James Charles.

Charles was born on Sept. 14, 1928, in Pella, Ia., son of Nicholas and Mattie (Van Zee) Vander Ploeg. Bernice was born on Aug. 22, 1928, in Pella, to Peter and Jeneke (Jennie Vander Beek) Heerema.

Charles attended Pella Christian Grade School. He graduated from Pella High School in 1946, Central College in 1950, and with a Juris Doctor Degree from Drake University Law School in 1953.

Bernice attended Pella Grade School and graduated from Pella High School in 1946. She attended Central College.

Charles and Bernice were united in marriage on Sept. 2, 1949, at First Reformed Church, Pella. Charles was in the Air National Guard which was activated in 1951, and was stationed at Dow Air Force Base in Bangor, Me. He was discharged in 1952.

Charles and Bernice were blessed with three children: Carla, Jeanne, James Charles and Thomas Lee.

Carla was born in Des Moines on Sept. 7, 1953. She attended Pella Community Schools until graduation in 1971. She attended Central College where she met Warren Poldberg. They were married Oct. 28, 1972. Carla and Warren and girls live in Harlan, Ia.

Jim was born Mar. 20, 1956, in Oskaloosa, Ia., and attended Pella Community Schools until graduation in 1974. He graduated from Central College in June, 1979. He met Julie Barkema at college and they married Oct. 10, 1981. Jim, Julie, and daughters live in Colorado where Jim is associated with Allied Group Insurance.

Tom was born May 30, 1959, in Oskaloosa, Ia., and attended the Pella Community Schools until graduation in 1977. He attended Northwest Missouri State College and is now living in Arizona where he is associated with Braniff Airlines.

Charles and Bernice are the proud grandparents of five granddaughters.

Charles practiced law in Tama, Ia., was an insurance adjuster in Oskaloosa, Ia., and is now associated with Pella National Bank where he has been employed for twenty-seven years. He has served as president and/or board member for many civic clubs and organizations.

Bernice is and has been active in civic organizations, she worked for Civil Service, and was a pre-school teacher for many years.

They are both active members of the First Reformed Church in Pella where Charles has served as a deacon and an elder.

by Charles and Bernice Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG, HARRIET (SHEIBLEY)
F704

Harriet Sheibley was descended from the Harmsen family who had emigrated from Gelderland, The Netherlands, with Dominie Scholte in 1847, sailing on the ship *Nagasaki.* Gerrit Jan Harmsen was an early farmer in the Sandridge area. Harriet Vander Ploeg's mother, Aura, was the granddaughter of Gerrit Jan Harmsen, her father being William. William's two sisters were well-known teachers in the early Pella schools. Hattie Harmsen taught in the rural schools and Jennie was the third grade teacher at Webster in Pella. Harriet's maternal grandmother was Cynthia (Fisk) Harmsen. The Fisk family were early settlers in Pella, originally from England. The Fisk family was credited with the invention of the tiling machine to drain farmland in the area.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG, JOHN R. (BUD) AND HARRIET
F705

John R., known as "Bud", and Harriet Sheibley were Central College sweethearts when World War II began and Bud left to serve in the Army. They were married after his return from overseas where he had been wounded twice.

Bud often related his earliest memory of being run over by a car. In his autobiography he said, "The first thing I remember of my childhood is being run over by a car. The new pavement had just been opened and I was accustomed to running across the street where there was a large park (West Market) with a tennis court. This was just across the street from where I lived. We were going to the farm that summer evening and I was anxious to get going. I was about four or five at the time and did not even think of looking whether a car was coming. It hit me and I was in bed for three or four weeks with a lot of scratches and bruiese." He admitted being pretty lucky.

Bud worked many hours as a youth in the bakery owned by his father and uncle. Life centered around the bakery with long hours of work and the main "bread-winner" sleeping part of the day.

The John R. Vander Ploeg family poses in the living room at their home at 1008 Franklin sometime in the early 1970's. Left to Right: Harriet, John, Julie, Carol, Gail, Mike, Bruce, Paul, Beth.

Bud's early schooling was in the Pella Christian Grade School. In 1936 he entered Pella High School and played three years of varsity football as center. He was well-developed and suited for football. Coach Claypool, his high school coach, was mentioned many times when football stories were recounted.

Harriet grew up in the rural area of Collins where she attended the local schools. She came to Central College and made her home with her Aunt Jennie Harmsen while attending school. During this time she met Bud Vander Ploeg who had entered Central in 1951 and was a prominent member of the "Flying Dutchmen" football team. He quit school in 1943 to enlist in the Army since the United States was involved in two fighting fronts by this time. (See his military career data in another section of *Pella in War)*

Their marriage took place at Collins, Ia., on Nov. 4, 1945. After Bud's discharge, he returned to Central College, no longer able to play football due to his war injuries. He became an assistant to Coach Tysseling, coaching the linemen. He graduated from Central on June 6, 1949. Harriet had completed a teacher training program and was teaching at Webster School in the Junior High.

Bud also began working at the bakery again, the third generation to carry on.

They first lived at 1012 Franklin and during this time, their first two children were born. Carol May arrived May 4, 1948, and Bruce Lee on Mar. 2, 1950. They exchanged residences with Bud's parents and moved to 1008 Franklin and this has been home since and is where their other five children were also reared. Michael John was born Nov. 15, 1951, Gail Ellen on July 27, 1954, Beth Ann on Oct. 25, 1956, Paul Allen arrived Nov. 16, 1960, and a decade later, Julie Lynn was born on Jan. 19, 1971.

Carol married Richard Van Slooten and they live in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, with their three children. Bruce lives in Manchester, N.H. Gail and her husband, Michael De Young, live at Rehoboth, New Mex., with their three children. Mike's wife is Donna Mae (Kooistra) and the couple lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., with their two young sons. Beth and Julie live at home. Paul married Karol Kramer and their home is in Colorado Springs, Colo.

In 1960 Bud became partners with Mark Vander Ploeg in owning and operating the Vander ploeg Bakery. Each of his children worked their during their high school years — a source of income for them and a good learning experience in traditional Dutch work ethic — until the bakery was sold to Gerrit Vander Beek in 1980 and Bud retired.

From the time Pella had a golf course in the late 1940's, Bud could be found quite regularly on the course. It was ironic that he was on the Des Moines Golf and Country Club course when he suffered a massive heart attack at the age of sixty and died there on July 21, 1983.

Bud had an avid interest in sports, an active participation in politics but most important in his life was his devotion to his family, to God and to his country.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG, JOHN R. AND DORA (LAVERMAN)

F706

Peter and Elizabeth Vander Ploeg were married May 15, 1862, at Dantumwoude, Friesland, The Netherlands. He was a tailor by trade. Their son, Jan (John R.) was born on Nov. 8, 1863, the latter born of twins. John R.'s wife, Dora Laverman Vander Ploeg, was born in Hyum, Friesland on Aug. 28, 1866.

Dora immigrated in 1868 with her parents, the Klaas Lavermans, and an intriquing story is told of Dora's journey to America. She was a toddler and became ill aboard ship. She developed dysentery, a malady from which many passengers died. At one point, other concerned passengers, convinced that Dora had died, said, "Het kind is doed," (the child is dead) and prepared to bury her at sea. But Dora's mother clung to her child and insisted, "Het kind is nict doed," (the child is not dead). Her persistence paid off as Dora lived to be a very healthy eighty-eight years of age. She is remembered as "little grandma" and although her stature was diminutive, her ability to demand authority was well respected. Her grandson, Bud, remarked in later years that she was prime material to be an army sergeant.

John, Dora's husband, travelled to America in 1881 and started working as a baker. In 1889, John and Dora were married and from this union were born five children: Peter, Jennie (Mrs. Paul Ver Meer), Nicholas, Diller and Bert. Two sons, Nick and Diller worked in their father's bakery, now known as Vander Ploeg's Bakery. They became co-owners in 1925.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG, KURT RONALD

F707

Vander Ploeg family photo taken 1986. Front, l-r: Karin, Jana, Mindy. Back, l-r: Carol, Kurt, Andrea.

Kurt Ronald Vander Ploeg, the eldest child of Arthur Ruard (1912-) and Martha Maxine (Clevenger) (1914-1976) Vander Ploeg, was born on Feb. 23, 1941, in the home of his maternal grandparents, Ulrie and Mabel (LeGrand) Clevenger, in Monroe, Ia. His paternal grandparents were Charles D. (1876-1951) and Mary (Vriezelaar) (1881-1970) Vander Ploeg, and his great-grandfather was an early Pella area resident, Ruard (1836-1920) Vaneer Ploeg. Kurt's younger sisters and brother are: Kristine (1943) (Mrs. Dale Dixon); Kathleen (1946) (Van Veen); Karlin (1948) (Mrs. Darrell Hjortshoj); Kristopher (1952); and Kyla (1954) (Mrs. James Bandstra); all of Monroe, Ia. One sister, Karolyn (1951), died at birth.

Kurt grew up in Monroe and graduated from high school in 1959. He attended Iowa State for two years, and graduated from Central College in 1963. He became assistant cashier of the Monroe State Bank after graduation. On July 25, 1964, he married Carol Eilene (Hemwall). Carol was born on Feb. 19, 1943, in Oak Park, Ill. Her parents were Dr. Gustav and Helen (Moore) Hemwall. To this marriage were born four daughters: Andrea, May 28, 1967; Melinda, June 17, 1969; Karin, Mar. 6, 1975; and Jana June 12, 1977.

After working nine years in the bank Kurt decided on a career change, and in 1972 he entered medical school at the University of Iowa. After receiving his M.D. he did a residency in family practice at Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines, Ia. In 1978 the family moved to Pella where Kurt started his medical practice. From 1978-1980 Kurt was with the Pella Medical Center. In 1980 he established his own practice at 615 Washington.

Kurt held many offices in Monore community clubs and organizations from 1963-1972. While in medical school he played trombone with the University Hospital jazz band. Since being in Pella he has continued to play in the College-Community Orchestra and the Pella summer band. He is currently a director of the Monroe State Bank, and has served on several boards in the Pella community. He and his family are active members of the Third Reformed Church.

by Carol Vander Ploeg

The John R. and Dora (Laverman) Vander Ploeg family taken in circa 1910. Front, l-r: Bert and Dick (Diller); Middle, l-r: John R. Vander Ploeg, Jennie (Mrs. Paul Ver Meer), Dora (mother); Back, l-r: Peter and Nicholas.

VANDER PLOEG, NICHOLAS AND MATTIE

F708

Nick married Mattie Van Zee on Aug. 20, 1919. Mattie was the only child of John Roland and Jenneke Van Zee who were married in Pella on Feb. 4, 1892. Mattie was born in 1897.

Nick and Mattie were the parents of: Dorothy (Mrs. Edward Kallemyn), John R. (Bud), Trudy (Mrs. Harry Goettsch) and Charles L.

Mattie's loving ways endeared her to all who knew her. She would often sit at her treadle sewing machine and carefully mend the aprons of bakery workers. When Nick would leave Mattie, he always gave her a kiss. It was a touch of tenderness that has been

Nick and Mattie Vander Ploeg family. Front, l-r: Nick and Mattie; Back, l-r: Trudy, Charles, John, and Dorothy.

passed on through the years to their descendants in their marriages.

Nick's father had been a baker and he became one, going into business with his brother, Diller, in 1925. Nick's son, Bud, later became a baker and went into business in the family bakery with his cousin, Mark Vander Ploeg.

Nick was born Feb. 25, 1897, and died Sept. 10, 1970. Mattie died a few years before, Jan. 22, 1968.

by Harriet Vander Ploeg

VANDER PLOEG, RUARD

F709

Ruard Vander Ploeg was born in The Netherlands on Dec. 5, 1836. He came to America when he was eighteen years old and settled in the Pella area. At the time of his death he had one brother, T. Vander Ploeg, and one sister, Mrs. Albert Beintema, living in Pella.

Ruard became a farmer and landholder. He was a young widower with three children when he married Pietje Terpstra who was born Jan. 11, 1851 in New York City, N.Y. They had one son named Dirk, who died as a young child, and another child also died in infancy. Their family eventually consisted of five daughters: Christine (Vander Waal) and Jennie (Mrs. James Cochrane) who were both later of Des Moines, Ia.: Delia (De Haan), Margaret (Mrs. James Huyser), and Anna (Van Spanckeren) all of Pella: and three sons: Charles D. later of Monroe; Will G., later of Knoxville; and Watson H., later of Chicago and Michigan.

In 1904 Ruard and his wife came to live in Pella. With his son Watson H. and daughter Anna Van Spanckeren he founded the Farmers and Merchants Bank which later merged into the Farmers National Bank. He retired in 1917, and died Aug. 30, 1920. Pietje died July 10, 1934, after spending her last years with her daughter and son-in-law, Margaret and James Huyser.

by Carol Vander Ploeg

VANDER POL FAMILY

F710

The following Vander Pols came on the good ship *Nagasaki*, which left Rotterdam, Holland, on April 11, 1847, for Baltimore. They were: Mr. and Mrs. G. Vander Pol, Stoffel Vander Pol, Cornelia Vander Pol, Gerritje Vander Pol, Gerrit Vander Pol and Thomas Vander Pol.

Gerritt Vander Pol was one of the seven men chosen to pick out the Pella site. The Vander Pols settled east of Pella, west of Vermeer Mfg. Jacob Vander Pol was a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Vander Pol. The other son

Les and Hazel Vander Pol. 40th Wedding Anniversary in 1974.

Taken in Columbus, Nebraska 1962. Left to Right: Wayne, Hazel, Lester, and Max Vander Pol.

The Vander Pol family in 1986. Kneeling: Leslie and Tereva; Front, Left to Right: Aandrea, Wayne, Max, Helen, Troy; Back, l-r: Judy, Wayne II, Russell, Hazel.

was Gerrit Vander Pol of Sully.

Jacob Vander Pol, born April 1, 1868, married Margaret Jansma, born March 15, 1879. They were married in 1909 in Pella, Iowa. Jacob died Jan. 27, 1939. Margaret died Nov. 21, 1952. They had four children: Dale Person Vander Pol, born Sept. 25, 1907, and passed away Nov. 14, 1977; Lea Teanne passed away in infancy; Lester was born March 26, 1912, and passed away Oct. 10, 1983; Leateanne was born Jan. 28, 1919.

Lester was married to Hazel Johnson of Tracy. They had two sons, Wayne Dale and Max Lester. Lester worked for 42 years at the Pella Municipal Light plant, and retired as a chief engineer in 1975. The first eight years working at the plant were seven days a week.

Wayne Vander Pol married Helen Hakanson of Omaha in 1962. They have three sons: Wayne II, Russell Lester, and Troy. Max Vander Pol married Judy Van Eckeren and they have four children: Tereva (Mrs. Jerry Campbell), Aandrea, Leslie and Jan Jay, who died in infancy.

Jacob Vander Pol loved horses and had many at his farm. When other neighbor horses got sick, they always brought them to Jake. Leateanne Vander Pol married Clarence Vander Linden of Pella. They have one son, Marc, who married Carol Webb of Des Moines. Marc and Carol are parents of two children, Rick and Jill.

by Hazel Vander Pol

VANDER SCHAAF, CARL

F711

Carl was born in Peoria, Ia. on July 31, 1931. He was the second child born to Fred and Anna Stursma Vander Schaaf. His sister Shirley was one year and seven months old when he was born. His father was a self-taught mechanic who fixed cars and occasionally farm machinery. Times were not easy and at a very early age Carl would try to find odd jobs to help with the family income. He remembers a day when he helped his uncle mix feed all day and was paid with a chicken. He was proud to bring that chicken home as that was considerable pay for a day for a boy under ten years of age.

He would trek westward up the road to his grandfather's house, where his grandfather and his mother's twin sister Tena lived. He was afraid of the "meantainer", as he called the road grader, and would walk in the ditch to avoid it. He would often bring his father his dinner bucket, so once again he would try to avoid the large machine.

Carl spent his first years in school at the Peoria Christian Grade school where there were four grades per room. In 1942, his family moved to Pella, and he finished seventh and eighth grades at Pella Christian Grade School. He was also able to obtain a job at that time, age 11, working for Dick Leydens. He helped to load feed onto trucks and occasionally, long before he was really of an age to drive, he would be permitted to drive the truck up to the loading docks. Gas ration stamps were used at this time because of the war, and part of this operation was a gas pump. He attended Pella Christian High School. One of his best friends during this time was his cousin Norman Stursma. While he was in high school, he sang in the choir which was almost compulsory since his father was the choir director. At 14, he began his job at the Vande Voort's grocery store. He had obtained his chauffeur's license by then and part of his job was to deliver groceries. Some of the groceries were rationed due to the war. He was required to collect stamps for some items such as sugar and canned goods. He remembers people helping each other when extra stamps were needed, but this exchange was more when gas stamps were needed than with the food.

By 1948, the year he graduated from high school, Carl purchased his first truck. He used it mainly to deliver coal in winter, and sand and gravel were hauled in the summer. During one severe storm, he brought coal to Frank De Jong, and his wife. They lived just across from the bowling alley on Highway 163 east of Pella. He walked back to town using fence posts as his markers to be sure he could find his way back. He hauled coal to most of the churches and schools in Pella during that time.

About three years after high school Carl enlisted in the army. The Korean War was on, and rather than wait to be drafted, he and Jim Dingeman enlisted together. They took their basic training at Fort Leonardwood, Mo. Later, Carl went to Korea during the fighting there, though he did not see actual combat. Carl spent six years in service and three years of that at Fort Lewis, Wash. where he was a tank commander. His rank was Sergeant First Class. He was color guard for the Fifth Regimental Combat Team for three years. He decided he would not reenlist and was discharged. He came home from Washington State by himself non – stop hoping to spend some time with his grandfather who was then very ill.

Carl went to work for Pella Construction Company in Pella after coming home from service. On Nov. 26, 1960, he married Shirley Postma who was a teacher at Pella Christian School. There are three children in this family: Jack, born Sept. 22, 1961; Sue, born Aug. 2, 1968; and Julie, born May 26, 1975. There are almost seven years between each of these children.

In March of 1964, the family moved to Independence, Ia. where Carl managed a Readi Mix Concrete Plant for Oliver M. Greenley.

In 1977, the family moved back to Pella. Carl spent one more year at Pella Construction Company. In 1978, Carl invested in trucks of his own. Jack, the oldest son, worked for him for a couple of years before he moved to Des Moines to attend school. Jack still lives in Des Moines today where he is continuing his education and working for an insurance company. Sue is also in Des Moines where she is attending American Institute of Business. Julie is in the sixth grade at Pella Christian Grade School. Carl still operates his business today with two dump trucks and one truck which is an aglime spreader. Most of the time he operates this business by himself, but during the busy lime season he hires drivers for the two dump trucks.

by Shirley Vander Schaaf

VANDER SCHAAF, SJOERD

F712

Leewkje Sytsma.

Sjoerd Vander Schaaf was born in Schum, Vriesland, The Netherlands on May 5, 1864. He was orphaned early in life, consequently there is little information concerning his early years. He was brought up in an orphanage, and in early years was taught the carpenters trade. At the age of 19, he, with his brother John, came to America and settled in Paterson, N.J. where he was employed as a carpenter. He was united in marriage to Maggie Sytsma in Oct. of 1891. They were affiliated with the Christian Reformed Church.

Maggie (Maaike) Sytsma's father lived in Ferwerd, The Netherlands with his wife Leewkje, two sons, Sam and John, and four daughters Maaike, Anna, Abeltje, and Duiweke. Mr. Sytsma was a worker on the land in summer, and a flax comber in winter. He died at an early age, leaving his widow and six children. He was buried near the home in which he had lived.

After Mr. Sytsma's death Leewkje worked on the land often spending hours gleaning in the potato fields. Frequently the family didn't have enough to eat. Then there came a time when Leewkje Sytsma decided to emigrate to America. Her two sons, Sam and John preceded the rest of the family, found employment and sent money to their mother so that she and the daughters could move to America, settling in Paterson, N.J.

Maaike, one of the daughters was married to Sjoerd Vander Schaaf in Oct. of 1891. To this union seven children were born, names and birthdates as follows: Floris Vander Schaaf born Oct. 1892; Lena Vander Schaaf born Dec. 5, 1894; Reka Vander Schaaf born Apr. 8, 1897; Anna Vander Schaaf born Jan. 23, 1901; Fred Vander Schaaf born July 28, 1904; Ella Vander Schaaf born Feb. 17, 1907; and Julia Vander Schaaf born Dec. 8, 1910.

All the children except the youngest, Julia, were born in Paterson, N.J. Julia was born in Iowa.

In 1907 or 1908 a minister from the Paterson, N.J. area moved to Peoria, Ia. Floris, the oldest followed him there by himself at the age of either 15 or 16 because of the news of the possibility of employment in the area. He worked on the farms of George and Gerrit Engbers in the Taintor, Ia., area. Later, when his parents came they stayed at the home of George and Gerrit's father. This home was on what is now Washington St. in Pella, and this dwelling may still be there today. The parents and family made the trip by train in 1909 and settled in Peoria, a small village located about ten miles for Pella.

After securing a home in Peoria, the Vander Schaafs gradually became adjusted to the new pattern of life, changing from city to rural living. Having lived in Peoria for a few months, Mr. Vander Schaaf rented a small farm. He also worked at the construction trade, and one of his projects was building the first Christian School in Peoria.

In 1920 the family moved to Pella, where those who remain still reside. During the years since 1920, three of the seven children as well as both parents have died.

Four daughters and both daughters-in-law of this family are still living. Both parents and one son, Fred, are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella. One daughter, Lena, is buried in Peoria Cemetery. Floris, the older son, is buried in Forest Cemetery, Oskaloosa, Ia.

In addition to the older generation there are several grandchildren, and numerous great and great-great-grandchildren living in Pella and surrounding areas as well as other parts of Iowa and other states.

The Vander Schaaf family today: Floris Vander Schaaf died Aug. 31, 1967, was married to Marie Fynaardt. They were parents of five daughters and two sons, two of whom are deceased. Marie lives in rural Pella. Lena Vander Schaaf died Aug. 31, 1945, was married to Martin de Jong (Deceased). They were parents of one son and one daughter. Reka Vander Schaaf married Jacob Stursma (deceased), they had two daughters. Reka lives in East Fair Haven. Anna Vander Schaaf married Peter A. De Jong (deceased). They were parents of three sons and three daughters. Anna also lives at East Fair Haven. Fred Vander Schaaf died May 16, 1969, and was married to Anna Stursma. They had one son and two daughters. Anna and Jacob Stursma were brother and sister. Anna resides at 706 East First St. Ella Vander Schaaf, a teacher for forty-five years, thirty-six of which she taught in Pella Christian Grade School, lives in the other half of a duplex at 706 East First St. This is the house the family owned in later years and now belongs to Ella. Julia Vander Schaaf married Louis Van Heukelom (deceased). They were parents of two sons and one daughter (who married John De Nooy, Jr.). Julia lives at 1107 East Second.

Among this large family there are three grandchildren who carry the family name: Marvin and Seymour sons of Floris, and Carl, son of Fred. At the time of this writing there is only one great-grandson, Jack, son of Carl, and no one in the generation of great-great-grandchildren who carries on the family name.

Music, especially religious music, played a large role in the life of this family. Floris, when he moved to Peoria, was a self-taught organist and he played in the church there. He also played for years in the Oskaloosa First Christian Reformed Church and played for the Dutch Psalm Sing there until a few years before his death. Fred was a self-taught choir director and at one time was the director for the Christian High School choir. He also directed choir in four of the Christian Reformed and four Reformed Churches in the area. Ella was an organist for many years. Some of the children and adults in the present generation carry on the tradition by singing and playing musical instruments.

Sjoerd Vander Schaaf lived out his years after retirement at 706 East First St. He died in Mercy Hospital Oskaloosa, Ia., at the age of 93 years after suffering a stroke.

by Ella Vander Schaaf and Shirley Vander Schaaf

VANDER STREEK, LLOYD AND NOLA

F713

Lloyd Gene Vander Streek, son of Herman (1894-1955) and Martha De Kock (1891-1951) Vander Streek, was born July 1, 1930, growing up on a farm located on the Marion-Mahaska county line just north of Highway 163. He has one sister, Verla Mae (Mrs. Carl) Wehde, Crystal Lake, Illinois.

A Pella Community High School graduate, Lloyd was employed by the Rock Island Railroad, later assuming employment in the Rolscreen Company traffic department. This employment was interrupted from 1951-53 when drafted by the U.S. Army, spending one year in Korea.

In 1956 Lloyd opened the Pella Bootery, 707 Franklin, in partnership with Carl Wehde, brother-in-law. This partnership was dissolved in 1960 when the Wehdes opened a shoe store in Crystal Lake, Ill. In 1983 the Bootery was sold to devote full time to his growing Christmas tree plantation which was purchased in 1971.

Lloyd served the Historical Society on various committees, including serving as Tulip Time parade chairman, and is a past persident of the Pella Chamber of Commerce, Pella Golf and Country Club and local American Legion. He has been a member of the Pella Park Board since 1969. A past president of the Iowa Chirstmas Tree Growers Association, he is currently a director in the National Christmas Tree Growers Association.

May 19, 1951, he married Nola Ruth Boot, born June 8, 1931, daughter of Armour (1903-84) and Susie Zwank Boot. Their children are Ann (Mrs. Thomas J.) Summitt and Paul L. Vander Streek. The family hosted as AFS student, Elizabeth Ugalde from Nicoya, Costa Rica, in 1970-71.

Nola's work experience outside the family business operations has been with Rolscreen Company, Central College and Pella Community Schools, the latter resulting in being census enumerator for the school district from 1954-86. She served as local correspendent to the former *Des Moines Register* and *Tribune* for many years and in the 1950's wrote the "Tulip Times" column for the local paper.

She has been involved with Camp Fire Girls, Cancer Society and has served as president of Pella Federated Womens' Club, Marion County Federated Women's Club and Chapters BU and ND, P.E.O. Nola was a member of the Iowa State Chapter P.E.O. Sisterhood Executive Board form 1980-86, serving the last year as president.

by Nola Vander Streek

VANDER STREEK, PAUL AND JANICE

F714

Paul is a Pella native born Oct. 3, 1957, the son of Lloyd and Nola Boot Vander Streek. An outdoorsman, he is Pella Park Commission supervisor.

Janice Lee, is an elementary teacher at Twin Cedars (Bussey). Born Mar. 13, 1959, her parents are George and Marilyn Willgrubs Melvin of Clinton.

Central College graduates, they have a son, Louis A., born Oct. 3, 1985.

by Nola Vander Streek

VANDER WAAL, HERB AND BETTY

F715

Herb was born in Pella on July 6, 1920, to William and Bertha (Vander Linden) Vander Waal. He had a brother Paul and sisters Helen and Lora Ruth. He grew up in Pella and attended the public schools graduating from Pella High in 1938. Upon graduation he became a bologna-maker working for De Wit's Grocery and for Intveld's Market from 1938 until 1941. He began to work in the office at Rolscreen on June 1, 1941, and stayed with that firm until his retirement on June 28, 1985. During World War II he had leave from Rolscreen from Aug., 1942, until Mar., 1946. During that period he served in the Navy spending three years aboard the destroyer USS *Claxton* (DD 571) with duty in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. It was upon his return to Rolscreen from the service that he met Betty Van Zee, who became his wife on Oct. 10, 1952.

Betty was born in Oskaloosa on Sept. 3, 1927, to Edward W. and Caroline (De Reus) Van Zee who farmed about one mile south of Leighton. She has one sister Marjorie. Betty's early years were spent on this farm and she attended the Black Oak and Scott Center one-room school until her graduation from eighth grade. She then attended Pella High School graduating in 1944. Rolscreen was her first employer after graduation but prior to her marriage she also attended Central College for one year and worked as a secretary and receptionist for Pella Products and for the Pella *Chronicle*.

Three daughters have been born to this marriage: Carol in 1953, Greta in 1954 and Donna in 1959.

Carol was married to Doug Vander Linden on Sept. 14, 1974, and to this marriage daughter Amy was born on Aug. 10, 1978.

Vander Waal family. Kneeling: Michael O'Brien, Katie Hanna, Heather Wallace, and Amy O'Brien; Seated and behind davenport: Herb, Betty, Nikki Wallace, Greta Wallace, Kristin O'Brien, Carol O'Brien, Gary Wallace, Donna Hanna, Kelsey Hanna, Dave O'Brien, and John Hanna.

Doug, a victim of cancer, passed away on Aug. 23, 1978. When her sister Donna was married Carol met Dave O'Brien, a Penn College graduate from Lockport, N.Y., and they were married on June 21, 1980. Michael and Kristin have been born to this marriage. The family lives in Williamsburg, Ia.

Greta and her hsuband Gary Wallace form Newton met as members of a Christian musical group "Spark of Life." They were married on Aug. 5, 1976, and have two daughters, Heather and Nikki. They live in Newton.

John Hanna enrolled at Central College after his graduation from Oskaloosa High School and it was while there that he met Donna. They were married on June 9, 1979, and now live in Oskaloosa. They also have two daughters, Katie and Kelsey.

Betty reentered the work force after her family was all in school and worked as a secretary to the Pella Community High School prinicpal from 1970 until 1985. When Herb retired from Rolscreen she resigned form her work outside the home also.

Herb's parents were both from large farm families. William Vander Waal was the third of eight children born to Antonie and Dirkie (Van Zante) Vander Waal who farmed three miles southeast of Pella. Bertha, his wife, was the third of nine children born to Gerrit and Sygie (Vander Wilt – Van Stigt) Vander Linden, who farmed about one and one-half miles southwest of Pella. William and Bertha farmed south of Prairie City for about four years and then moved to Pella when he started working for Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Co. He was killed in an accident in St. Joseph, Mo., in 1926.

Antonie Vander Waal was born near Pella but his parents Arie and Willemyntje (Bauman) Vander Waal came to Pella from the Province of Gelderland in 1855. His wife, Dirkie, was also born near Pella but her parents too, Dieles and Pietertje (Van Zee) Van Zante, came from The Netherlands in 1855.

Gerrit Vander Linden, born near Pella, was one of ten children born to Lukas and Grada Barendina (Boland) Vander Linden who farmed three miles west of Pella. Lukas came to Pella in 1848 with his parents when 16 years of age. He was born in Vuren, Province of Gelderland. His wife Grada was also a native of Gelderland and she and her parents and six brothers and sisters came to Pella to join the Colony in 1847.

Gerrit's wife Sygie was born near Pella but her parents Jan and Gysbertje (Den Hartog) Vander Wilt both had come to Pella with their parents with the original Colony. Jan was a passenger on the *Pieter Floris* and Gysbertje came from Westmaas, South Holland Province on the *Nagasaki* in 1847. Sygie's mother died when she was two years old and she was then adopted by her aunt Teuntje (Den Hartog) Van Stigt and her husband Adrianus. Adrianus and Teuntje had both come to Pella as teenagers with their parents from Westmaas, South Holland Province with the original Colony in 1847. Van Stigt was a shoemaker by trade and had his own store, with his home in the rear, on the northwest corner of the square. After the death of his wife, Jan Vander Wilt and his sons moved from Pella to Kansas.

Betty's father Ed was also from a large farm family. He was the youngest of eight children born to Govert and Elizabeth (Van Oss) Van Zee. He was born and grew up on the same farm south of Leighton where he raised his own family. His wife Caroline was the oldest of two chldren born to Arie and Bertha (Vander Wert) De Reus. She also had a half-sister Walleta who was born after her father married for a second time to Kate Van Maanen. After Ed and Caroline retired from the farm and moved to Pella, Ed worked 17 years at the Pella Golf and Country Club mowing greens and fairways.

Govert Van Zee was born near Pella and was one of thirteen children born to Stefanus and Judith Van Zee who had come to the Pella area with the original Colony form Herwijnen, Gelderland Province in 1847 on the *Pieter Floris*. His wife Elizabeth was born near Pella to Dirk and Cornelia (Ver Steeg) Van Oss. Dirk had come to Pella on the *Maastroom* in 1847 but his wife did not arrive until 1855. They were married by H.P. Scholte.

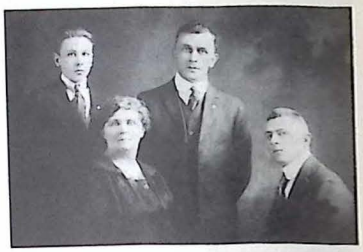
Arie De Reus was born near Leighton and was one of nine children born to Marinus and Catherine (Tol) De Reus. Marinus had come to the Pella/Leighton area from The Netherlands in 1850. His wife was born in The Netherlands also but when she came to the Pella area is unknown. Bertha Vander Wert was born near Pella to Ryder and Cornelia (Van Reulder) Vander Wert. Ryder and his wife were both born in The Netherlands but when they came to the Pella area is unknown.

Of the ancestors who had helped to colonize Pella, Herb can remember Adrianus Van Stigt who lived to be 94 years of age and Betty can remember only Marinus De Reus, whom she visited with her parents, when he was living in the Home for the Aged. He lived to be 96 years old.

by Herbert L. Vander Waal

VANDER WAL, JOHN ADRIAN AND JENNIE (RIETVELD)

F716



Center: John Adrian Vanderwal, Jennie (Rietveld) Vanderwal; Left: Ray Adrian; Right: Robert John.

John Adrian Vander Wal was the youngest son of Adrianus and Engeltje Van Zee Vander Wal. His brothers were named Frederick, William, and Andrew. John was born in The Netherlands in the town of Herwijenen in 1874 and came to Pella with his family at the age of seven. He married Jennie Rietveld in 1896.

Jennie was the daughter of Jan and Christine Van Loon Rietveld. She was the third in age of the four older girls and helped care for her four younger sisters. At one time, when the entire family was ill, she took over as both nurse and housekeeper for the family of 12. Jennie attended Iola School and taught at West River Ridge, Union Corner, and Silver Grove Schools in Marion County before her marriage.

The couple's first home was a farm south of Pella in the Porterville neighborhood near Prairie Lake (no longer in existence). They had two sons, Ray Adrian (Gertrude Van Houwelinge) and Robert John (Olive Adlard). They moved to several different farms near Pella, Prairie City, and at one time lived in Montrose, Colo. John also traveled for a number of years for the Garden City

Feeder Company. When this was sold, he continued working with Van Gorps when they purchased the Woodrow Washing Machine Co. When this company failed, he purchased the parts department and ran it as the Pella Washer Service until retirement. Jennie died in 1944 and John sold his home on Marion Street and moved into the Hotel Pella where he lived until failing health caused him to move to the Pella Nursing Home.

John was public minded and served for many years on the Pella Community School Board. He also served under four United States Presidents on the Marion County Draft Board during the difficult days of World War II and the Korean Conflict. He was a faithful member of the First Baptist Church and an active Kiwanian.

Known and loved by many people in Pella . . . old and young as well . . . John died in 1966 at the age of 92 . . . "A young man."

John and Jennie were buried in the Oakwood cemetery in Pella.

by Mrs. John W. Harmeling

VANDER WERT, EVERET

F717

Everet Vander Wert, son of Reyer and Reyetje (Van Reuler) Vander Wert, was born Apr. 29, 1871, in Mahaska County near Pella. Mar. 8, 1899, he married Eva Brand, born Aug. 1876.

To this marriage four children were born: Rachel (Visscher), born Feb. 1, 1900; John E., born Aug. 12, 1902; Cornelius, born Mar. 8, 1905; and Lester, born Aug. 30, 1908.

When first married the couple lived on a farm near New Sharon. In 1904 they moved to a farm four miles east of Pella where their great grandson, Jerry Vander Wert, still is engaged in farming.

Upon retirement from farming Everet made his home at the Home For The Aged in Pella, Iowa.

Everet died Feb. 6, 1943, and Eva died July 29, 1920.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VANDER WERT, J. E.

F718

John E. Vander Wert, son of Everet Vander Wert and Eva (Brand) Vander Wert, was born Aug. 12, 1902, at New Sharon, Iowa. He was fatally injured in an automobile accident June 5, 1952 which claimed the lives of his wife Henrietta and their daughter Bonnie.

On Nov. 24, 1927, he was united in marriage to Henrietta Steenhoek, born Nov. 27, 1905. There were five children born to this marriage: John J., born Dec. 6, 1928; Shriley J., born June 23, 1930; Loren W., born July 2, 1931; Evan A., born Dec. 28, 1939; and Bonnie L., born Dec. 13, 1944.

In Mar. 1905 he moved with his parents to the Vander Wert farm four miles east of Pella, Iowa. He attended Pleasant View rural school, later graduating from Pella High School. After attending Penn College he taught at Wheat Grove and Pleasant View Schools for seven years after which he farmed until the time of his death.

On Sept. 2, 1948, John J. Vander Wert married Phyllis A. Van Hemert. They had four sons: Randall J., John W., Terry A., and Craig D.

On Sept. 14, 1951, son Loren married Janice Ver Meer. There were four children born to this marriage: Jaci (Vander Wert) Terpstra, Jerry Vander Wert, Jana (Vander Wert) Sietstra, and Jean Vander Wert.

On Feb. 18, 1967, Shirley married Bill Rohde and they have one daughter, Valerie. Evan married Linda Vander Voort. Their three children are Michael, Lisa, and Jeffrey.

Everet and Eva Vander Wert and daughter Rachel.

There are ten great grandchildren: Tiffany, Travis, Angela, and Chad Vander Wert; Amanda Sietstra; Jamie and Kayla Vander Wert; Johanna and Jessie Terpstra; and Lindsey Vander Wert.

John was an active member of the First Reformed Church in Pella, serving as a deacon. He also was a member of the Mahaska County School Board.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VANDER WERT, JOHN J.

F719

John Junior Vander Wert was born Dec. 6, 1928, to John E. Vander Wert and Henrietta (Steenhoek) Vander Wert in Oskaloosa, Ia. He lived on a farm four miles east of Pella during his childhood years. He attended Pleasant View Rural School in Mahaska Co., Pella High School, and Central College.

On Sept. 2, 1948, he was united in marriage to Phyllis A. Van Hemert. To this union four sons were born: Randall J. born, Nov. 9, 1949; John William, born July 12, 1953; Terry Allen, born Nov. 9, 1954 (passed away Apr. 17, 1983), and Craig David born Dec. 23, 1955.

There are four grandchildren: Chad Vander Wert, born Feb. 22, 1972; Tiffany Vander Wert, born June 24, 1973; Travis Vander Wert, born Aug. 31, 1977, and Angela Vander Wert, born Oct. 29, 1978.

For six years John was in the restaurant business in Pella. Following this he joined the Postal Dept. in Council Bluffs, Des Moines, and Pella. In Oct., 1966, he became associated with Vermeer Mfg. Co. in Pella.

Phyllis Vander Wert worked as a secretary for Pella Rolscreen for two years and later as a secretary in the Webster Elementary School for 16 years.

Randall J. married Lynn Monster (born June 3, 1952) on Jan. 16, 1969. To this union one son, Chad, was born on Feb. 22, 1972. Randy is associated with the American Pure Water Co. and lives in Bartlett, Tenn.

John W. is associated with Vermeer Neb. and has two children: Travis, born Aug. 31, 1977, and Tiffany, born June 24, 1973.

Craig W. works for Delta Distributing and has one daughter, Angela, born Oct. 29, 1978.

John and Phyllis are members of the First Reformed Church in Pella where they have both been Sunday School Superintendents and teachers. John has also been active in civic affairs having served on the city council, Crossroads of Pella, and the Pella Kiwanis Club.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VANDER WERT, LOREN AND JANICE

F720

Janice Van Meer, fifth and youngest child of Antonie A. and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer, was born in Nov. of 1932. On Sept. 14, 1951, she was married to Loren Vander Wert, born July 2, 1931. They had four children: Jaci Luann born Mar. 3, 1953; Jerry Lee born

Oct. 20, 1954; Jana Lynn born Feb. 13, 1958; and Jean Leann born Dec. 31, 1959. Janice is employed by Central College Food Service and Loren is the Postmaster at Leighton, Ia. where they are presently residing.

Jaci, the oldest daughter, works in realty and is married to Douglas Terpstra who is employed in the Sales Department of Vermeer's. They live in Pella and are the parents of two daughters, Johanna Lynn and Jessica Kathleen.

Jerry, the son, is farming in the Pella area and is married to Marie Van Donselaar. They are the parents of two children, Jaime Lynn and Kayla Lynn. Marie works part-time at Casey's in Pella.

Jana, the third child, is employed in the Bookkeeping Department of Pella National Bank. She is married to Bryce Sietstra who works at the Rolscreen Company. They have one daughter, Amanda Lynn.

Jean, the youngest daughter, is living in Pella and working as a secretary at Vermeer Manufacturing Company.

by Alice Ver Meer

VANDER WERT, REYER

F721

Reyer and Cornelia Vander Wert

Reyer Vander Wert, son of Rick and Reyertje Vander Wert was born Oct. 1, 1839, in Ede, the Netherlands. On June 3, 1865, he married Cornelia Van Reuler born Nov. 5, 1838. Nov. 10, 1869, they came to the United States and settled in Mahaska County. Two children were born to this marriage in Ede: Rick, born Aug. 28, 1865, died Dec. 28, 1933, and Woutertje, born Aug. 29, 1869. Two children were also born in the United States: Everet, born Apr. 29, 1871, and died Feb. 6, 1943, and Bertha, born Apr. 15, 1876, and died June 21, 1918.

by Phyllis Vander Wert

VANDER WIEL, GEERT

F722

Geert (Gerrit) Vander Wiel was born on Dec. 22, 1848, in the province of Friesland, The Netherlands, the son of Rintje (Frank) Siegert Vander Wiel and Tryntje (Kate) Bieboer Vander Wiel. Geert had a sister, Witske, born Mar. 15, 1844; a brother, Sieger, born Feb. 24, 1847, and died Jan. 22, 1859; and a younger brother, Sieger, born Oct. 6, 1861. In about 1864 or 1865, Geert, his parents, his sister and brother, left The Netherlands for America. Geert lived with his parents on a farm near Otley, Ia., until his marriage (date unknown) to Lena Van Rheenen. Lena was born on July 1, 1856, the daughter of Henry Van Rheenen and Helena Langstraat Van Rheenen. Geert and Lena Vander Wiel spent their entire married life on a farm near Otley. To this union were born the following children: Tryntje, Dec. 1, 1876; Leenna; July 11, 1878; Rintje, Oct. 19, 1879; Hendrik, Sept. 20, 1881; Aaltje, Sept. 11, 1884; Gerrit, Aug. 15, 1888; and Lenna, Apr. 8, 1892. Lena passed away Apr. 28, 1917, at age 60; Geert passed away Apr. 4, 1922, at age 73. Both passed away at the farm home one half mile east of Otley; both were buried at the Price Cemetery near Otley.

Tryntje (Kate), daughter of Geert and Lena, married Kryn Wielard on Feb. 23, 1900. They lived in the Otley and Pella area and to this union were born the following children: Gerrit, Frank, Jennie and Pauline. Tryntje (Kate) passed away Dec. 7, 1917, in Pella, at age 41. Her death followed complications from pneumonia. Kryn passed away Oct. 11, 1965, in Pella, at age 88. Both were buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

Leenna (Lena), daughter of Geert and Lena, passed away Dec. 14, 1891, at age 13, from black diptheria. She was buried at the Price Cemetery near Otley.

Rintje (Frank), son of Geert and Lena, passed away Mar. 24, 1899, at age 19, from measles. He was buried at the Price Cemetery near Otley.

Hendrik (Henry), son of Geert and Lena, passed away Mar. 18, 1899, at age 17, from measles. He was buried at the Price Cemetery near Otley.

Aaltje (Ella), daughter of Geert and Lena, married Gerrit Davelaar on Mar. 11, 1920, in Otley. They lived in the Monroe, Otley, and Pella area. No children were born to this union. Aaltje passed away Feb. 7, 1950, in Pella, at age 65; Gerrit passed away Feb. 2, 1984, in Pella, at age 92. Both were buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

Gerrit, son of Geert and Lena, married Anna Stam on Dec. 5, 1917, at Pella. They lived in the Otley, Monroe, Vandalia, Prairie City, and Pella area. To this union were born the following children: Gerald, Frank, Henry, Ruth, Anna Mae, Marjorie and Raymond. Anna passed away Jan. 13, 1953, in Pella, at age 59; Gerrit passed away Apr. 30, 1959, in Grand Rapids, Mich., at age 70. Both were buried at the Waveland Cemetery, Prairie City.

Lenna (Lena), daughter of Geert and Lena, married William (Bill) Vande Lune on Feb. 15, 1912, in Otley. Lena and William lived in the Prairie City, Monroe, Leighton, and Pella area. To this union were born the following children: Gertrude, Ruth, Wilbert, Frances, Leonard, Marvin, Shirley, and a son who died in infancy. William passed away Jan. 18, 1956, in Pella, at age 70; Lena passed away Nov. 9, 1974, in Pella, at age 82. Both were buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

Gerrit, son of Geert and Lena, married Anna Stam on Dec. 5, 1917, at Pella. They lived in the Otley, Monroe, Vandalia, Prairie City, and Pella area. To this his union were born the following children: Gerald, Frank, Henry, Ruth, Anna Mae, Marjorie, and Raymond. Anna passed away Jan. 13, 1953, in Pella, at age 59; Gerrit passed away Apr. 30, 1959, in Grand Rapids, Mich. at age 70. Both were buried at the Waveland Cemetery, Prairie City.

Lenna (Lena), daughter of Geert and Lena, married William (Bill) Vande Lune on Feb. 15, 1912, in Otley. Lena and William lived in the Prairie City, Monroe, Leighton, and Pella area. To this union were born the following children: Gertrude, Ruth, Wilbert, Frances, Leonard, Marvin, Shirley, and a son who died in infancy. William passed away Jan. 18, 1956, in Pella, at age 70; Lena passed away Nov. 9, 1974, in Pella, at age 82. Both were buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

Geert Vander Wiel's sister, Witske, married Eegbert Van Hulzen. They lived at Prairie View, Kan., and had two children: Jacob and Maggie. Jacob never married; Maggie married Herman Guichelaar and they had a son, John. The Guichelaar family also resided at Prairie View, Kan.

Geert Vander Wiel's brother, Sieger, married Sjoerdje (Sophia) Wouda. They lived near Otley and had four children: Rintje, Sarah, Katherine, and Johanna. Rintje died in infancy. Sarah married Klaas Van Buren; Katherine married Gerrit A. Klyn; Johanna married Bastiaan A. Goemaat. Sieger passed away May 14, 1931, at Otley, at age 69; Sjoerdje (Sophia) passed away July 23 or 24, 1939, at Otley, at age 70. Both were buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Pella.

by Vernon Wielard

VANDER WILT FAMILY

F723

Gerrit and Johanna Wilhelmina (Hessing) Vander Wilt

Gerrit was born Aug. 15, 1857, in The Netherlands. He came to America in 1867 with his parents Gerrit and Jannigje Stam Vander Wilt, Gerrit's second wife. Gerrit and his first wife also had a son named Gerrit. Gerrit's father, also named Gerrit, came to America in 1847 with Scholte's group on the ship *Pieter Floris*.

On Feb. 20, 1889, Gerrit married Johanna Wilhelmina Hessing, daughter of Dirk and Cornelia Van Lessil Hessing. To this union, two children were born: Gerrit J. on Nov. 12, 1890, and Dirk who died in infancy.

Gerrit and Johanna farmed in the Leighton area, one mile north, one mile west, and one-half mile south. In 1901, they purchased a farm from the Gerrit Vande Haar estate. This farm is located five miles east of Pella on

The Vander Wilt farm in 1901 when Gerrit bought it. Notice the dirt road (now Highway 163) and white-painted telephone poles. This road used to be called "The Great White Way." It derived its name from the painted poles that marked the road. (See picture of same farm in Alvin Vander Wilt story.) The barn on the right of this picture is the only building still standing today.

Highway 163. The farm was 142½ acres and the total purchase price was $6,015.15. They lived there until 1915 when their son Gerrit J. married and took over the farm. They moved to Pella, Ia., for a short time. Since Gerrit did not enjoy retirement, he purchased an 80 A. farm east of Otley and moved there. A few years later he became ill with stomach cancer and died at the home of his son Gerrit J. in 1925. His wife Johanna moved back to Pella and lived there until 1947 when she became ill. She was cared for in her son's home until her death in 1947.

by Iola Joyce Marinus Vander Wilt

VANDER WILT FAMILY

F724

Gerrit J. and Emma Vander Wilt

Gerrit was born Nov. 12, 1890, near Leighton, Ia., the son of Gerrit and Johanna W. Hessing Vander Wilt.

He attended Black Oak Center school in Mahaska Co.

On Jan. 28, 1915, he married Emma Meyer, daughter of Richard and Zientje Splint Meyer. Gerrit and Emma lived on Gerrit's father's farm five miles east of Pella on Highway 163. They spent several months on their honeymoon traveling by horse and buggy visiting relatives.

Emma was born Sept. 29, 1893, near Sully, Ia. She attended Sandridge School. Before her marriage she was employed at Boat's Dry Goods located to the east of Central Park. She was also employed at the overall factory in Pella from 1912-1914. She learned the art of dressmaking and was an excellent seamstress.

On Gerrit's farm, crop rotation was used with two years of corn, one year of oats, and one year of clover. Livestock raised were dairy cows and hogs for market. Emma always had a flock of chickens and sold the eggs. With this money she would purchase the weekly groceries. They raised and canned most of their fruits and vegetables.

Their first car was a "Model T" Ford touring car.

Four children were born to this union: Richard, who now lives in Memphis, Tenn.; Wilma Johanna, Mrs. William Memmelaar, of Oskaloosa, Ia.; Paul Alvin, deceased; Alvin Gene, Leighton, Ia. All attended grade school at Black Oak Center. They were the third generation to attend there.

The family attended the Christian Reformed Church at Leighton where Gerrit served as deacon and Wilma became church organist at age 15.

The three children were 4-H members. Their mother Emma was a 4-H leader of the Black Oak Boosters Club for several years.

Gerrit and Emma made many improvements on the farm. Shortly after they were married, they built a modern two-story house with bathroom and electric lights. The house was begun in 1918 and finished in 1919 at a cost of $8,500.

Gerrit purchased a 120 A. farm in 1947 located north and west of Peoria, Ia. This farm was purchased from Gerard and Nellie Gosselink. It was there his first son Richard and wife Dorothy farmed for several years. Richard left the farm and went to work full time as a trucker. The farm was rented to John Roose and his wife, who farmed it until their retirement. This farm is now owned by Mrs. Bill Memmelaar of Oskaloosa, Ia., Gerrit and Emma's daughter.

After 35 years of farming, Gerrit and Emma retired to an acreage they purchased east of Oskaloosa. Their son Alvin took over the farm in 1950 when he married.

Gerrit passed away after a short illness in 1956. His wife Emma sold the acreage and purchased a home in Oskaloosa where she lived until her death in 1971. Both are buried at Graceland Cemetery in Pella beside their infant son Paul.

by Iola Joyce Marinus Vander Wilt

The Gerrit J. Vander Wilt family. Left to right: Richard, Gerrit J., Wilma, Emma, and Alvin.

VANDER WILT FAMILY

F725

Alvin Gene and Iola Joyce Marinus Vander Wilt

Alvin Gene Vander Wilt was born Sept. 10, 1927, in the farm home where he still resides. He is the son of Gerrit J. and Emma Meyer Vander Wilt.

Alvin attended Black Oak Center School (the third generation) and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1945. After graduating, he worked for Beintema Blacksmith and Electric shop in Leighton. In 1946 and 1947 he served in the armed forces. He farmed with his father in 1948 and 1949.

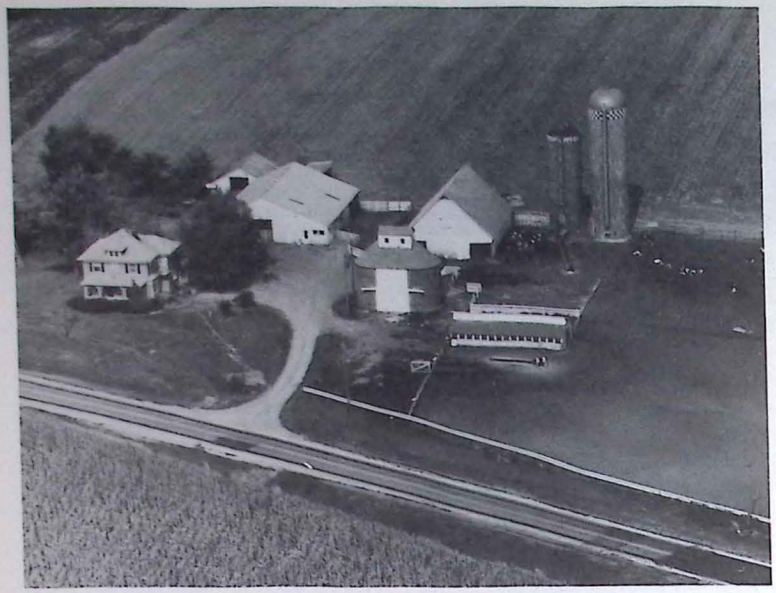
On Feb. 24, 1950, Alvin married Iola Joyce Marinus, daughter of Henry and Agnes Beintema Marinus. (Tjebbe Beintema and Gerrit Vander Wilt, both ancestors of Iola and Alvin, came to America on the ship *Pieter Floris* in 1847 with Scholte's group.)

Iola Joyce Marinus was born Mar. 1, 1930, in rural Polk Co., Ia. She attended grade school and high school at Prairie City and graduated in 1948. She attended American Institute of Business night school and became a medical secretary for the Veterans Administration in Des Moines.

After their marriage in 1950, Alvin and Iola left on their honeymoon in their 1949 Mercury Coupe. They traveled to Carlsbad Caverns and then to Rehoboth Indian Mission where they spent a week with Alvin's Aunt Bertha and Uncle Peter Meyer and their daughter Mary. They visited other Indian missions and the painted desert. They spent a day in Old Mexico and returned home in the middle of March to start farming on his father's farm located five miles east of Pella on Highway 163. To this union four children were born.

Gloria Jean was born Mar. 8, 1951. She married Al Vander Peut and lives in Pella. She attended Black Oak Center School the last year it was open, making four generations of Vander Wilts to attend school there.

Marion Craig was born Sept. 3, 1953, at Mahaska County Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia., He attended Leighton and Pella grade school and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1971. He attended an electronics school in Des Moines and graduated as an electronics technician. He married Diane Hasselman on May 10, 1974. She is the daughter of Homer and Doretha Hasselman of rural Oskaloosa, Ia. Their daughter Denise



The Vander Wilt farm in 1967.

was born Dec. 21, 1978, at Marshalltown Hospital. Craig and Diane were divorced in 1982. Denise's mother remarried and Denise was adopted by David Burkhardt. Craig now lives in Santa Fe, N. Mex., and operates his own electronics business.

Mark Leo was born Dec. 3, 1958, at Mahaska County Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. He attended Leighton and Pella grade school and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1979. He married Karen Kelderman, daughter of Richard and Anna Kelderman, on June 11, 1983. They were divorced in 1984. Mark lives in Oskaloosa, Ia. and operates the family farm, making the fourth generation.

Judy Ann was born July 2, 1961, at Mahaska County Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia. She attended Leighton and Pella grade school and graduated from Pella Community High School in 1979, taking only three years. She attended Northwestern College for one year and the University of Northern Iowa for two years. She moved to Dallas, Tex., and finished her college at the University of Texas, graduating on June 11, 1986, with a B.S. in business and finance. Judy married Eldridge Dunham, son of "Whitey" and Carroll Lindsey Dunham, on June 7, 1985. They operate their own garage at McKinney, Tex. They have one child, Steele Eldy Dunham, born at Dallas Hospital on July 23, 1986.

In 1955, the large barn on the Vander Wilt farm burned. Alvin and his father Gerrit J. and John Van Englehoven, a carpenter from Leighton, built a modern dairy barn. Their herd was purchased in Wisconsin, and although it was illegal to sell cows with "Bangs" disease, some were shipped in among the cattle. The entire herd had to be sold for slaughter and had to be replaced. The Vander Wilts have Holstein cows and for the last 25 years have used A.I. breeding. Alvin and his father also built a large cement corncrib which held over 6,000 bushels. Everyone said it would never be filled because corn yielded only 70 to 80 bushels an acre then. Today it is not large enough. A new silo was also built to feed the dairy cows. In 1973, Alvin added another silo to keep up with his expanding herd. During the early years of farming, Alvin did custom baling for miles around with a 1950 Oliver tractor and a wire-tied John Deere baler. As more farmers bought their own balers, this venture was dropped. In 1959, Alvin received the Outstanding Young Farmer Award in Mahaska County. In 1981 he received the Mahaska County 4-H Alumni Award.

Alvin started taking flying lessons in 1953 at the Newton airport. He bought an old "Champ" for $400 (two-seater light airplane) to take lessons. He received his private pilot's license that same year and traded the Champ in for a Piper Vagabond, a two-seater with a small seat in the back where their two children, Gloria and Marion, could ride. The plane was hangered at the farm. They had a 1,700 foot runway in their grass pasture. Sometimes Alvin would have to buzz the airstrip to get the cows off the runway. (It surely wasn't any great pleasure to wash that airplane after landing in the pasture!) Alvin even strung lights around the field so he could land at night. Then a buzz over the house with the airplane would tell his wife to turn on the lights so he could land. Alvin later got his instrument license and Iola earned her private pilot's license in 1965. Their third airplane was a Cessna 170-B, a four seater. After this plane was sold, Alvin and Iola, each with a rented plane, would fly farmers to field days or Farm Progress Shows. Iola got some questioning looks when the farmers found out they had a woman pilot!

Alvin and Iola spent much time in community services. Alvin served offices in township, county, and state Farm Bureau. He was appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture to the Iowa State Dairy Commission and held all offices. He also was president of the American Dairy Association of Iowa and served on the Iowa Mastitis Council. He served on the board of directors for nine years of the Mid-America Coop, a dairy marketing association.

Alvin served as director and held all state offices of the Iowa Flying Farmers from 1967 to 1971. Cancer of the voice box forced him to turn over the presidency of the Iowa Flying Farmers to the vice-president in 1971.

In spite of the cancer and losing his ability to speak, he bought the farm from his mother's estate in 1972 and continued to farm it until 1985. Their son Mark now operates the farm with his mother as bookkeeper.

Iola also served on many committees in Farm Bureau. She was chairman of the township Farm Bureau Club, The Black Oak and Scott Homemakers. She served on Farm Bureau state legislative programs and a Farm Bureau National Tax Study program. For her political party she served as committee woman for her township, served on the County Central Committee, and was a delegate to state conventions. In the Iowa Flying Farmers, she sponsored the Iowa Flying Farmer Teens, served as state Public Relations Director, was chairman of state conventions and three-day Iowa flying tours. She was the first woman to serve on the Iowa Flying Farmers board of directors. In 1970, she was chosen queen of the Iowa Flying Farmers and traveled some 22,000 miles that year attending other state flying conventions. She was official hostess at the International Flying Farmers Convention held at Ames, Ia. in 1971.

Other community services such as cancer drives, Multiple Sclerosis drives, church choir, and sextette, children and adult Sunday School teacher, lay witness missions, writing and narrating church radio programs, have made a busy and interesting life for Iola.

Iola later went to work as a medical secretary again at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Knoxville. She was also secretary, office manager, and bookkeeper for a construction company in Oskaloosa for five years. She now operates a Bed and Breakfast in their farm home.

The Vander Wilts attend the First Reformed Church in Pella where they have received much support in prayers, gifts, and help in farming during Alvin's long illness. Their neighbors and friends also have helped through the many surgeries since 1971.

by Iola Joyce Marinus Vander Wilt

VANDER WILT, GERRIT

F726

The Gerrit Vander Wilt, Sr. family was one of the pioneer families coming to the Pella area in 1847 with Dominie Scholte. They arrived in Baltimore on the ship *Pieter Floris* with nine children ranging in ages from 27 years to eight years. The oldest son, my great grandfather, also named Gerrit, remained in Holland to operate the dairy farm for twenty years before he came to America in 1867. One of his daughters, Nellie, was four years old at that time. She later became my grandmother. She married John K. Walraven Nov. 3, 1884.

The family lived on a farm in the Otley area and later moved to a farm five miles northwest of Oskaloosa. My mother was the oldest child of the Walraven family of eight. She married Dick Van Haaften of Leighton, Ia., Oct. 11, 1905. They had three daughters: Nellie, Helen, and Lorraine. I was the middle daughter and can remember my mother telling about her grandfather who lived with his children after the death of his wife, spending some time with each one. When he stayed with the Walraven family, he spent quite a bit of time making cheese. In the summertime the flies were a great nuisance but that didn't stop him. He supplied the family with plenty of cheese and scolded when it disappeared too fast. He was a stern individual and one of his favorite expressions was "Daar zeg ik baa teggen." Delicately translated, it means "I say that nauseates me." He lived to be in his nineties and is buried in Oakwood here in Pella.

My Dad was a rural mail carrier out of Leighton starting on the job sometime in 1903. He started out with horse-drawn vehicles, a motorcycle, and later, a Model T and a Model A Ford. I can remember riding home from school in his enclosed mail wagon when the mud roads were really muddy. In the summertime he would occasionally allow us to go with him around the mail route. Needless to say, by the time we got back to Leighton my sister, Lorraine, and I were fast asleep in the back seat. I had a happy childhood growing up in Leighton. I can remember every Saturday afternoon we had to go to catechism classes at the Ebenezer Reformed Church. The pastor at that time was Rev. Zweer Roetman. I wasn't exactly an angel and found myself on the front seat more than once.

Christmas programs in Ebenezer were something else. They were long with 15 or 20 numbers. After the program was finally over, we all received a bag of candy which made it all worthwhile. Oh, yes! We also received an orange with the candy.

Many years later on Sept. 16, 1938, I married Dick Vander Wilt of Eddyville. (No, I did not marry my cousin.) We spent 19 years in Eddyville where we operated a grocery store. In 1947 we experienced a damaging flood. Our house had about two and one-half feet of muddy water on the first floor. We lost our beautiful spinet piano even though we had it up on cement blocks. We also lost a lot of merchandise at the store plus damaged equipment. The massive clean-up was made easier with the help of relatives and friends. We also received help from the surrounding communities who provided a hot meal for everyone at the high school gym. The Red Cross was also a big help in this trying time.

In 1957 we moved to Pella where we now reside. We had three children: Daryl, Edwin and Sherri. Daryl and his wife, Suellen, live in Des Moines; Edwin died in 1964 at the age of 18 years; and Sherri (Mrs. Stephen Patton) lives in Panama City, Florida. We have four grandchildren: Emily, Sarah, Ross, and Andrew Patton.

My two sisters and their spouses are all living. Mr. and Mrs. Marion DeGeus of Pella and Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter Morkert of Des Moines.

by Helen (Van Haaften) VanderWilt (Mrs. Dick)

VANDER ZYL, GEIKE GEUKE AND GREIETJE

F727

In 1866 Geike Geuke Vander Zyl and his wife, Grietje de Weert Vander Zyl, came to America with their six children from the town of Nansum, province of Groningen, Netherlands. They arrived in Pella, Iowa on May 29, 1866. Their children were Geuke Geike (George), who married Christina Streng, Mintje (Minnie), who married John Vanden Berg, Dientje (Dena), who married Gerrit Van de Kamp, Simon G., who married Magdeline Homer, Boukje (Bertha), who married John Ulrich, Steffan, who died in the Netherlands, and Jantje (Jennie), who was unmarried.

Geuke Geike was a butcher in Pella. He married Christina Streng on Mar. 31, 1868. They had eight children all born at Pella, Iowa. They were Griet (Maggie), who married Nicholas Ver Steeg, Aaltje (Alice), who married Gysbertus (Al) Van de Voort, Maria (Marie), who married Edward Bodenham, Wilhilmina (Judy), who married Leonard Ver Ploeg, Geike Geuke (George), who married Lulu Reid, John Edward, who married Gertrude Synhorst, Christina (Chris), who married Cornelius Ver Ploeg, and Simon Frederick (Fred), who married Ruth Grant.

Aaltje (Alice) Vander Zyl married Gysbertus (Al) Van de Voort on Mar. 7, 1901. Their children were Wilma Christine, who married Ben De Vries, George William, who married Doris Brokaw on June 19, 1940, and Martha Ada, who married Richard H. Smith. George and Doris Van de Voort raised their family of seven children on the family farm N.E. of Pella. They are Jessie Lou, who married William Madden, George William Jr., who married Julie Lang, Glen Brokaw, unmarried, John Albert, who married Deborah Bryson, Alice Jeanne, who married Robert Curl, David Alan, who married Mary Larson, and Lee Douglas, unmarried. Following George's death on Aug. 23, 1983, Doris and Lee are presently living on the family farm.

by Mrs. George Van de Voort

VANDERSYDE, HUIBERT

F728

Huibert Vandersijden, born January 20, 1828, in Klaaswaal, uid Holland married Neeltje Rysdyla March, 1853. She was born December 8, 1830 in Klaaswaal, Zuid Holland. To this union fourteen children were born. Aart Vandersyde, born July 15, 1854 emigrated with his parents in 1855 but either died enroute or shortly after the family's arrival at New Amsterdam, south of Pella. Adriaantje, born November 16, 1865 died on September 6, 1882. Elizabeth Vandersyde, born March 24, 1857 was a secretary and court reporter in Des Moines for many years. She retired to Pella in later years and died May 19, 1944. The first child named Jacob was born and died in 1858. Aria Vandersyde, born September 21, 1859 married Bastian De Hoag on February 17, 1881 and died November 1, 1884. The second child named Jacob was born and died in 1860. The next, and final, Jacob Vandersyde was born December 1, 1861 and on October 12, 1881 he was married to Wilhelmina Christina Van Genderen (aka Neeltje but mostly as Lena) who was born May 2, 1860 and passed away July 31, 1942. Jacob passed away January 20, 1950. He had farmed his father's farm east of Otley for perhaps 10 years, then purchased the livery stable at East First and Franklin in about 1890 and sold out in about 1902. He then became involved with land in Texas, traded it for land in Kansas, and later traded again for land in northeast Iowa. He was also

Children of Geuke Geike and Christina Streng Vander Zyl, including Christina Vander Zyl. Back, l-r: John Edward, Simon Frederick, Geike Geuke (George) and Aaltje (Alice); Center: Christina (Chris); Front, l-r: Marie, Griet (Maggie), Wilhelmina (Judy) and Christina Streng Vander Zyl.

involved with the promotion of the Stacker Factory products. In later years he was a Justice of the Peace for many years, a position in which he took much pride. The next of Huibert Vandersijden's fourteen children, Bastijaantje Vandersyde, born March 23, 1863 was married to Henry De Koning on January 24, 1888. She had one daughter, Kathrine. Bastiaantje passed away January 10, 1928. Cornelia Vandersyde, born July 17, 1864, married Cornelius De Goei on February 24, 1883 and passed away on May 5, 1884. Maaike Vandersyde was born and passed away in 1866. The first Cornelius Vandersyde was born and passed away in 1867. The second Cornelius was born August 8, 1868, was married to Maary Vangenderen in January, 1892 and died April 30, 1892. Neeltje Vandersyde was born December 31, 1869 and died on October 2, 1886. The last child was born and died in 1871 as an unnamed infant.

Huibert Vandersijden was a farmer and stock raiser who migrated in 1855 to the New Amsterdam area and later owned 254 acres of land east of Otley. He held township offices and was a member of the Bethel church. Huibert passed away September 26, 1895, preceded in death by Neeltje, his wife, on February 24, 1880.

It is significant that only one of Huibert's children, Jacob Vandersyde, had a large family. Jacob's oldest son, Hubert, born September 21, 1882 and died October 6, 1960, was married to Bess Rebertus and had no offspring. Maggie, born August 3, 1883 and died May 4, 1968, was married to Frank Brom and had five children: Wilma, Carrie, Bessie, Jacob, and Franklin. Nellie, born March 18, 1886 and died July 27, 1920 was married to Peter Van Gorp and had two daughters: Wilma Van Gorp Andeweg and Leota. Gerrit, born May 21, 1888, died December 24, 1968 and was married to Edna Gause. He had seven children: Helen, Marjorie, Wayne, Albert, Max, Donna and Gerald James. Elizabeth Cornelia, born August 21, 1891 died December 12, 1966 and was married to Frank Creed. She had five children: DeVerne Creed, Darlene DeBolt, Dorothy Avenelle Kane, Betty Fae Jacobs, and Frank Alton Creed II. Clara, Jacob's youngest daughter, was born October 21, 1894, died April 22, 1968, and was married to Peter Arie Van Ryswyk. They had eleven children: Arno James, Darlene Barbara Dulitz, Vernon Pershing, Donald Glen, Mildred Faye Lance, Lester Lyle, Paul Edwin, Raymond Kenneth, Duane Clair, Dale Hubert, and Lavonne Jo Anne Beers.

Huibert Vandersijden's descendants, and their families living in the Pella area in 1986 are: a great-granddaughter, Wilma Van Gorp Andeweg; Jacob Brom, a great-grandson; and Marvin L. Van Haaften, a great-great-grandson.

The other living descendants, estimated to number approximately 350, are too numerous to list here, are scattered across the United States and particularly Minnesota.

by Jacob Brom

VANDERWAL, RAY ADRIAN AND GERTRUDE (VAN HOUWELING)

F729

Ray Adrian Vanderwal and Gertrude (Van Houweling) Vanderwal

Ray Adrian Vanderwal was born Dec. 26, 1896, on the family farm in the Porterville neighborhood southeast of Pella, to John Adrian and Jennie Rietveld Vanderwal. He was the older son, having a brother, Robert John, who was seven years younger.

Ray graduated from Pella High School, received his B.A. Degree from Central College and his B.S. Degree from Iowa State University. During this time he also served with the United States Navy in World War I.

Known in the Pella community as a very hard worker, "Rack" earned his way through school by working many jobs including firing coal furnaces for people early in the morning and serving as one of Pella's two mail carriers. He later earned a Master's Degree from the University of Iowa in 1931.

Ray began his career teaching agriculture in West Union, Ia. In 1924 he was married to Gertrude Van Houweling, daughter of Anthony and Paulina Dykstra Van Houwelinge. (The family dropped the final "e" later.)

Gertrude was born in 1900 on a farm east of Otley. She had four brothers: Albert, Gerard, Abram, and Marion. "Trui" graduated from Central College Academy and received her B.A. Degree from Central College. She taught physics and math at Owasa, Ia., for two years and continued her career in the West Union Community Schools following her marriage.

Ray was Superintendent of Schools at Stanley, Ia., for 2 years before moving to Montezuma, Ia, where he served as superintendent of the Montezuma Consolidated Schoo: for the next 37 years. The couple was most respected and loved in that community.

Following his retirement in 1963, they moved back to Pella where Ray supervised the secondary student teachers at Central College for four years.

Ray died in 1979 at the age of 82 years. He is buried in the family plot at Oakwood cemetery. Gertrude continues living on their acreage on the north edge of Pella and remains very active in the church and community. The Vanderwals raised three daughters.

Gertrude Mary (Trudy) was married to Charles F. Glaman (deceased) and lives in Minneapolis, Minn. Her children are: Charles Vanderwal Glaman, Martha Louise Brown (Duane), Mary Alice Glaman, and Elizabeth Lillian Glaman.

Ruth Joan lives in Pella and is married to John Harmeling. They have four children: Barton John Harmeling (Sue Whistler), Beth Ann Seyer (Lance), Jennifer Rae Messer (Randall) and Ann Class (David).

Alice Rae is married to Robert W. Hawley and lives in Germantown, Tenn. They have 2 sons: Gregory William Hawley and Douglas Allan Hawley.

Through the years "Rack" and "Trui" were faithful members of the First Presbyterian Church in Montezuma and the Second Reformed Church in Pella. Gertrude continues to serve in that church with a special interest in the quilting group, Ladies Aid, and Missionary Circle. The couple retained a strong interest in agriculture and were avid conservationalists, a dedication to stewardship of the land which was passed on to their children and grandchildren.

by Mrs. John W. Harmeling

VANDERZYL FAMILY

F730

Most of the Vanderzyl family originated in Bierum, Province of Groningen, The Netherlands. This sketch deals mainly with one of the three sons of Geuke Steffans and Dietje Slagter Vanderzyl and his heirs. He was Gieke Geuke Vanderzyl. His father, Geuke Steffans Vanderzyl was born in Bierum, Province of Groningen in 1794 and died at the age of 35. His wife was Dietje Geukes Slagter, and she was born in the Province of Groningen in 1799. She died in Pella, Ia., at the age of 93 in 1892. Geuke Steffans died in The Netherlands and left his widow Dietje with small children. She later married Jelmer Doorenbos in Holland. They had children of their own and came to America in 1847 aboard the ship *Pieter Floris* landing at Baltimore. They were members of the original colony which came to Pella with Rev. H.P. Scholte. A few years later, one of the sons of Geuke Steffans Vanderzyl and Dietje Doorenbos, Geike G. Vanderzyl brought his wife and family to Pella. This was in 1866. Geike G., along with his two sons Geuke and Simon G. went into business in Pella. They established a grain dealership, supply warehouse, livestock business, and meat market in Pella. They had a slaughter house in the east part of town about two blocks east of the site of Pella Community Hospital. The firm later added coal to their lines of products for sale.

Geike G. became principal buyer and agent in Pella and surrounding area for T. Henry Foster, Chief Executive of John Morrell and

Company in Ottumwa. Mr. Foster was a son in law of John Morrell.

Simon G. and Geuke G. operated the business and later sold the operations to two of Simon G.'s sons, Paul and Simon H. They operated the business in South Pella for a number of years, and in 1921 sold the livestock and grain business to the Farmers Co-op Exchange, retaining the coal business. In the depression years Paul and Simon, along with an employee Frank Denicola, entered coal mining. Frank was a young Italian immigrant when he came to Pella in the years before World War One. He served in the army and then returned to Pella, hauling coal from the retail yard. Paul, Simon, and Frank then formed the Diamond Block Coal Company south of Pella, and operated a strip mine there for many years.

One of Geike G. and Greetje De Weerd Vanderzyl's children was Bertha, who married John Ulrich. Ulrich was a German immigrant and a butcher. He founded his own meat market and slaughter house. He started in business by making bologna from an original recipe his family had, and peddled the bologna door to door in Pella. His name is still on the shop front on the south side of the square, and except for a few minor changes in the manufacture and seasoning of the bologna, the product remains almost the same as it was in the 1870's.

Simon G. married Lena Homer of Eddyville and settled with his bride on East Washington St. in Pella. He was an Elder in the Second Reformed Church and she was very active in the women's activities of the church. Simon G. served as Mayor of the City of Pella, was school board treasurer, and held numerous other civic positions. He was public spirited and, around 1910 when he was Mayor, paid Fred Stone, a Marion Co. youngster, a $20.00 gold piece to walk a tight rope from the southwest to northeast corner of the intersection of Main and Franklin Streets. This was during a 4th of July celebration. Stone later became a famous Broadway and Hollywood actor. Stone's relatives lived next door to Simon and Lena on East Washington St.

Simon and Lena had nine children. They were: George (or Shorty) who married Edith Irwin of Monroe; Fannie, who married David Waldeck of Pagosa Springs, Colo.; Mae, who married John Ernest Sterrenberg of Pella; Jennie, who married John H. (Turk) Van Vliet of Pella; Bessie, who married Cornelius Randall of Georgetown, Colo.; Paul, who married Elsie Schakel of Pella; Simon Homer, who married Helen Grace Van Gorp of Pella, and Madge and Raymond who were never married.

Paul and Elsie had four children. Homer, who married Clara Malloy Owens; Logan, who married Margaret Vande Kieft; Mildred, who married C. Clifford Line; and Loren. The three sons, Homer, Logan, and Loren carried on the fuel business in South Pella for many years.

Simon H. and Grace had four children: Herb, who married Ruth Carlson of Oskaloosa, and continued in the coal mining business for many years; Ralph and Earle who were killed at an early age in separate automobile accidents; and Madeline who became a librarian at Central College after graduating from the University of Iowa. Earle was the first Pella man to be selected for the U.S. Military Academy, but resigned his appointment to enlist in the army in World War Two.

by Loren Vanderzyl

VANDEVOORT, JOHN H. AND WILMA

F731

John H. and Wilma Vandevoort. Front, l-r: Wilma, Jay, John; Back, l-r: Robert, Kenneth, Joel.

John H. Vandevoort is the fourth child of Henry John and Anna Maria Klein Van de Voort. He was born Oct. 25, 1920, at 1207 Franklin St. in the Pella Earring district. He lived in this home until his parents moved to a new home on West Fourth St. in 1941.

John attended Webster Elementary School and graduated from Pella High School in 1938.

He entered the Army Air Corps on Oct. 2, 1942, and went to Sheppard Field, Tex., for basic training and then to Lowry Field, Colo., for photo school. After eighteen months at Santa Ana, Calif., he was assigned to the new 509th Compsoite Group at Wendover Field, Utah, as a photographer. The 509th moved to North Field on Tinian Island in the Marianas during May, 1945. The war was ended after the Enola Gay and Bock's Car dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The group left Tinian and went to Roswell Army Air Base, N.M., in Oct., 1945. John was discharged on Feb. 6, 1946.

John's family had a large garden in Pella's west end and he started a long vocation by selling vegetables door-to-door from his coaster wagon at the age of four. He was the happy owner of a bicycle and trumpet purchased from his earnings the summer he was ten.

He started working for Vande Voort's Cash Grocery in 1936, while in high school, and continued at Vande Voort Super Market, and Van's Food Market until mid 1968. Ten years were spent at Pella Cooperative Electric with retirement from the Rolscreen Company in 1985.

On Nov. 23, 1944, he married Wilma Meppelink, who is the fourth child of Bert and Jennie Vos Meppelink. She was born on the family farm at the west edge of Sully, Ia., on Nov. 1, 1925.

Wilma attended Sully Christian Grade School and three years at Sully High School. She graduated with the second class of Pella Christian High School in 1942. She currently is employed in the Controller's office of Central College.

For three years John and Wilma lived at 1006 Columbus. Kenneth John was born during this time on Apr. 8, 1947, and also Robert James on July 22, 1949. After Bob's birth it soon became apparent that a larger home was needed, so in 1950 the residence was changed to 1004 Columbus. Joel Keith joined the family on May 4, 1951, and Jay on Apr. 24, 1959. This has remained our family home.

Before Columbus St. was paved, we had mud whenever it rained or the snow would melt. Needless to say, we were happy when the paving crew finished west Columbus. Those were also the days of twice-a-day mail delivery (after the walks were in) and delivery of milk with cream on top, in glass bottles.

An attraction across the street was Sents Grocery with the Salada Tea advertisment on the window. No youngster will forget spending pennies there for Baloney Bubble Gum and the other goodies a penny could buy.

All four sons attended Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Community High School. Ken received an A.S. from Centerville (Iowa) Community College, and then enlisted with Bob in the U.S. Air Force on June 26, 1967, for four years. After initial assignments, both were sent to Asia. Ken went to Karamursel, Turkey, and Bob went to Tuy Hoa, South Vietnam. During this period Joel graduated from the American Institute of Business in Des Moines and later became a Certified Public Accountant. Ken received his undergraduate degree from Central University of Iowa and Bob received his from the University of Nebraska, Omaha. Both Ken and Bob received their graduate degrees from the American Graduate School of International Management in Arizona. Jay attended Central and received his undergraduate degree from Arizona State University in Tempe.

Ken resides in Omaha, Neb. Robert married Patricia Dianne Wilson of Sunnyvale, Calif., on Aug. 7, 1982. Jon Weston was born Aug. 25, 1983, and Laurel Ashton arrived Nov. 19, 1985. Omaha is also their home. Joel married Martha Jane Ver Meer of Pella, on Aug. 5, 1971. Their children are Julia Christine, born Jan. 16, 1979; James Timothy, born Apr. 9, 1980; and Jill Marie, born Apr. 8, 1982. They live in Pella. Jay has employment in Washington, D.C.

By Wilma Vandevoort

VEENSTRA, HENDRIKES

F732

Hendrikes (Henry) Veenstra was born on Jan. 27, 1832, in the province of Friesland, The Netherlands, the son of Jan ("John") Harmens (Herman) Veenstra and Berber ("Barbara") Kooistra Veenstra. Hendrikes had the following sisters and brothers: Tryntje, Grietjie, Aart, Harmen, Antjie, Myndert, and Sjeidske. Henrikes, his parents, and his sisters and brothers left the Netherlands and arrived in Pella, Ia., in the spring of 1855. They settled on a farm southwest of Pella, near the t'Lam Cemetery. Later the same year, while fishing, Hendrikes' father drowned in Prairie Lake, located near Howell Station. He was buried

in the t'Lam Cemetery. Hendrikes' mother passed away Jan. 22, 1875, age 65, at Pella, and was also buried in the t'Lam Cemetery. Hendrikes Veenstra's future wife, Heltje (Hattie) Jansma, also came to America on the same ship that the Veenstra family sailed on and thus they met. Heltje was born Nov. 27, 1837, in the Netherlands. Their date of marriage is unknown, but to this union were born the following children: John H., 1860; Jacob, 1863; Gache, 1865; Barbara, 1869; Anna, 1872, Katherine, approx. 1876; Minnie, 1879; and Orissa, approx. 1883. Anna's twin brother died in infancy. Hendrikes and Heltje farmed at Otley and Lynnville, and later moved into Pella. Heltje passed away June 26, 1894, age 56, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Hendrikes later married a widow, Mary De Bie, and they resided in Pella. Hendrikes passed away May 27, 1908, age 76, in Pella, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Mary passed away Jan. 7, 1911, and was buried in Graceland Cemetery.

John, son of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Mary Zigeler in approx. 1884. To this union was born a daughter, Hattie, in 1885. Mary passed away Aug. 10, 1888 or 1889, and is believed to have been buried in Price Cemetery, rural Otley. Their daughter Hattie passed away Feb. 3, 1911, age 25, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. John Veenstra married Cornelia (Kate) Schakel on Feb. 28, approx. 1892. John and Kate resided at Bussey, Leighton, and Pella. To this union was born a son, Harold J., in 1899. Kate died in 1915 in Pella, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. On July 4, 1917, John Veenstra married a widow, Lida Lowery, in Pella. She had three children, Helen, Mary, and Arlie from a previous marriage. John and Lida resided at Blakesburg, Ia., and Pella. John passed away Apr. 30, 1923, age 63, in Pella, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Lida's date of death is unknown, but she was buried in Gainsville, Fla., where she had been living with one of her daughters.

Jacob, son of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Maggie Den Burger. They resided on farms at Otley, Lynnville, and Leighton and later moved into Pella. To this union were born the following children: Henry, 1886; Jennie May, 1889; Harriett, 1891; John, approx. 1893; John G., 1896; Minnie Grace, 1899; Margarite Nina, 1902; and Fred, 1904. Jacob passed away June 7, 1921, age 57, in Pella; Maggie passed away Nov. 27 or 29, 1943, age 79, in Pella. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Gache (Grace), daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Jacob Zigeler in 1884. He was a brother of Mary who married Gache's brother John. Gache was better known as Carrie, a name given her by one of her school teachers. Carrie and Jacob farmed at Lynnville and Kellogg and also lived in Pella. To this union were born the following children: Jennie, 1885; Henry Franklin, 1888; Airy G., 1890; Hattie Grace, 1897; and Earl LeRoy, 1899. Jacob passed away Dec. 2, 1928, age 67, at Kellogg; Carrie passed away Dec. 30, 1947, almost 83, at Downey, Calif. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Barbara, daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Arie Van Ryswky on Mar. 6, 1889, at Otley. They farmed at Lynnville and later moved into Pella. To this union were born the following children: Dirk (Dick) A., 1890; Henry, 1893; Peter A., 1894; Grace, 1902; and one daughter and one son who died in infancy and were buried in the New Salem Cemetery, rural Lynnville. Arie passed away June 29, 1932, age 66, in Pella; Barbara passed away Dec. 13, 1936, age 67, in Pella. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Anna, daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married William H. McIntire on Nov. 21, 1914, in Des Moines. They resided in St. Joseph, Mo., and had no children. He was manager of the St. Joseph Credit Union for many years. Later they retired in Pella. Will passed away Oct. 29, 1958, age 89, in Pella; Anna passed away June 4, 1961, age 88, in Pella. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Katherine (Kate), daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married H. Clifford Fry. They resided in Des Moines and to this union was born a daughter Helen. Kate passed away at her home on Mar. 15, 1932, age 56, and was buried in the Glendale Cemetery, Des Moines.

Minnie, daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Charles Sipkema. They lived in Pella and had no children. Minnie passed away May 31, 1925, in Pella, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Charles later married Lottie Dykstra on Nov. 28, 1926, in Pella, where they resided the rest of their lives. Charles worked at the Y.T. Van Niewaal Store and later at Wormhoudt and Kempkes Clothiers. Charles passed away Aug. 5, 1951, age 71, in Pella; Lottie passed away July 2, 1965, age 85, in Pella. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Orissa, daughter of Hendrikes and Heltje, married Edwin G. McIntire, Sr., a brother of William who married Orissa's sister Anna. Orissa and Edwin lived in Des Moines and to this union were born two children: Edwin Grant, date unknown, and Robert in 1918. When Robert was only five months old, Orissa passed away on Mar. 28, 1919, age 36, in Des Moines, and was buried in the Glendale Cemetery. Edwin McIntire was manager of a credit union in Des Moines for many years. He later married a widow who had two sons, Edgar and Richard, from a previous marriage. They also resided in Des Moines.

by Vernon Wielard

VEENSTRA, WILBUR JOHN

F733

Wilbur J. Veenstra was born Aug. 30, 1931, in Mahaska Co., Ia., the second child of John W. Veenstra and Ella Vander Molen Veenstra. He has two sisters: Greda Uitermarkt of Phoenix, Ariz.; Joan Boot of Sully; and one brother, Raymond of Reasnor.

John W. came to the United States from Friesland, The Netherlands in 1921, at the age of 21 and settled in the Leighton, Ia. area.

Wilbur J. Veenstra lived in Richland Twp., Mahaska Co. approximately 14 miles northeast of Pella and attended Peoria Christian Grade School, graduating in 1944. He had the choice of attending high school or purchasing a tractor, opting for the 1940 John Deere. He continued to farm for his parents and neighbors, and worked one winter in the Rolscreen Company at Pella for the big wages of 50 cents per hour. In Mar 1952, he was

Front, L-R: Jayme Wade, Tammy Lynn, children of Wynne and Patty Moffet Veenstra, Shawn Karl, son of Keith and Virginia Moffet Veenstra; Second Row, L-R: Patty Moffet Veenstra, Sarah Meinders Veenstra, Wilbur J. Veenstra, Virginia Moffet Veenstra, Keith E. Veenstra; Back, L-R: Wynne J. Veenstra, Cheryl Jensen Veenstra, Brad A. Veenstra, Douglas J. Veenstra, Cathy J. Vanden Berg Veenstra, Michael L. Veenstra.

drafted into the United states Army. He was attached to the 43rd Infantry. He served in Fort Riley, Kan. and Germany. While in Europe, he traveled to the homeland of his father several times, meeting his father's brother, Wessel, and other family members that did not travel to the U.S.

Upon returning to the U.S. on Mar. 12, 1954, he married Sarah Mae Meinders of Oskaloosa, Ia. She is the second child of Jacob and Bessie Vande Wall Meinders. She had one brother Henry James Meinders of Oskaloosa.

He and his new bride then moved to a tenant farm owned by Dick Schimmel approximately 20 miles South of Pella, near Tracy, Ia. No rain really made money scarce, so he worked at the nearby coal mines for $1.82 per hour so that they could pay their bills. They also boarded the local country school teacher for $60.00 per month. Their first son was born while they lived there: Wynne Jay on Dec. 17, 1954, in the Mercy Hospital at Oskaloosa, Ia.

The family moved to a farm two and one-half miles north of Pella in the spring of 1956, owned by Garret Andringa, living there four years. While they lived there, two more sons joined the family: Keith Eugene Nov. 24, 1956, and Michael Lee Nov. 1, 1958. While living there Wilbur won several soil conservation awards. He started his auctioneering career by working for the Pella Sales Barn.

Mar. 1, 1960 found the Veenstras moving 12 miles northeast of Pella back into Richland Twp. Time moved on and the oldest son started school, the same school that Wilbur and Wilbur's mother attended. This farm was owned by Anthony O. Ver Meer and was mostly South Skunk River land which flooded several times. One of the worst times was 1966. The dike broke and within two hours several hundred acres of crops were gone. Two more sons joined the family while living here: Bradley Alan on June 9, 1962, and Douglas Joel on July 18, 1966, making a total of five sons all of whom have reached adulthood and live in the Pella area.

The Veenstras farmed that place, and Wilbur drove truck for Peoria Stockyards, expanding on his auctioning career by forming Tri-County Auction Company. In 1967 he purchased the Van Gorp farm five and one-half miles northeast of Pella. He continued farming for several years until the farm economy made it necessary to find employ-

ment off the farm. He then worked for Peoria Stockyards in the Pella station, buying fat hogs and dispatching the semis and straight trucks to pick up hogs and cattle from area farmers. In 1978 Wilbur and his son Michael purchased the stockyards from Melvin Duer. At this time, 1986, they are still active in this business, and they also still live on the farm northeast of Pella.

Wilbur's children and families are: Wynne and Patty Moffet Veenstra have a son Jamye Wade, and daughter Tammy Lynn; Keith and Virginia Moffet Veenstra and son, Shawn Karl; Michael and Cathy Varden Berg Veenstra and son, Jesse Lee; Bradley and Cheryl Jensen Veenstra have a daughter Savannah Raine; and Douglas Joel Veenstra.

by Mrs. Wilbur Veenstra

VER HELST, LELAND L. AND NORMA L.

F734

Relative newcomers to Pella, the Ver Helsta moved to Pella in June of 1966 when Lee accepted a position in the Iowa Department of Public Safety as a State Trooper where he is presently employed. Because of his Dutch heritage he was hand picked to work in the Pella area. They have lived at 914 West 1st Street for the past 20 years.

Norma was born Oct. 2, 1941 in Oklahoma to Allen and Martha (Kincaid) Herring. She graduated from High School in Broken Bow, Oklahoma in 1959. Leland was born Febr. 15, 1940 in Iowa to Mel and Josie (Lewis) Ver Helst. He graduated from Belmond, Iowa High School in 1957. They met in college in Texas and were married Dec. 17, 1960. Leland started employment shortly after marriage in 1960 for the Iowa Department of Public Safety in the Radio Division in Belmond, Iowa and transferred to the Patrol Division in 1966.

Three sons were born to this union. They are Kurt Allan Ver Helst born Sept. 19, 1963 in Belmond, Ia. He attended all 13 years in the Pella Community Schools, graduating from Pella Community High School in May 1982. He got his pre-med at Central College in Pella. He was married June 22, 1985 in Pella, Ia. to Sheryl Vander Waal. Sheryl is the daughter of Robert and Marilyn (Van Wyk) Vander Waal also of Pella, Ia. They presently live in Davenport where Kurt attends Palmer Chiropractic College. Rick Allen Ver Helst was born on his mother's 24th birthday Oct. 2, 1965 in Belmond, Ia. Rick also attended all 13 years in the Pella Community Schools. He graduated from Pella Community High School in May 1984. He also attended Central College in Pella, Ia. and went to Carmarthen, Wales with the Central College foreign program during his Sophomore year in the Spring of 1986. He is presently studying Psychology at Iowa State University, Ames, Ia. Ross Alan Ver Helst was born Apr. 9, 1971 in Pella, Ia. and has attended all 11 years in the Pella Community Schools, he is presently a Sophomore in the Pella Community High School.

by Leland Ver Helst

The occasion of this photo was the wedding of Kurt and Sheryl (Vander Waal). June 22, 1985, at Trinity Reformed Church, Pella, Iowa. Pictured clockwise from the right are: Leland L. Ver Helst, Norma L. Ver Helst, Rick A. Ver Helst, Ross A. Ver Helst, and the bride and groom Kurt A. Ver Helst and Sheryl (Vander Waal) Ver Helst.

VER HEY, JACOBUS

F735

Jacobus Ver Hey, (1808 – 1872), came to this country as part of the original settlement on the ship *Maasstroom*. He had been the captain of a ship in Holland but he became a builder in Pella. In 1848 he married Jannetje Nieuwendorp who had come with her parents and siblings on the ship *Nagasaki* in 1847. Jannetje was the daughter of Hendrick Nieuwendorp who was one of the earliest settlers on East Prairie (1848). She had been "kindermeid" to the Scholte children in Holland. Jacobus and Jannetje's children were: James, Chris, Dina, Willem, Korstiaan and Henry (who were twins), Leentje, Gertruda, and Jacobus. Dina lived only one day while James, Chris, and Jacobus died in their early twenties.

Jacobus Ver Hey

William married Molly . . ., Korstiaan married Maria Kuyper, Henry married Anna Cook, Leentje married Jan Jansma, Gertruda married Jan De Wit.

Jacobus was the builder of the First Reformed Church building which was demolished and replaced by the present one. The following story was told by G.H. Wormhoudt, an eyewitness. While building, it was necessary to secure the first two beams which were to meet at the high point of the roof nearly 70 feet above the ground. The workmen were discussing who would be the man to do the job. "Hier, dat kaan Ik wel doen," said Jacobus. His training as a sailor prepared him for the strenuous climbing of a rope hand-over-hand to the top. He secured the beams and the building went on. The church was dedicated in 1872. Jacobus passed away on that date.

The VerHeys and Nieuwendorps were both very musical families and Jacobus and Jannetje were delighted with the twins ability. When they were still very small Jacobus would take them to the saloon, set the boys on his knees and tell them to sing for the crowd. Many years later, Henry who was at that time agnostic, was at a funeral service

where the musician was suddenly taken ill. The minister, knowing of Henry's musical talents, asked him to play for the service. Henry protested that he played nothing that was appropriate. But the minister continued to urge him. As a result, he began the service by playing *Yankee Doodle* with so many variations that no one was aware of the tune. At another church service he was asked to play and said again that he knew nothing proper for use in a church. The minister's surprising reply was: "Then play them a waltz. They can stand that!"

Willem, son of Jacobus, worked in the railroad depot in Des Moines. His wife Molly died while their daughters were still small. His sister Leentje (Ellen) would walk down the railroad track from Pella to Des Moines and back on weekends to help with the bringing up of her brother's children: Hazel, married to Joe Fassen; Carrie, married to Guy . . .; Mayme married to . . . Berry of the Berry Seed Company of Clarinda. By a second marriage Willem had a son Carlyle.

Korstiaan became an architect and builder. He built the Second Reformed Church, the one before the present building. He also built the Home for the Aged and many fine homes still standing in Pella. Korstiaan and Maria Kuyper Ver Hey were the parents of Johanna (Mrs. Epka Roorda), John (married to Gertrude Vos), Christina (died at four years), Dina (Mrs. John Hospers), Dr. Marie Ver Hey, and James (married to Lora Den Hartog who was often called Lora Verrips as she lived with her Verrips grandparents). James was also an architect and builder. He built the Third Reformed Church, Legion Hall, and buildings at Central College.

Henry owned a jewelry store which he later sold to his nephew Jim De Wit. Leentje married Jan Jansma who was a shoe repair man in Pella.

by Pauline Tysseling

VER MEER, ALBERT TUNIS AND JENNIE
F736

The *Vermeer History* booklet published by Gary and Harry Vermeer in 1963 states, "The tide of immigration from Holland to America that began in 1847 brought Brant Vermeer and wife and four sons to Pella, Iowa." One of the four sons of this Brant Vermeer (1798-1872) was Anthonie (1843-1920), who was 13 years old when he came to Pella with his parents, twin brother Gerrit, younger brother Hendrick, and step-brother Otto Pothoven. Anthonie married Alida De Bruin (1847-1915) in 1868. Their eight sons were Brant, Jacob, Tunis, Will, Otto, John, Gerrit, and Neal.

In 1892 this third generation Brant Ver Meer (1869-1948) married Gysbertha Tysseling (1870-1962). She is the daughter of Albert and Egje De Jong Tysseling. Their five boys are Anthony A. (1893-1974), Albert T. (1895-1981), Morris H. (1899), Edward (1902), and Jacob A. (1910).

Albert Tunis married Jennie Van Heukelom (1902) in 1921. Jennie is the second youngest of nine children born to Ryk Van Heukelom (1855-1911) and Tryntje De Wild (1864-1953). Ryk came from The Netherlands at age 17. Two years later his mother and the rest of the family joined him. Tryntje is the daughter of Albert (1827-1880) and Hendrika Stomphorst (1827-1915) De Wild. Jennie's brothers and sisters are Minnie (1885), Hattie (1888), Gerrit (1890), Johanna (1892), Bertha (1894), Tunis (1897), and Albert (1898), who are all deceased. Her sister Caroline was born in 1905.

Albert (A.T.) and Jennie Ver Meer.

As a girl, Jennie lived on a farm east and north of Pella near the river where Indians often camped. After her father passed away, her mother married Steven Onstine. The family later lived at 1207 Broadway.

Albert, or A.T., and Jennie spent the first five years of their married life on a farm located east of Pella and just west of Albert's parents' farm on Highway 163. Wilbur Roy, or Bud, was born in 1922; Gysbertha ("Bertha") was born in 1926. In 1927 they moved to Pella, and A.T. started the Star Oil Company. Ruth Joyce arrived in 1927, and Ednabel ("Bel") was born in 1933. In 1934 the family moved form 1207 Broadway to 906 Union St. Starting in 1945, A.T. operated the Coast to Coast Store for about four years and then did many other things such as driving a school bus during his retirement years.

A.T. and Jennie's family were members of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella. The children attended the Pella Christian Schools.

Bud married Helene Tonetta Gosselink (1924) in 1946. Bud, who became a pastor, suffered many years of ill health and passed away in November of 1985. Their son Jay (1948) is married to Edith Kapteyn, and they have a daughter, Toni Gale. They live in Michigan, as does his sister Janie (1951). Jana, Janie's twin, is married to Gerald Van Dyk. They live in South Dakota and have two children, Bradley and Sarah.

Bertha and John W. Brouwer (1927) were married in 1948. John was employed in the office of Maytag Company since 1952, and Bertha has taught school for 29 years. Their son Jerry (1951) lives in Michagan with his wife Nancy Meeter and two children, Jonathan and Renee. John and Bertha's daughter Becky (1954) lives near Sully, Ia., with her husband Gary Vos and their four children, Jill, Jayne, Joseph, and Jordan. A fifth child is expected soon.

Ruth and Dick Stravers (1927) were married in 1951. Dick has pastored three Christian Reformed churches and they are now in Cleveland, Ohio. They have four children. Richard (1952) and his wife Sindi Kauffman are the parents of Nelleke and Alexandra and are awaiting the soon arrival of another child. Mary (1956) and Lee Doezema's children are: David A.T., Jennie, Sara, and Leif. Joy (1957) is married to Paul Tigchelaar, and they have a son Andre. Amy (1963) married Mark Kornelis. All the Stravers children and grandchildren live in Kalamazoo, Mich.

Bel and Dale Vos (1931) were married in 1954. They have three sons. Michael (1955) married Laura Evans and they have a son Simon. Mark (1957) is married to Roni Kinney. Their children are Dawn, Misty, Dustin, and Joseph (deceased). Nick (1963) is their third son. The whole family lives in Pella.

Albert, or A.T., passed away in July of 1981. Jennie joined her sister Caroline in a Newton nursing home in July of 1986.

by John and Bertha Brouwer

VER MEER, ANTONIE
F737

Antonie Ver Meer, son of Brant and Weimpje Hendricks Ver Meer (born Oct. 14, 1843), married Alida De Bruin (born Oct. 30, 1847) on Apr. 22, 1868. To them were born eight sons: Brant born Jan. 12, 1869, died July 6, 1948; Jacob born Aug. 22, 1871, died Aug. 4, 1905; Tunis born Dec. 25, 1873, died Mar. 7, 1918; Will born Dec. 9, 1876, died Apr. 30, 1961; Otto born Aug. 19, 1879, died Oct. 29, 1957; John born Apr. 13, 1882, died Dec. 20, 1952; Gerrit born Aug. 29, 1884, died Mar. 8, 1965; and Neal born Apr. 12, 1888, died Apr. 26, 1978. Antonie died Dec. 17, 1920. Alida died Dec. 18, 1915.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, ANTONIE A. AND JOHANNA
F738

Antonie A. Ver Meer, oldest son of Brant and Gysbertha Tysseling Ver Meer, was born March 6, 1893. Antonie and Johanna Kolenbrander were married on Dec. 20, 1917.

Johanna was born Apr. 9, 1890. They were the parents of five children: Gladys Allyda born Sept. 26, 1918; Bernard Wilbur born Feb. 14, 1920; Byron Elmer born Jan. 28, 1922; Melvin Ray born June 30, 1928; and Janice Ann born Nov. 24, 1932.

Gladys married Cornie Vos, born Oct. 7, 1919, on Feb. 13, 1941. Bernard married Dorothy Van Leinden, born Jan. 18, 1922, on Feb. 24, 1944. Byron married Evalena Van Hemert, born June 11, 1923, on June 11, 1948. Evalena died in September of 1979. Byron married Patsy Van Zee in Oct. of 1981. Melvin married Alice Van Hemert, born Jan. 7, 1930, on June 8, 1949. Janice married

Antonie and Johanna Ver Meer, 50 years of marriage, 1967.

Loren Vander Wert, born July 2, 1931, on Sept. 14, 1951.

After Antonie and Johanna were married they lived with his grandfather, Antonie on a small farm at the northeast edge of Pella, later moving to 812 East Second Street, taking his grandfather with them. Antonie was in the garage business, owning and working at the White Way Auto Company all his married life until his retirement in 1958. In 1948 the business was destroyed by fire. A new building with modern equipment was opened for business in 1949.

Antonie and Johanna moved to 415 West First Street in 1926. This home is now being used as student housing by Central College. Their next home was at 907 Independence. Through the years Central has continued to progress and expansion necessitated the purchase of their home in 1961, at which time they moved to 506 West first. Upon completion of the Pella Manor they established their residence there. Antonie died Jan. 27, 1974. Johanna died Nov. 28, 1982.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, BERNARD AND DOROTHY

F739

Bernard Ver Meer, oldest son of Antonie and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer, born Feb. 14, 1920, married Dorothy Van Leinden, born Jan. 18, 1922, on Feb. 14, 1944. Bernie is a farmer. They are the parents of three sons: Alvin born July 22, 1945; Kenneth born Dec. 1, 1951; and David born Jan. 17, 1958.

Alvin married Carolyn Brand, born June 4, 1947, on June 24, 1966. They are the parents of: Steven John born Feb. 21, 1957; Brian James born Mar. 17, 1970; and Anita Joy born Jan. 29, 1975. They are dairy farmers living on his parents' farm, rural Pella.

Kenneth married Janna Bogaard, born Mar. 24, 1954, on Mar. 21, 1975. They are the parents of: Matthew Lee born May 24, 1979; and Brandon James born Mar. 15, 1982. Ken and Janna reside in Leighton where he is employed at Leighton Locker.

David married Diann Kay McMains, born Nov. 21, 1957, on Mar. 2, 1978. They are the parents of: Adam Anthony born Jan. 23, 1982; and Amy Leann born Apr. 2, 1985. David is self employed at Dave's Refrigeration and Appliance Service in Oskaloosa, where the family lives.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, BRANT

F740

Brant Ver Meer, son of Antonie and Alida De Bruin Ver Meer, was born Jan. 12, 1869. He married Gysbertha Tysseling (born Apr. 17, 1870) on Mar. 17, 1892. They were the parents of five sons: Anthony A. born Mar. 6, 1893, died Jan. 27, 1974; Albert T. born Feb. 20, 1895, died July 13, 1981; Morris H. born Mar. 29, 1899; Edward born Dec. 6, 1902; and Jacob A. and born Sept. 8, 1910. Brant died on July 6, 1948. Gysbertha died on Feb. 14, 1962.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, BRANT

F741

In 1847 Brant Ver Meer, his wife, and four sons came from Mooi, Lunteren, The Netherlands, to Pella. Their sons were: Antonie, born Oct. 14, 1843, and died Dec. 17, 1920; Gerrit, born Oct. 14, 1843, and died May 30, 1923; Hendrick, born Dec. 5, 1845, and died July 30, 1927; Stepson Otto Pothoven, born July 18, 1839, and died Dec. 23, 1900.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, REVEREND BUD AND HELENE

F742

Left to Right: Janie Lee, Jana Kay, and Jay Allen VerMeer.

Rev. Bud and Helene VerMeer, Sept. 10, 1946.

On Jan. 7, 1922, the first child of Albert Tunis and Jennie (Van Heukelom) Ver Meer, Wilbur Roy, was born on a farm east of Pella. He attended Pella Public and Christian Schools and was a member of the first graduating class from Pella Christian High School in 1941. In Oct., 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with the 2nd Armored Division while stationed in Germany until his discharge in Feb., 1946.

Helene Tonetta Gosselink was the first child born to John Henry and Kathryn (Keuning) Gosselink on Sept. 29, 1924, on a farm south of Otley. She attended Liberty Corner rural school and was a member of the second graduating class from Pella Christian High School. She always enjoyed music and began as church organist at the age of 14 years.

On Sept. 10, 1946, Bud (as he had changed his name by this time) and Helene were married by the Rev. Fred Huizenga, in the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella. They first made their home in Pella – Bud working for Star Oil Company and driving gas transports while Helene worked at Wilson Jewelry Store. On Mar. 4, 1948, their first child, Jay Allen, was born. On Feb. 10, 1951, their twin daughters, Jana Kay and Janie Lee, were born. Later in 1951 the family moved to Colo, Ia. where Bud was salesman with the Moorman Feed Company. From there, in 1953, Bud took a transfer with the Moorman Feed Company to an area surrounding Des Moines – this allowed them to live in Des Moines and Jay could attend the Des Moines Christian School. While in Des Moines Bud also worked as salesman with the Prudential Life Insurance Company. It was while living in Des Moines that Bud felt a call to the ministry in the Christian Reformed Church. During the summer of 1954 the family moved to Grand Rapids, Mich., where Bud attended Calvin College and Seminary, graduating in 1962. During those years Bud worked with a cement contractor a few summers and drove "18 wheelers" cross-country other summers. The first years in Grand Rapids, Helene gave piano lessons and cleaned offices after school and served as substitute organist in various churches. After the twins were in school, she worked at Calvin College in the Alumni Office and Concession

Stand for five years.

The family moved to Fulton, Ill., in Aug. 1962, where Bud served as the first pastor of the Bethel Christian Reformed Church until Dec., 1964. From there they moved to Chicago and served the Archer Avenue Christian Reformed Church until June 1969. Upon graduation from Seminary, Bud had planned and hoped to serve in the ministry for 25 years before retiring at age 65. However, the Lord had other plans. While serving the Archer Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Bud first became ill with cancer. He continued to minister at Archer Avenue Christian Reformed Church, and Helene worked in the Medical Records Dept. at Christ Community Hospital in Oaklawn, until June 1969 when they moved to Colton, S. Dak. They served the Christian Reformed Church at Colton until Oct. 1972. During this time Helene worked as a receptionist at the Medical Clinic at Dell Rapids, S. Dak. From there they moved to Sparta, Mich., where they served the Trinity Christian Reformed Church until Sept. 1974. Bud's last charge was the Pioneer Christian Reformed Church, Cedar Springs, Mich. While there, he was forced to take early retirement because of failing health. Helene had served as church organist in each of the churches they served. Bud and Helene then moved to Kentwood, Mich., so Helene could continue working at W.J. Dykstra Company in Grand Rapids, where she had worked all the time they lived at Cedar Springs.

In Sept., 1978, Bud and Helene moved back to Pella to be near their four parents, all still living at that time. Helene started working as secretary for the Pella Chamber of Commerce soon after their move to Pella and is still at that position. Since Bud's retirement he had become quite a "C.B." person with a handle of "Parson" and had much joy and fullfillment in his last years with his "C.B." contacts. Bud's struggle with cancer began in May, 1966, and continued until his death Nov. 8, 1985, at Pella. He is buried at Black Oak Twp. Cemetery, east of Pella.

On Oct. 8, 1963, Jay married Edith Gale Kapteyn, born Oct. 4, 1959. They have one child, Toni Gale, born Jan. 16, 1987. Jay is a paramedic, working as a dispatcher with the Walker, Mich., Police Department. Edith is a registered nurse. Jana is a homemaker and painter – teaching painting in Bookings and Sioux Falls, S. Dak. Her husband, Gerald Van Dyk, born July 13, 1946, is an electrician having his own business out of Colton, S. Dak. They have two children: Bradley Darin, born Feb. 4, 1971, and Sarah Lynn, born Mar. 9, 1975. Bradley is handicapped – lives at and attends a special school in the Black Hills, S. Dak. area. Janie married Gary Kroll on July 17, 1970. This marriage ended in 1974. She is working as an escrow officer at a title company in Grand Rapids, Mich.

by Helene Ver Meer

VER MEER, BYRON AND PATSY

F743

Byron Ver Meer, son of Antonie A. and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer, was born Jan. 28, 1922. After schooling and a period of military service Byron worked at White Way Auto Company. He married Evalena Van Hemert in June of 1948. They made their home at 905 Independence in Pella. Evalena died from leukemia in Sept. of 1979. In Oct., 1981, Byron married Patsy Van Zee. Patsy was employed at Rolscreen Company. They retired in 1985. They are living at 412 Elm in Pella.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, ED AND DENA

F744

Front, l-r: Martha Veldhuizen and Dena Ver Meer; Back, l to r: Barbara Bylaard and Ed Ver Meer.

Ed Ver Meer was born in 1902 in Black Oak Township, Mahaska County, to Brant and Gysbertha (Tysseling) Ver Meer. He attended Black Oak Center country school and then worked on the family farm.

He married Dena Kolenbrander Aug. 18, 1927. Dena was born Sept. 19, 1905, in Richland Twp., the daughter of Henry and Martha (De Bruin) Kolenbrander. The home area was known as East Prairie. She attended Warren School, commonly called Bushy Bend, where she graduated in 1917.

After the Kolenbrander family moved to Pella in 1920, Dena went to high school and graduated in 1924 with a Normal Training certificate. Her first teaching job was at Cherry Grove School near Peoria in Mahaska County. In those days teachers boarded at one of the homes in the district. Two years were spent at this school. The third year she taught at Black Oak Center where they had 27 pupils in all grades.

After marriage and a short honeymoon, Ed and Dena settled on the family farm in the Black Oak area but moved in 1930 when Ed's parents moved back on the farm during the Depression. Ed and Dena moved to the Voorhees place, the big brick house. This meant leaving many conveniences as the brick house had no electricity, running water, or central heat at that time. There was a pump in the summer kitchen for water. Electricity and a furnace were later installed.

In 1943 Ed wasn't able to continue farming due to illness, so they moved to Pella where he worked at the Star Oil Co. driving the gas truck. In 1948 Ed and his brother Albert bought the Coast to Coast store and managed it for a few years. Farming still appealed to Ed, so in 1959 he decided to crop farm a portion of land while continuing to live in town. In 1967 he retired from this farming but continued to be active in all kinds of carpentry work, including work on the new Faith Christian Reformed Church.

Ed and Dena have two children, Martha Helene, born Dec. 31, 1932; and Barbara Gail, born June 14, 1942. Martha attended Black Oak Center School until seventh grade, when she went to Pella Christian Grade and Pella Christian High. She spent three or four years working in the office at Rolscreen before marrying Henry Veldhuizen on Nov. 12, 1953. They have lived on a farm near Eddyville since. They have four children: Sheryl, now Mrs. Dan Vos, living in Ames where her husband is an ophthalmologist; Bryce, who married Marilyn Rydenour, and farms near Eddyville and raise hogs; Joel runs a small feed store in Newhall and is married to Nancy Munson; Gail is now Mrs. Philip Morris from New Sharon and they run a gas station and she is a beautician.

The youngest daughter of Ed and Dena, Barbara, attended and graduated from the Christian Schools in Pella in 1960. She is an LPN and worked in the Pella Community Hospital and Nursing Home. She married Gerard Bylaard June 14, 1969. They met at Central College, Gerard being from Canada, a Dutch immigrant. They moved to Canada where Gerard graduated from Knox Theological School. He is now a minister in a Presbyterian Church in Scarboro, Ontario, Canada. They have two children, Dena Marie, born May 10, 1972; and Gerard John, born July 16, 1974.

Sheryl and Dan's children are Nathan, age six, and Eric, age four. Little Andrea is one. Bryce and Marilyn added three children to the family circle. They are Heather, nine years old; Lisa, seven; and Scott, who is five.

by Dena Ver Meer

VER MEER, GYSBERT AND LEONA (VAN DONSELAAR)

F745

Leona Van Donselaar was the youngest in a family of seven. The others were Anna (Mrs. A.M. De Cook), Albert, Grace (Mrs. William Van Sant), and three brothers who died in infancy. Her parents were Peter A. and Pieternella Jennie (Verros) Van Donselaar. Leona was born and raised on her parents' farm three and one half miles southeast of

Gysbert and Leona (Van Donselaar) Ver Meer

Mark Jaren De Bruin, age 1.

Pella on the Marion-Mahaska Co. line. She attended Valley Rural School and one year at Pella Christian Grade School. That year the transportation was a horse and buggy furnished by Albert and Marie Wanders, cousins who also attended school. The teacher was Minnie Vande Kieft. Leona also had two years of high school in Pella, living with Bertha Jansen and her father from Monday to Friday. Leona loved music, starting piano lessons at age seven. At her parents' request, she was released from physical education at the high school and spent each day walking over to the old First Christian Reformed Church at Liberty and West Second to practice. For 62 years she has been privileged to serve as organist in the same church in which she was baptized, educated, where she made profession of faith in 1931, and by the grace of God continues as an active member.

Gysbert was born and raised on a farm one mile east of Pella where he lived for 63 years. On Mar. 12, 1936, he was united in marriage with Leona Van Donselaar at the home of her parents on a cold, sunny, blustery day, with strong northwest winds. Gravel or hard-surfaced roads were rare, and mud was thick on that wedding day. The bride's father hitched the horses to the wagon to bring in the guests through the last half mile of Iowa mud roads. The minister, the Rev. Frank De Jong, walked along the fence row to the bride's home to "tie the knot".

Gysbert's parents moved to West First St. in Pella in 1936, as Gysbert operated the family farm. It was purchased from William A. Ver Meer's father, Antonie Ver Meer for the sum of $18,600 on Mar. 5, 1920, Section 11 and 12, Twp. 76R, 18W.

Gysbert and Leona's life began with horses, sulky plow, grain binder, and several weeks of oats threshing when neighbors helped each other. The meal was prepared by the women. It consisted of fresh meat (rare in those days), bought at a market, and a real treat, potatoes, home-grown vegetables, homemade bread spread with home-churned butter made from cream, and milk produced on the farm. 20 to 25 men sat around the kitchen table. The weather was hot and there was no air conditioning. The food was cooked on a cookstove fired by coal which also heated up the kitchen. Coffeetime served to threshers was a treat for the women and men, the luxury of fresh bakery bread and dried beef from the meat shop, homemade apple pie and cake topping it off.

Fall brought corn picking. It meant husking corn by hand with horses and wagon going down three rows at a time on cold, frosty mornings.

Fuel for the heating stoves was hauled in, corncobs were picked from the hog lot, and wood and coal were available at Vander Zyl Coal Company. There was no central heating controlled by thermostats. Water for drinking, cooking, and laundry was pumped by hand and carried in from a well outside. A cistern held rain water from the house roof. It provided a luxury of soft water available from a hand pump in the sink in the washroom. Life was different but satisfying. There was a sense of thankfulness for what we did have, though it was a simple life compared to today's world of competition and financial stress.

Their family of four is as follows: Junella Martena Ver Meer Rosier, Grand Rapids, Michigan, born May 28, 1938. She married John Arthur Rosier Feb. 19, 1960. He was born in Evergreen Park, Ill. on July 23, 1937. Their two sons are John Jeffery, born Nov. 17, 1963, and Anthony Carl, born Sept. 22, 1967. William Junior Ver Meer was born Jan. 24, 1942. On June 22, 1973, he married Marilyn Faye Aalsma of Waupun, Wis., born Oct. 1, 1949. Their children are Christopher William, born Feb. 12, 1976, and Deanne Lea, born July 14, 1977. Phyllis Ann Ver Meer De Vries, of Salt Lake City, Ut. was born Sept. 22, 1943. She married Benno De Vries June 2, 1967. He was born near Rotterdam, The

1st Row, l to r: Deanne Ver Meer, Christopher Ver Meer, Jason De Bruin, and Lonita De Bruin; 2nd. Row, l to r: Phyllis De Vries holding Valerie De Vries, Lisa De Vries, Gloria De Bruin holding Kurtis De Bruin, and Mrs. Gysbert Ver Meer; 3rd. Row, l to r: Marilyn Ver Meer, Bill Ver Meer, Anthony Rosier, June Rosier, Keith De Bruin, and Gysbert Ver Meer; 4th Row, l to r: Ben De Vries, John Rosier, and Jeffrey Rosier.

Jennie and Harold Ver Meer with their daughter Ann. Ann Lee Ver Meer was born November 11, 1963 in Seoul, Korea. She was adopted into the family when she was three years old. In 1982, she was a member of the Tulip Time Royal Court. She graduated from the University of Iowa in 1986 with a degree in Elementary Education.

Children of Harold and Jennie Ver Meer. Standing, left to right: Ann Lee Ver Meer, Mary Adelaide Borg, Andrea Kay Balmer. Seated is David Harold Ver Meer.

Netherlands, on Dec. 14, 1943. Their children are Lisa Lynn, born June 28, 1972, twin daughters Angela and Andrea were still born on Feb. 26, 1977, and Valerie Anngel, born Oct. 13, 1979. Gloria Lou Ver Meer De Bruin was born Feb. 23, 1948, and married Keith Jaren De Bruin on June 26, 1970. He was born July 2, 1947, at Oskaloosa. Their children are Lonita Joy, born Aug. 26, 1975, twin sons Kurtis Joel and Jason Lee born Oct. 27, 1978. Born two months premature, their lives were spared in intensive care at University Hospitals in Iowa City. The twins both broke their legs at an early age. Mark Jaren was born Nov. 1, 1985.

Gysbert and Leona's children all experienced severe whooping cough in 1943, when Phyllis was six weeks old. Junella experienced polio in 1959. God's mercy brought them all through with healing and no permanent injuries.

The three daughters all have served, or are presently serving, as organists in their various locations in addition to their family duties, and teaching school after graduation from Calvin and Dordt College. Bill is occupied in agriculture and related activities. Corn, beans, and alfalfa are raised and fed to cattle and hogs. Current market prices are: corn, $1.25 a bushel; beans, $4.60 a bushel; live hogs, $49.50 cwt.; live cattle, $60.00 cwt. He is also a member of a men's quartet and church choir.

On July 7, 1965, Gysbert and son Bill fell from a barn roof when scaffolding gave way. They fell 28 feet to a concrete floor. Their backs were broken, and Gysbert's heel bones were shattered. By God's grace, they both were able to leave the hospital wearing back braces and a cast. Both recovered fully.

Gysbert served on various boards and was active in community service and church affairs. He enjoyed music, being a member of a men's quartet for 35 years. All his life he was a member of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella.

In 1973, they moved to 211 E. 9th in Pella. When Bill was married, he and his wife continued on the family farm. In 1978, Gysbert urged Leona to join a tour group. He preferred to remain with farming which was his delight. This two-week European tour was sponsored by Central College in commemoration of the 350th anniversary of the Reformed Church. They toured Holland, Germany, Switzerland, France and Belgium.

Gysbert was a victim of Hodgkin's disease and after three years of suffering, died at the age of 75 on Nov. 20, 1985. He was buried in the family plot in Black Oak Cemetery near Pella.

Over the years, they have had a strong faith in God as the giver of all things. They have also believed that God, as their Father, cared for them and gave guidance and protection. That alone carried them through the various experiences of fifty years of married life, lacking four months. To God be the glory!

by Leona Ver Meer

VER MEER, HAROLD AND JENNIE DE RONDE

F746

Harold Ver Meer is the oldest child of Paul and Jennie Vander Ploeg Ver Meer. He was born Feb. 1, 1918, and grew up on the family farm. It had been named Plain View Farm after the country school in Section 1 of Lake Prairie Township. He married Jennie De Ronde, daughter of Arie and Hendrikje Menninga De Ronde of Reasoner, Ia. They were married Jan. 1, 1942, and farmed the land of his parents and grandparents before him.

He operated a Grade A dairy. He converted from the milk can system to a five-stall pipeline milking parlor in 1960. When Vermeer Manufacturing moved to their present location south of the farm, Harold started working in the engineering department. Some of his projects were irrigation equipment, tree movers, and laser trenching.

Jennie Ver Meer was active in the county 4-H program and served as a member of the extension council. In 1969, when the Christian Opportunity Center was organized and opened its doors to handicapped students, she became an aide in the pre-school department.

The family was one of the charter members of the Calvary Christian Reformed Church. Harold has served as elder and Sunday School Superintendent. Jennie taught first grade Sunday School for several years.

Harold and Jennie have four children: Mary Borg of Pella, Andrea Balmer of Iowa City, David of Columbus, O., and Ann Ver Meer of Iowa City. Mary was Pella's Tulip Queen in 1963, Andrea was queen in 1969, and Ann was on the royal court in 1982.

Mr. and Mrs. Ver Meer moved into Pella

in 1977, and since Harold's retirement, they spend their time gardening and camping.

by Harold Ver Meer

VER MEER, JACOB AND ALYCE

F747

Jacob A. Ver Meer saw the first light of day on Sept. 8, 1910. His parents, Brant and Gysbertha Tysseling Ver Meer, were farmers living about five miles east of Pella on Highway 163. Jake was the youngest of five brothers. The older four were; Anthony A., Albert, Morris, and Edward. Jake attended Black Oak Center school and as he grew up joined his father in farming. After his parents left the farm he continued working with his brother Ed who was married at that time and lived on the home place. Because of the depressed times in the early 30's his parents moved back to the farm in 1933 and Ed and family moved to the "Big Brick House" on what was known as the Voorhees farm. Father and the two sons continued farming together.

On Feb. 28, 1935, Jake and Alyce Zylstra were united in marriage and made their home in the house just west of the parental home.

Alyce was born on Sept. 12, 1913, on a farm north of Sully, Ia. Her parents were Martin G. and Bertha Schutting Zylstra. Alyce's brothers and sisters were: Gerben, Ann, Rienk, Paul, Gerald, Cornie, Cornelia, Martha, and Chester Duco. When Alyce was two years of age her family moved to a farm one mile west of Sully. Here they were able to attend the Sully Christian Grade School.

In 1924 Gerald and Cornie had gone on to further their education, the parents retired and the family moved to Pella. After having finished the eighth grade Alyce worked in various homes, cleaning house and helping care for children.

As was stated previously, after she and Jake were married they began their life together west of the parental Ver Meer home. After living there three years Jake's parents again left the farm and Jake and Alyce moved to the home place. It was here that their seven children were born, one son and six daughters.

Jim, Judy, and Eunice attended Black Oak Center school for a short time but then transferred to the Pella Christian Grade school where the rest of the children also received their education and all graduated from Pella Christian High School.

Jim attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. and then transferred to Iowa State University at Ames where he received his degree in Mechanical Engineering. He began his career as a machine designer in the engineering department at Rolscreen. He was soon drafted into the U.S. Army for a two-year interruption. Jim is married to the former Adonna Jean Van Engelenhoven and they are the parents of two daughters, Angela and Amanda. An infant son, Jason, was born and died the same night.

Judy also went to Calvin College after finishing high school and then went to Grand Rapids Junior College where she received her degree in nursing. She worked at the Pella Community Nursing Home for a short time and then went on to the Pella Medical Center as a nurse for Dr. Van Zee.

Just as her older brother and sister, Eunice went on to further her education at Calvin College, after which she accepted a teaching position in Ripon, Calif. It was here that she met her husband, Gerald De Vries. They are the parents of three children — Alicia and twins, Michael and Jeralyn.

After finishing high school Bertha was a clerk at Van's Super Market. She them married Virgil Terpstra and shortly thereafter they moved to a farm in the Lower Grove area. They have three children — Shellain, Daniel, and Jonquil.

Glenda was employed at Rexall Drug Store, married Dwight Vander Leest and moved to Sully. Their firstborn children, twins, Matthew and Jennifer, died shortly after birth. They are the parents of four children — Jill, Lucas, Braden, and Ethan.

Brenda also became a resident of Sully. After working at the Pella Community Hospital a short time she was married to Eldon Nikkel. Their three daughters are Terisa, Tamara, and Trixanna.

The youngest daughter, Esther, also was a graduate from Calvin College. She was employed at Rolscreen, married Ernie Roose and now lives on a farm near Peoria. They have three sons — Austin, Jordan, and Jameson.

In the early 1970's Jake was working at Vermeer Mfg. In 1972 Virgil and Bertha moved into the house where Jake and Alyce had started housekeeping. Virgil took over working the farm. The following year Virgil and Bertha exchanged dwellings with the parents and Jake and Virgil worked the farm together. In 1981 Jake and Alyce together with Alyce's brother, Duco and wife Lee, built a duplex in Pella. After having lived 71 years on the farm where Jake was born they retired and moved into their new home.

by Alyce Ver Meer

VER MEER, JIM AND ADONNA

F748

On Apr. 3, 1938, a baby boy was born to Jacob A. and Alyce Zylstra Ver Meer on a farm east of Pella. His name is Jim. He is the oldest of seven children. Jim has six sisters.

July 14, 1947, was a special day for Albert and Tena Mae Dahm Van Engelenhoven/. Their little daughter, Adonna, was born at the Mercy Hospital in Oskaloosa. Adonna's maternal grandparents, John and Gertrude Dahm, came from Holland when they were teenagers. They settled in the Peoria area. As of this writing, John Dahm, the oldest of a family of 15, is 96 years old and is living at Fair Haven West in the best of health.

Jim Ver Meer and Adonna Van Engelenhoven met at Rolscreen Company where they were both employed in the office. Jim is an engineer (machine designer), and Adonna is a secretary. They were married Aug. 11, 1967, at the Leighton Christian Reformed Church. They moved to an apartment at 403½ Independence Street where they lived four years.

In September 1971, Jim and Adonna bought a home and moved to 512 West First

Front: Jim, Adonna, and Amanda; Back: Angela

St. The house was actually bought prior to that time but they had to wait to move until the Pella Manor was complete. The house was purchased from Jim's uncle and aunt, Ed and Dena Ver Meer.

Angela Dawn was born on a beautiful spring Saturday morning, May 27, 1972, in the Pella Community Hospital. The peonies were in bloom.

Hearts were saddened on the night of Dec. 29, 1973, when a baby boy was born prematurely and died after birth. He was named Jason Todd.

On a cold clear night, Jan. 23, 1975, Amanda Jo came bursting into the world with lots of vigor and vim.

The family's church is the First Christian Reformed of Pella. They enjoy bicycling. Jim especially likes to bike. He rides at least three times a week to Peoria and back in the summertime. With good company he goes on longer trips. In the winter he stays in shape by riding his bike on rollers in the basement.

Adonna likes to do needlework, reading, and baking. She enjoys secretarial work.

Angie is now a student at Pella Christian High School. She likes to sing and also do handwork.

Amy is a student in the junior high department at Pella Christian Grade School. She loves to play the piano and is enjoying the clarinet.

Both of the girls like to babysit. The family tries to walk or ride bike as much as they can. The car stays in the garage a lot.

by Adonna Ver Meer

VER MEER, JOHN P. AND VIRGINIA M.

F749

John P. Ver Meer, the second child of Paul Ver Meer and Jennie Vander Ploeg Ver Meer was born Feb. 27, 1921, on the Plain View farm 1½ miles northeast of Pella.

John married Virginia Kempkes, daughter

of Tunis Kempkes and Jeanette De Vries Kempkes in Pella. She was born Jan. 17, 1922 on her father's birthday.

John and Virginia both attended the Pella Schools. Virginia graduated from Central College in 1943 and taught high school in Panora and Adel for three years. John went into service in Oct. of 1942 and served in the states and in Europe until May of 1946. They were married on Aug. 29, 1946, the wedding anniversary of her folks. It was a garden wedding in the back yard of her home where she was born, 1006 Washington St.

John started working at Wormhoudt and Kempkes Clothing store after his discharge from service. Virginia's father and her Uncle Lon Wormhoudt were co-owners of the store.

John and Virginia have two children, Donald Paul and Martha Jane Vandevoort. Don and his wife Shellie live in Laguna Hills, Calif. and have two sons, John Paul III and Bryan Thomas. Martha and her husband Joel Vandevoort have three children: Julie, Jimmy, and Jill and they live in Pella.

In 1954 Lon Wormhoudt died and Mr. Kempkes purchased the Wormhoudt share. In 1965 Mr. Kempkes passed away and John and Virginia purchased the business. Virginia worked part time in the store for several years. They had the business until July 1, 1981, when they sold it to Dave Sutphen, the present owner.

by John P. Ver Meer

VER MEER, MELVIN AND ALICE

F750

Melvin R. Ver Meer, son of Antonie A. and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer born June 30, 1928, married Alice Van Hemert, daughter of Bert C. and Sarah Ter Louw Van Hemert born Jan. 7, 1930, on June 8, 1949. Mel and Alice are the parents of three children: Stuart Wesley, born Oct. 25, 1950; Ruth Ann, born Nov. 22, 1953; and Timothy Scott, born Mar. 13, 1961.

Melvin's lifetime employment has been with the White Way Auto Company (now Leydens Chevrolet-Olds). He began working there for his father during his high school years in the Forties. For a period of time Melvin, his brother Byron Ver Meer, his cousin Marvin C. Ver Meer, and Earl Grandia were partners in a corporation owning the garage. C.L. Leydens purchased the business in 1972 and Melvin has continued his employment there, currently as parts manager and warranty officer.

Alice is employed at Central College, working in the office of Career Services. Mel and Alice have resided at 1015 Main since 1954.

Stuart Ver Meer married Gayle Nieuwsma, born Nov. 3, 1954, on Mar. 30, 1976. They are the parents of three children: Jeffrey Stuart, born May 30, 1979; Mark Ryan, born Oct. 25, 1982; and Sara Elizabeth, born Apr. 22, 1985. Stuart is employed as service manager at Leydens Chevrolet-Olds. Gayle provides child-care in their home in Pella. Ruth Ver Meer married Terry Fox born Sept. 27, 1952, on Sept. 28, 1977. They are the parents of William Gysbert Fox, born Nov. 19, 1984. Terry and Ruth both served in the Armed Forces from 1981-1985 with two and one-half years of duty in Europe. They now reside at Dutchman's Landing, rural Pella. Ruth is employed as a computer programmer at Rolscreen and Terry is a member of the sales department at Precision Pulley.

Timothy Ver Meer married Verna Van Kooten, born Mar. 13, 1962, on June 12, 1982. Their son Tyler Scott was born May 15, 1986. Tim is employed as a lineman with the Pella REC and Verna is a receptionist at the Pella Community Hospital. West 4th is their home.

by Alice Ver Meer

VER MEER, PAUL AND JENNIE (VANDER PLOEG)

F751

Paul and Jennie (Vander Ploeg) Ver Meer. This was taken on their wedding day, February 14, 1917.

Paul Ver Meer was born Feb. 3, 1892. He was the son of Hendrick Ver Meer and Johanna Paulina Coeling. He grew up on his parent's farm, one mile east and one-half mile north of Pella. He was married Feb. 14, 1917, to Jennie Vander Ploeg, the daughter of John and Dora Laverman Vander Ploeg. Her family owned Vander Ploeg Bakery. She was born June 10, 1894.

Paul was a diversified farmer, raising grain and livestock. He built a pond north of the farmstead and this supplied ice not only for his family, but also he sold blocks of ice to the Pella Produce Company. Teamsters would come out with horses and bobsleds to cut and haul the ice back into town. The pond ice was preferred to river ice, because it was much cleaner. This pond was also the location of the Central College Freshman-Sophomore Pull. It was originally held at the beginning of the school term and later was held during Homecoming activities. The losers of the tug-of-war were not only pulled through the water, but had to pay for a mixer party for the two classes.

The pasture and woods surrounding the pond was the site for many a church and community picnic.

Paul and Jennie Ver Meer were lifelong members of First Christian Reformed Church. Paul served as deacon, and Jennie was the organist for many years. They lived on the farm until they retired and moved to 908 Washington St. Their children are: Harold and John P. of Pella; Joan Vogelaar of San Jose, Calif.; and Dorothy Qualls of Alta Loma, Calif. Paul and Jennie Ver Meer had 13 grandchildren.

by Paul Ver Meer

VER MEER, WILLIAM AND MARTENA VOS

F752

William and Martena Vos Ver Meer

William A. was the fourth of eight sons born to Anthonie and Alida (De Bruin) Ver Meer. On Mar. 11, 1909, he was united in marriage to Martena Gysbertha Vos, the daughter of Hendrikus Vos. Her mother was a daughter of Pieter De Jong who was third in line in purchasing 80 acres from the USA, 1866, 3½ miles east of Pella.

Description of the Abstract of Title reads SW½ of the SE½ of Section 8 and NW½ of NE½ of Section 17, Twp. 76, Range 17. This has remained in the family all these years, therefore, it is now a Century Farm, now belonging to Mrs. Gysbert Ver Meer and son William or Gysbert Ver Meer Estate.

William and Martena had two sons. Gysbert Jacob was born October 7, 1910, and Antonie Albert was born July 26, 1912. He died at age seven due to a bone infection, as in those days there were no antibotics or other necessary medication available.

Gysbert's parents moved to Pella in 1936. William returned to the farm after his wife's death and was cared for by his son, Gysbert, and family for 8 years.

William Ver Meer was born Dec. 9, 1876, and died Apr. 30, 1961; Martena Ver Meer was born Dec. 19, 1884, and died Nov. 20, 1953. They are buried in the family plot in Black Oak Cemetery in Mahaska County, Ia.

by Leona Ver Meer

VER PLOEG, ALONZO
F753

On Jan. 8, 1909, Alonzo Ver Ploeg, youngest of seven children, was born to Jas E. and Gertrude (Vander Wilt) Ver Ploeg at the "Green London" farm north of Pella in Lake Prairie Township, section 15. Alonzo received his elementary education at Bell School and graduated from Pella High School in 1927.

From 1934 to 1942 Alonzo served as assessor for Lake Prairie Township until he was inducted into the United States Army. It was at this time during the early 1930s that the Rural Electric Cooperative was formed, bringing electricity to the rural farms. Alonzo, being the assessor, had the opportunity to visit with farmers about the incorporation of the Rural Electric Cooperative. He was one of the first incorporators of this cooperative.

Alonzo served with the United States Army Coast Artillery Anti-aircraft from Aug., 1942, until Dec., 1945.

On June 18, 1946, he was united in marriage with Geraldine Van Wyk, youngest of eleven children of Gerrit Jacob and Cornelia Cora (Roorda) Van Wyk, with Rev. Anthony Haverkamp officiating. Geraldine received her education at the Otley public school.

After their marriage they lived in Sully, Ia., where Alonzo was manager of the Sully Coop from January 1946 until October 1947. From Oct., 1947, until Oct., 1952, Geraldine and Alonzo owned and operated the Sully Cafe.

After selling the cafe, they began farming on a farm west of Killduff in the Mount Zion neighborhood, where they resided until buying a share in the farm they are living on at the present time, which is seven miles north of Pella, Lake Prairie Twn. Section 8. They purchased the remaining shares of this farm in the fall of 1965.

There was a lot of timber which the Ver Ploegs began clearing so it could be utilized as farming acres. The bulldozer was unable to dig out the large stumps, and it was a job for Geraldine and the children to help pick up the large wood chunks left from the cut-down trees.

It was at this time that Alonzo and his brother Harry began developing the idea of a stump cutter. After their invention and some experimenting on their own stumps, they went to Vermeer Manufacturing of Pella, Ia., where the stump cutter was perfected and manufacturing of the machine for public sale was begun.

In July of 1957, there was a patent on the stump cutter with the name of Alonzo and Harry Ver Ploeg, and Gary Vermeer. The Ver Ploeg's shared in the royalties from the sales from the machine.

Alonzo and Geraldine have five children. Alan James was born Mar. 21, 1947. He attended Pella Community Schools, graduated from Pella High and from Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa. He married Rita De Boer Nov. 26, 1968, and they have three children, Christine, Alyson, and Thomas. One son, Alan, died in infancy. They reside in Laramie, Wy., where Alan is employed as a geologist for the state of Wyoming.

Mary Ann was born Oct. 28, 1949. She attended Pella Community Schools, graduated from Pella High and Iowa Beauty School, Des Moines, Ia. She was married to Robert Vander Wilt on Apr. 17, 1970, and they have three children, Dean, Michael, and Andrea. Mary is employed as a beautician. Their home is in Pella, Ia.

Bryan A. was born Sept. 6, 1951. He attended Pella Community Schools, graduated from Pella High School and Iowa State University, Ames, Ia. He was married Nov. 20, 1970, to Deborah Ann Van Wyk. They have two children, Brent, and Megan. Bryan is engaged in farming in Mahaska County.

Elaine Carol was born Mar. 12, 1953. She attended Pella Community Schools, graduating from Ames Public High. On June 2, 1970, she was married to Donald Jay Stursma. They have three children, Mark, Jonathan, and Carol. Their home is in Pella, Ia.

Brenda Sue was born September 21, 1959. She attended Pella Community Schools, graduated from Pella High School and from Iowa State University, Ames, Ia. Brenda is employed in Atlanta, Ga., as an interior designer specializing in office space planning, with Nancy Mitchell, Associates Inc.

Alonzo and Geraldine have a rich heritage of Dutch ancestry as both of their families arrived on the first four ships from Holland. The Lord has blessed them richly in their lives together. Both are active members of the First Reformed Church, Pella, Ia.

by Alonzo and Geraldine Ver Ploeg

This picture was taken at the surprise 40th anniversary for Mr. & Mrs. Alonzo Ver Ploeg. Front row, (left to right): Brenda Ver Ploeg, Alonzo Ver Ploeg, Mrs. Alonzo (Geraldine Van Wyk) Ver Ploeg, and Mrs. Robert (Mary Ver Ploeg) Vander Wilt; Second row, (left to right): Donald Stursma, Mrs. Donald (Elaine Ver Ploeg) Stursma, Alan Ver Ploeg, Mrs. Alan (Rita De Boer) Ver Ploeg, and Mrs. Bryan (Debbie Van Wyk) Ver Ploeg; Third row: Robert Vander Wilt and Bryan Ver Ploeg.

VER PLOEG, CORNELIUS AND PIERTJE (PEARL VAN ZEE)
F754

Cornelius Ver Ploeg family, taken about 1890-91 (mother deceased). Back, l-r: Elizabeth Langerak, Aartje De Cook, Henry C., Hattie Van Haaften and Mary Adair; Middle, l-r: Cornelius (Father), Mattie Hackert and Adriana Jane Toom; Front, l-r: Conrad and Cornelia (Carrie) Clark.

Cornelius was the youngest son of Henry Ver Ploeg Sr. and Aartje Van Zee. He arrived in Pella with his mother in 1853.

Pearl was the daughter of Koenraad Van Zee and came on the ship *Pieter Floris* in April 1847. Koenraad's wife was Mattie DeKock.

Cornelius was born in 1832 and was a farmer in America. He and Pearl were married on March 8, 1858. Pearl was born Dec. 27, 1839 and died Feb. 3, 1890. Cornelius lived until July 26, 1904. Both are buried in Porter Grove Cemetery.

They were the parents of ten children: Adriana 1859, Mattie 1860, an infant 1862, Henry Cornelius 1864, Hattie 1867, Artie 1869, Lizzie 1871, Mary 1873, Conrad 1876 and Cornelia 1879.

by Esther Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, GLADYS
F755

Gladys Ver Ploeg

After graduating from Pella Public High School in 1956, I began my career as a bookkeeper at the Pella National Bank. In Jan., 1961, I moved to Des Moines, where I attended the American Institute of Business for approximately seven months. While attending school, I worked as a part-time bookkeeper at the Central National Bank.

After passing a Civil Service Exam, I began a career with the federal government. From August to December 1961, I was employed as a stenographer for the Railroad Retirement Board. In December 1961, I transferred to a stenographic position at the Savings Bonds Division of the U.S. Treasury Department.

In Feb., 1969, I moved to the Twin Cities and began employment with the U.S. Postal Service. I worked as a stenographer in the Compensation Division of the Minneapolis Regional Office until the functions were transferred to Chicago in June 1971. At that time, I transferred to the Minneapolis Postal Data Center. I started there as a typist, and in February 1972, I was promoted to secretary, Office of Director, Processing and Control Division. In May 1975, I left the secretarial field and worked as a claims and voucher examining technician until August 1978, when I was promoted to claims and voucher examining specialist. In April 1983, I was promoted to junior accountant in the Accounts Payable Branch at the Postal Data Center.

I am currently a junior accountant at the Minneapolis Postal Data Center, and I reside in Eagan, a suburb of St. Paul, Minn. I am a member of Peace Reformed Church, Eagan, MN, and enjoy bicycling and reading.

by Gladys Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, GOVERT AND NELLIE
F756

Henry Ver Ploeg, father of Govert Ver Ploeg, taken from a tin type; taken in Holland. He died at sea on the way to America.

Mrs. Henry Ver Ploeg, mother of Govert Ver Ploeg, taken from a tin type brought from Holland.

Govert Ver Ploeg was one of twelve children born to Henry Verploegh Sr. and his wife, Aatje Van Zee. Govert, with his mother and seven other children, were at sea for two months, during which time their father and a sister died. Their immigration occurred in 1853. Govert was born May 11, 1838. He was to become a farmer and stock raiser, Sec. 25, P.O. Pella. He had been raised on a farm southeast of Pella and received the benefits of a common school education. He made a trip to Oregon and stayed there 2½ years, returning to buy a farm between Pella and Leighton.

Govert married Nellie Van Steenbergen, who had also been born in Gelderland. She was born in 1840 and died in 1909. Govert died in 1916.

There were nine children born to their union. They were: Artie (Mrs. John Moody); Minnie (Mrs. George Ramsey); Kate (Mrs. John Vander Wal); Cornelius, who married Christina Vander Zyl; Jennie (Mrs. Otis Clark); Henry, married to Minnie Brewer; Leonard who married Wilhelmina (Judy) Vender Zyl; Conrad, married to Mae Klaaren; and Kryne, who married Olive Seeley.

by Marie Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, HENRY
F757

Henry Ver Ploeg Family. Front, l to r: Heather, Sharon, and Henry; Back, l to r: Carissa and Bradley.

Henry Eugene Ver Ploeg, the only son of Gradus H. and Fannetta Ver Ploeg, was born June 30, 1945, at Mahaska Hospital in Oskaloosa, Iowa. The Ver Ploeg family lived south of Pella, at R.R. 3 until 1954. During this time Henry attended school at the North Porterville country school. In Feb. of 1954, the family of eight moved to 1212 Peace Street, Pella. Henry attended Webster School from Third through Eighth Grades, the old Pella High School for three years, and was in the first class to graduate from the new high school in 1963. He continued his education at Central College for two years, until 1965. During the time from 1959 to 1965, Henry spent summers, Saturdays, and some days after school working on the farm where he was born, which was now being operated

by Corinne and Junior Steenhoek, his sister and brother-in-law.

In 1965, Henry transferred to Iowa State University to begin work for a degree in mechanical engineering. During the summer of 1967, he worked as an engineer-in-training at the Alcoa aluminum plant in Davenport, Iowa. He graduated in May 1968, from ISU and enlisted in the Army.

Henry's time in the service began with basic training at Ft. Dix, N.J. and A.I.T. at Ft. Leonard Wood, Mo. and Ft. Belvoir, Vir. In March 1969, he began a tour of duty in Vietman, with the Headquarters Company of the 588th Engineer Battalion located at Tay Ninh, R.V.N. This battalion spent most of its time paving highways and airfields, and Henry was involved in soil testing and surveying.

After returning home in March 1970, Henry moved to LaCrosse, Wis. and began work as a mechanical engineer at the Trane Company. He continued at Trane until January of 1974.

While living in La Crosse, Henry met Sharon Wunnecke. Sharon was born November 11, 1953, in La Crosse to Harold and Ruby (Roraff) Wunnecke. They were married at Immanuel Lutheran Church on October 13, 1973.

In 1974, the Ver Ploegs returned to Iowa and began farming, on land that Gradus had owned for many years about seven miles southeast of Newton.

There are three children in the Ver Ploeg family: Bradley Jon, born Mar. 27, 1975; Carissa Dawn, born Nov. 30, 1977; and Heather Anne, born Jan.; 2, 1979. All were born at Pella Community Hospital. They attend school at Aurora Heights Elementary School in Newton.

The Ver Ploegs attend Our Savior Lutheran Church in Newton, where Henry is chairman of the preschool board and Sharon is a substitute teacher's aide. Sharon is also the "Reading is Fundamental" (R.I.F.) chairman at Aurora Heights school and active in the P.T.A.

by Henry E. Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, HENRY CORNELIUS AND MINA (HAGENS)

F758

They were married March 30, 1893. Mina was the daughter of William C. and Antoinetta Pos Hagens. Cornelius and Pearl VanZee Ver Ploeg were Henry's parents.

Mina was a granddaughter of Gerhardus Hagens and Byke Stegeman (Bensink) Hagens. Gerhardus was imprisoned at Wynhuistored in Zutphen, persecuted because of his religious beliefs and after this, sold a flourishing bakery and came to America with the Scholte migration in 1847. His wife, Byke, died Sept. 26, 1852 at age 37. They had four children born in Holland. Byke had a son from her first marriage. The children were: Hendrik Bensink (Aug. 3, 1835 – March 30, 1915), Christiaan Willem (Nov. 22, 1839), Wilhelmina Helena Hagens Brand (March 6, 1845 – April 23, 1927). In America, Maria Elizabeth Hagens Maasdam was born (Feb. 3, 1850 – November 28, 1913). Byke died and Gerhardus then married Anna Sophia Susana Eets. She came from Holland and they were married in Keokuk, Ia. July 7, 1855. They had two children who died as infants. Anna died Nov. 30, 1895 and Gerhardus died in Pella Oct. 2, 1889.

Henry Cornelius Ver Ploeg was a farmer and had a livery. They lived in Pella and Dallas, Ia. He died Nov. 7, 1910 and Mina died Sept. 11, 1937. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

They were the parents of five children. Cornelius (born and died 1894), William Christiaan born Aug. 25, 1895, Edna, Feb. 27, 1897, Ralph Henry, Jan. 6, 1899 and Cornelius Edward, 1904.

by Esther Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, HENRY, SR. AND AARTJE VAN ZEE

F759

Both born at the turn of the century, they were married in 1818 and decided many years later to leave their home in the Netherlands to settle in America. Aartje's father was Engle VanZee who also came to the new country. Their travels were to become a sojourn into sadness.

Leaving behind the graves of two daughters in the churchyard, they also left a son, William, who chose not to emigrate. Seven other children accompanied the parents and they planned to meet another son, Engle, who had left for America six years before with the Scholte entourage in 1847 on the *Pieter Floris*.

As the ship struggled through the waters, Aartje and Henry's infant daughter died of measles and was buried at sea. The grief-stricken father died soon after and was slipped into a watery grave. The saddened mother and children finally landed at Ellis Island where the mother's brother, Govert VanZee died. They continued on, disheartened. After a short time in the new country, Aartje's son, James died.

The mother continued on to Pella with Cornelia, Koenraad, Govert, Henry Jr., Julia, and Cornelius. When they arrived, eager to meet their son and brother, Engle, they were told he had left in a covered wagon train to California!

Cornelia later married Gradus DeKock. Engle (returned from California) wed Pauline Buwaldo on March 11, 1859 and lived until 1902. Koenraad married Pietertje De Kock and moved to Sioux County where he died in 1876. Govert married Nellie Van Steenberg on Dec. 23, 1864. He died Jan. 15, 1916 and is buried in the Porter Grove Cemetery. Henry Jr. married first to Elizabeth Van Zee and second to Artie Van Arkel. He was born Feb. 26, 1845 and his death occurred Sept. 16, 1916. He is also buried at Porter Grove . . . as are his sister and brother, Jaantje (Julia/Judith) and Cornelius. Julia was born Feb. 28, 1843, married John Van Arkel Feb. 19, 1876, and died Feb. 2, 1901. Cornelius' birthday was Dec. 7, 1832 and he married Pietertje Van Zee on March 8, 1858. He died July 26, 1904.

Aartje VanZee lived to be over eighty years of age.

by Esther Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, JAMES E.

F760

James and Gertie Ver Ploeg

James E. Ver Ploeg home in 1935. Alonzo Ver Ploegs reside here now. (1987)

"Green London" farm home of James and Gertrude Ver Ploeg. Left to Right: Elton, Dick, and Forrest Ver Ploeg.

James E. Ver Ploeg, fifth of eight children, was born to Engel Ver Ploeg and Pauline (Buwalda) on March 2, 1871. On March 9, 1898, he was united in marriage to Gertrude Vander Wilt, daughter of Dirk Vander Wilt and Johanna (Eysink), born June 2, 1876.

After their marriage, they lived on a farm at Dallas, Iowa, where James had been farming prior to their marriage.

To this union seven children were born: Pauline, March 3, 1899; Dick, June 2, 1900; Harry, Jan. 4, 1902; Cora, Apr. 5, 1903; Forrest, May 22, 1905; Elton, March 29, 1907; and Alonzo, Jan. 8, 1909.

In the spring of 1904, it took three days for the Ver Ploegs to move from Dallas, Ia., to the "Green London" farm five miles north of Pella. The men rode horses back to herd the cattle and hogs down the road; chickens were in coops on wagons, and furniture was also loaded on wagons.

The first day they got as far as the Knoxville stockyards, where the livestock was kept overnight. On the following day, they travelled on as far as Howell Station, Amsterdam hill area, where the cattle and hogs were kept in a pasture. The pasture was full of cockleburs, and the men were busy picking the cockleburs off the hides of the animals so they would not carry the seeds along. They did not want weeds in their pasture. At the end of the third day, they arrived at their new home, a weary family.

The "Green London" farm was lost during the Depression years and March of 1936, found the Ver Ploegs on the move to the Boot family homestead, Lake Prairie Twp. 71N. Section 5. The Ver Ploeg Brothers bought this 353-acre farm for $10,000.00. Moving was again complicated by very muddy roads. Most of the moving was done at night when the roads were frozen.

Although James had been farming all his life, as a young man he raised horses and enjoyed driving horse teams. He enjoyed hauling wagon loads of ice, coal, and sand for delivery in the country. There were also times he drove the horse and buggy for the local country doctor.

The Ver Ploeg children attended Sunday School at the Bethel Reformed Church in the Bethel neighborhood. Later, the family went to Pella to worship at the First Reformed Church. It was during this time the change from Dutch to English speaking services was taking place. This was a time of stress for many in the church.

James and Gertrude, better known as Gertie, continued to reside on the farm until June of 1945 when they moved to 917 North Main, Pella, Ia. James died on Jan. 30, 1956, of a heart attack at their residence, and Gertie died on Mar. 22, 1958, at the Mahaska Hospital, Oskaloosa, Ia., of kidney failure.

Pauline married John W. Boot on Mar. 9, 1896; died Sept. 13, 1985. Dick married Agnus Van Rees Sept. 18, 1924; died Sept. 15, 1966. Harry married Neva Geery Van Willigan Sept. 19, 1965; died Oct. 24, 1975. Cora married Albert R. Rietveld Mar. 20, 1924; died Feb. 18, 1984. Forrest married Alma Rietveld June 29, 1928; died Nov. 27, 1977. Elton married Margaret Van Zante Oct. 7, 1931; died July 26, 1952.

by Alonzo Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, LEONARD AND JUDY VANDER ZYL

F761

Leonard Ver Ploeg, right, watching on as his brothers: Conrad, left, and Kryne, right, try the game of boxing.

Leonard Ver Ploeg, son of Govert and Nellie Ver Ploeg, was born southeast of Pella in 1877. He vividly recalled the Indian neighbors they had. He related to his sons how his mother helped to get the Indian children to be their playmates. Coffee time was then relished by all so when she gave her children their lunch, she would offer the Indian children something too. She soon learned they backed away from sweets but her biscuits did the trick. The Indian men became friends and were anxious to learn the methods of farming.

In 1906 Leonard married Judy Vander Zyl. They lived near Leighton. Judy was not a farm girl; she was the daughter of Geike Vander Zyl who owned and operated the meat market on Main Street with his brother.

Leonard was active in the Reformed Church and when his sons married and he retired to Pella in 1933, he gave much of his time and talents to the Second Reformed Church where he served as an elder. He was known as a man with a sterling character, strong Christian convictions, and always ready to testify for his Lord.

A devoted father and husband, he gave five years of his life taking care of his wife, who was an invalid for ten years. Leonard died in 1952 and Judy lived until 1958.

The older son, Robert G., married Mary Groetveld in 1933 and went to the farm. Robert was born in 1908, his wife in 1911. Mary died in 1957, leaving two young children. Norman was born in 1939 and Karen in 1944. Robert continued to farm until 1977, when he married Telida Verros Monster and moved to town.

Robert's son married Dorothy Wanders in 1956. She was born in 1938. They had three daughters: Melindaz in 1968, Michelle in 1969, and Mary Kay in 1973. They reside on the home farm.

Karen, Robert's daughter, married Delbert Hol in 1962. He was born in 1939. They have two daughters, Tami (born in 1964) and Amy (born in 1968). Tami married Bill Holland and they have two little girls who are the sixth generation in this story.

The second son of Leonard and Judy, Eugene Scott, was born in 1909. He married Marie Huisman in 1933. She was born in 1915. Eugene and Marie went on a six-week honeymoon. The trip took them to Chicago, Pittsburgh, around the Great Lakes to Ogdensburg, N.Y., on the St. Lawrence River, south through the Adirondack Mountains to Allentown, Pa. and back east to Chicago and the World's Fair. Believe it or not, they received a hundred dollar bill as a wedding gift, and they had a little left when they got home!

Eugene served in World War II, and Marie worked for the Navy during his service. When he came home from Japan, Marie came home from Bremerton, Wash. Upon returning to Pella they purchased the home of Dr. and Mrs. J.J. Sybenga north of town and still reside there today.

Eugene has a hobby which by many of his friends and acquaintances is seen as a talent. He has made most of their furniture from walnut, cherry, and oak. He has sold some of it, and has given much away to friends, relatives, and Christian organizations.

He is a lover of the great outdoors and has planted many walnut, cherry, and oak trees for someone in the next generation.

by Marie Ver Ploeg

VER PLOEG, WILLIAM CHRISTIAAN AND ESTHER (DUNKLE)

F762

Dr. William C. Ver Ploeg

The oldest surviving son of Henry Cornelius VerPloeg and Mina Hagens, William, attended Iowa State and in 1919 graduated from the School of Veterinary Medicine. On Oct. 8 of the same year he married Esther Pauline Dunkle at Gilman, Iowa.

W.C. was in the Medical Corps Reserve.

Esther was the daughter of Ralph A. and Grace E. Vosburt whose ancestors were from Massachusetts and who assisted in establishing America's Independence in the Revolutionary War.

Graduated from Wisconsin-Stout College, Esther was a Home Economics teacher at Central College when it was still a Baptist school.

W.C. and Esther were the parents of three daughters: Phyllis Joan, born June 24, 1923,

Arlyn Joyce born Aug. 25, 1927 and Marilyn (Mickey) Jane born Jan. 8, 1932.

Phyllis married John Shattuck Hutchins on Sept. 28, 1957 and they have two children, John and Holly. Arlyn was married on Sept. 4, 1954 to H.C. Cox and their children are William and Christopher. Marilyn is married to John Allan Hay. Their marriage date was June 2, 1956. It is unique that all of the grandchildren in this family bear as a middle name their mother's maiden, name, VerPloeg.

William C. VerPloeg died Dec. 26, 1956 and is buried at Oakwood Cemetery.

Esther has traveled extensively to many parts of the world, is an active member of PEO Chapter BU where she has served in many offices including president, Second Reformed Church where she has been an active member for many years and in TTT AE, Iowa where she was a charter member. She belongs to many other civic organizations in Pella. She has been a member of the DAR.

William Ver Ploeg's sister, Edna, married Russell S. Pettit. She died May, 1975. William's brother, Ralph Henry became a pediatrician and lives in Denver with his wife, the former Ruth Grandia. Cornelius Edward married Marie Heller. He died March 1, 1960 in Miami Beach, Fla. and is buried at Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

by Esther VerPloeg

VER PLOEGH FAMILY

F763

In the various towns and cities of Holland there are government buildings which contain records back to 1813, "The Napoleonic Era". For records prior to 1813, one must go to the government archives in the capital city of each province.

In the early part of the 1900s – up to the mid or late '30s, certain people in Pella held a yearly reunion. It was called the Herwijnen Picnic, and the Verploeghs were active in this group.

The village of Herwijnen lies on the north bank of the Waal River. In Sept., 1977, an official in the government building there was asked if the name Verploegh was familiar to him. He replied, "Ja zeker! Verploegh, De Heer van Herwijnen! Verploegh, De Heer van Hellouw!" The Verploegh name appears again and again in the old record books at Herwijnen. In one book there is recorded the marriage of Hendrick Verploegh and Aartje Van Zee, Sept. 4, 1818. It contains their signatures and that of the witnesses, one of whom was Cornelis Verploegh. Hendrick's Mother's name was Cornelia; his father was Willem. In another book the names of their family appear — Hendrick and Aartje and eight children. Four children's names are missing; Engel, the second eldest who had gone to America and may have been considered non-existent, a daughter Engeltje, who was drowned, a second (or first) Adriana, and Cornelia. A line is drawn in this record book through the entire family with the note "AMERIKA 1853".

In 1975 Hans Verploeg, a Dutch dentist living in Aruba, told a story from the old days of Holland — a story that he heard as a boy in the Dutch East Indies. It's about a wild young man named Verploegh, who shocked his acquaintances and relatives by announcing that he was leaving his home area – forever. His words have come down through the generations . . . "Vaarwel Rumpt, Vaarwel Enspijk, Vaarwel Diel, – Tot in de Eeuwigheid." In September 1977, Han's mother, living in Utrecht, told the same story. Her daughter, Ada (Verploeg) Engel, who lives in Voorscholten, wrote the translation — "Farewell Rumpt, Farewell Enspijk, Farewell Diel, – 'til Eternity" or "until in the time of the centuries". Rumpt, Enspijk, and Diel are villages lying north of the Waal River.

The Heer Van Hellouw is buried in the front of the churchyard at Herwijnen. The stone has a large crest, or coat of arms, on top. Then the name, Verploegh, Heer Van Hellouw. Below the inscription on the stone is a smaller circle containing a skull and crossbones above an hourglass with wings, all above some stylized initials, perhaps a saying in Latin. There is no apparent date.

In 1975 Dr. Hans Verploeg also told the story of the Heer Van Hallouw as follows: "During the 80 Years War from 1568 to 1648, the battles between the Spanish and the Dutch surged back and forth over the three great rivers, Lek, Waal, and Mass, with naval control of these rivers changing many times during the long struggle. At a time when the Spanish war ships controlled the Waal River, this man Verploegh led daring night-time raids on the Spanish fleet, with small boats and with swimmers. He plundered and sank, and generally caused considerable trouble for the Spaniards. Hans hinted that if he had not been allowed to keep the plunder, his raids might have been far less vicious. At any rate, he was declared a hero and given a title, 'Verploegh Van Hellouw'."

Hellouw is a small village on the north bank of the Waal River, about three miles east of Herwignen.

by Corrine Steenhoek

VERHEY, JOHN C. AND GERTRUDE (VOS)

F764

John C. Verhey was the son of Korstian and Maria Kuyper Verhey and was born in Pella Mar. 13, 1877. Gertrude Vos Verhey was born Mar. 2, 1882. They were married Feb. 25, 1904.

The couple farmed, and John inherited some of his father's carpentry skills.

John C. was one of the instigators of the organization of the Reformed Church in New Sharon, where they resided. He was highly esteemed by his neighbors and friends.

Cancer claimed the life of John in 1916, at the early age of 39 years. Gertrude continued living on the farm until 1921, when she moved to Pella on East Washington Street. She died June 14, 1979, at the age of 97 years.

They were parents of three daughters: Gertrude born Sept. 9, 1905, who married Peter Franje and had one son, Marion. They were farmers on the family farm. Peter died Jan. 1969. The second daughter was Anna, born July 26, 1909. She was a school teacher in Pella and Des Moines. Mildred, the third daughter, was born Mar. 13, 1915, and

Front, l-r: John (father), Anna, Gertrude, Mildred, Gertrude (mother).

married Paul Bandstra. They had seven children: John Allen, Andrew Dean, Gloria Jean, Jeanne Louise, George Wesley, Mary Sue, and Stuart Lee. They were farmers near Taintor and moved to the Sandridge neighborhood north of Pella in 1944. Paul served on the Marion County Board of Supervisors from 1966-1973. He passed away July 12, 1982.

by Mildred Bandstra

VERMEER, BOB AND LOIS

F765

Robert Lee Vermeer was born on July 28, 1944, at the Oskaloosa Mahaska Hospital. Lois Jean De Jong was born at the same place, but almost three years later, on Apr. 3, 1947.

Bob's parents are Gary and Matilda Vermeer. He was raised on a farmplace two miles east of Pella, and enjoyed the activity that farm life brings. Bob has one older brother, Stanley James, and one younger sister, Mary Ann Andringa. He attended Wheat Grow county school for two years and finished up his elementary and secondary education at Pella Christian Grade and High Schools, graduating in 1962. It was then off to Dordt College for two years, where he greatly enjoyed participating in the acappella Choir. Because he was seeking his degree in economics and business, it was necessary to transfer to Central College, from which he graduated in 1966. Upon graduation, Bob worked for the Marion County State Bank for eight years, acquired the position of vice president and was a member of the Board of Directors.

In 1974 Bob started his work at Vermeer Manufacturing and worked in the areas of

Bob and Lois Vermeer and their children (l to r): Heidi, Allison and Daniel.

accounting and finance. Later he became the vice president of finance, and presently is a member of the Office of President at Vermeer where he currently holds the title of Executive Vice President.

Lois's parents are Martin and Minnie De Jong. Her father was a carpenter and Lois lived in nine different homes in and around Pella while growing up. There were six children in Lois's family. Her sisters are: Mrs. Stan Ver Heul(Judy); Mrs. Fred Pelton (Linda); Mrs. Pete Verhey (Carol); and Mrs. Mark Hugen (Jaci). Her brother is Bob De Jong.

Lois also attended the Pella Christian School system. It was during her junior year (1964) that the high school burned down. During her senior year she was honored to serve on the Tulip Queen's court. She then attended Calvin College for two years. Lois then returned to Pella to finish her college education at Central, earning her degree in elementary education.

Although Bob and Lois knew one another through their childhood years, they didn't start dating until 1965. On June 6, 1968, they were married by Rev. Arthur Pontier at the Calvary Christian Reformed Church, where they were both members. They made their first home in an upstairs apartment on the corner of East 1st Street and Columbus. Lois then taught fourth grade at the Pella Christian Grade School for two years.

Bob and Lois's firstborn, a son named Daniel Robert, arrived on July 24, 1970. Dan has kept life interesting for his parents with his fascinations, from dinosaurs to birds, from tropical fish to sports, from computers to hunting, etc. Soon after Daniel's birth, Bob and Lois built their own home at 311 Cedar Drive. Daniel is now 16 years old and a sophomore at Pella Christian High. His main interests at present are baseball and hunting (often with his Grandpa Vermeer).

A second child named Heidi Lynn was born to Bob and Lois on a snowy Apr. 1, 1974. Heidi inherited her father's love for horses, and the two of them have worked together on showing and training. As a child and now almost a teenager, Heidi has shown much determination in anything she has attempted to achieve, including her studies.

The Vermeers moved in Jan., 1978, to their present home at 1429 West 3rd Street. On January 6, 1981, a third child was born to Bob and Lois, a daughter named Allison Marie. Her friendly, affectionate ways have been a blessing to all who know her. She is presently six years old and in kindergarten, which she enjoys very much.

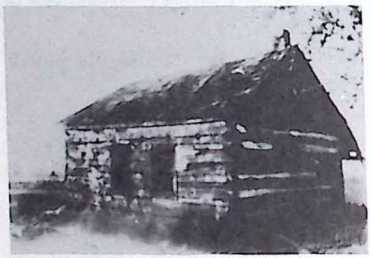
The entire family has participated annually in the Pella Tulip Festival. They have been a part of the Dutch Family Singers group for many years. Heidi served as a flower girl for Queen Brenda Boomsma, and as a page for Queen LeAnn Vander Hart. Dan ably assisted Grandpa De Jong at carving wooden shoes for several years. They have also enjoyed many family vacations together to various parts of the country.

The Vermeers remain involved in Faith Christian Reformed Church, of which Bob and Lois became charter members soon after their marriage. They have been active in the music program there. Bob has also served as both deacon and elder. Bob and Lois have also actively served many community boards and organizations.

First and foremost, Bob and Lois pray that their children will place and keep the Lord as the center of their lives and find joy in doing whatever He would have them do.

by Lois Vermeer

VERMEER, BRANT
F766



Brant Vermeer log home on the East Prairie

The tide of immigration from The Netherlands to America that began in 1847 brought Brant Vermeer, his wife, three sons, Anthonie, Gerrit, and Hendrick, and Mrs. Vermeer's son by a previous marriage, Otto Pothoven, to Pella, Ia., in 1856. The motives of the very first pioneers led by Dominie H.P. Scholte had been resolved by the government of The Netherlands since the repressive and intolerant attitude toward the Seceders had been changed. Nor was it poverty that influenced his decision, for Brant Vermeer was a fairly well-to-do farmer. His reason was that prospects for making a comfortable living for himself and his sons were better in America. The agricultural situation in The Netherlands was not promising at the time. The decision made, Vermeer sold his farm and hid the cash in his money belt.

The Vermeers came from Mooi Lunteren, now called Ede, which is east of Utrecht in the province of Gelderland, an earldom of considerable importance in the history of The Netherlands. Ede remains to this day a pleasant, rural community.

Mrs. Brant Vermeer

Brant Vermeer was unmarried and 40 years old when he and Teunetje Krukland Pothoven were wed. During her widowhood, she had been employed in the home of a rich family in Amsterdam. These surroundings did little to prepare her for the crude living conditions found in Pella. Teunetje was a sincere, sensible Christian woman. When a friend rebuked her for washing dishes on Sunday, she quickly retorted, "Alle vuiligheid is geen heiligheid," which translated reads, "Filthiness is not holiness."

The family shared many of the same inconveniences on the sea voyage as did earlier passengers: crowded, unsanitary living conditions; barely edible food; sickness and death. The journey from New York City to Iowa City was made by train. From Iowa City to Pella, the trip was made with the aid of a yoke of oxen, a team of horses, and two wagons. Roads were rough, streams had to be forded and traveling was slow and hazardous. Each day the slower team of oxen left long before the horses, assuming that all would arrive at the night's camping place at the same time. It was always those who traveled with the horses who had things in readiness when the others arrived.

On the last lap of the trek, 11-year-old Hendrick got lost near what is now Montezuma, Ia. Setting out alone in hopes of reaching the group traveling with the oxen, he took a wrong trail. Lost and afraid, he ran all day until he overtook a company of American travelers. Not able to communicate, the problem was solved when one of the group, knowing the course the Dutch people were following, restored him to his anxious parents.

The Dutch pilgrims reached their destination after a journey of several weeks. The first thing that Brant Vermeer did was to take the money which he had safely carried in his money belt and buy an 80-acre tract of land two miles east, one mile north, one mile east, and one-half mile north of the city on which

a one-room log cabin had been built. The cabin, which is described as having a large fireplace at the south end, sleeping quarters on the second floor, reached from the outside by means of a ladder, was lighted by tallow candles made by Mrs. Vermeer. In this crude home the family lived for 12 years.

Farming in their new world meant unremitting toil. The sod, which needed to be broken for cultivation, was thick, tough, and required a strong plow drawn by six oxen to tear it up. Much work, including harvesting, was done by hand. Wildlife, turkeys, ducks, deer, and quail were important sources of food. Their presence, however, had its drawbacks, for Brant Vermeer is said to have lost his first harvest of corn to the deer and turkeys.

In 1867 Brant Vermeer purchased a 160-acre farm, one of the finest in the East Prairie Region, a mile nearer to Pella. After Anthonie was married, Brant moved to Pella. Following the death of her husband, Mrs. Vermeer lived in the 900 block of Broadway in a house still standing on the west side of the street.

Whether or not Mr. and Mrs. Vermeer had joined the Secession of 1834 in The Netherlands, we do not know. We do know they took their religion seriously and, upon arrival in Pella, identified themselves with the independent church of the Reverend Scholte. When the Christian Reformed Church was organized, they transferred their allegiance to this body.

Brant Vermeer was born on Jan. 2, 1798, and died May 5, 1872. His wife, Teunetje Krukland Pothoven Vermeer was born on Dec. 30, 1805, and passed away on Jan. 24, 1890. They are buried in Black Oak Cemetery. Two of their sons, Anthonie and Gerrit, were twins. They shared Oct. 14, 1843, as their birthday. Anthonie died on Dec. 17, 1920. He and his wife, Alida De Bruin, had eight sons: Brant, Jacob, Tunis, Will, Otto, John, Gerrit, and Neal. Mrs. Vermeer passed away on Dec. 18, 1915.

Gerrit married Hendrika De Bruin. The father of one son, Jacob G., and five daughters: twins Tonnetta, Mrs. Adrian (Jim) Van Houweling and Minnie, Mrs. Peter Tysseling; Bertha, Mrs. Art B. Van Donselaar; Jennie, Mrs. Nickolas Meppelink; and Mattie, Mrs. Henry Jansen. Gerrit Vermeer died on May 30, 1923. Mrs. Vermeer preceded him by 28 years, passing away on Mar. 30, 1895.

Hendrick, born Dec. 5, 1845, married Johanna Coeling on May 9, 1873. He died July 30, 1927, and Mrs. Vermeer on Nov. 21, 1937. Their children were: Tonia, who lived less than two years; Willem; Tonia (Nettie), Mrs. Cornelius Huyser; Brandius (Bert); Roelena (Lena), Mrs. Jacob G. Vanden Bosch; Henry; and John Paul (Paul). Hendrick Vermeer passed away on July 30, 1927; Mrs. Vermeer, on Nov. 21, 1937.

The material on Brant Vermeer was taken from the Vermeer History, published by Gary and Harry Vermeer in 1963 and written by Mrs. John C. Vander Hart (Ruth Tysseling); Professor J.G. Vanden Bosch (deceased); and Stanley J. Vermeer.

by Elmer Vermeer

VERMEER, BRANT
F767

Brant Vermeer, his wife and four sons came to Pella in 1847 from Mooi, Lunteren, The Netherlands. His wife was Teuntje Pothoven. They were on the ocean 48 days in a small sailing vessel. Food was scarce and bad, and much illness was on board. The trip from New York to Iowa City was made by train. There they bought a yoke of oxen, a team of horses and two wagons. Roads were rough and muddy. Otto Hendrick, a small boy of eleven, wandered off and was later found by other travelers and returned to the Dutch wagon train.

In 1867, Brant Vermeer purchased 300 acres of land one mile east and one mile north of Pella. This has remained in the family to this day. Brant Vermeer had four sons: Otto; Anthonie; Gerrit; and Hendrick.

Hendrick, later Henry H., youngest son of Brant, was married to Johanna Pauline Coeling in 1873. From this union were born seven children: Tonia, Willem, Tonia 2nd, Brandius, Rolena, Otto, and Paul.

Otto Hendrick, (Henry H.) married Nettie Bogaard in 1912. From this union three children were born: Johanna Pauline, Earl Nicholas, and Henry Willard. The family lived on a farm two miles east of Pella known as the Muchikanoch Farm. On it is located a spring which is the beginning of Muchikanoch Creek that flows into the Des Moines River. In 1947 Hendrick and his wife moved to Pella and resided there until their death. One son, Earl Nicholas, attended Pella Community Schools. His sister, Johanna Pauline also attended Pella Community Schools. J. Pauline went into nursing and later married Nicholas Jelles of Grand Rapids, Mich. Earl N. went on to Central College and then was drafted into the U.S. Air Force in 1941. He was stationed at Williams Field, Ariz. for four years and three months. After returning home he married Etta Joan Kallemyn of Pella. Earl began work at the Vermeer Manufacturing Company when that company was formed. In 1956 he joined the Marion County State Bank of Pella and became the manager of the unique "Windmill Bank". Earl is a member of the First Christian Reformed Church of Pella, American Legion, Chamber of Commerce, treasurer of the Salvation Army, and member of the Pella Historical Society.

His wife Etta Joan is Elementary Librarian at Lincoln School and active in civic and school activities. She is also a member of First Christian Reformed Church and very active in politics. Earl and Etta Joan have three girls: Barbara, flight attendant with Pan American Airways; Debra Billingsley, of Fairfield, Ia., a teacher there and married to James Billingsley, Vice-President of Dexter Manufacturing Company. They have two girls: Laura Janelle; and Kristen Sue. Beverly Wagner, of Marengo, is a teacher and is married to John Wagner, a lawyer – judge. They have a daughter, Sarah Jo, and a son Daniel. All three girls graduated from Central College of Pella, Ia., and were active in local and school activities.

Earl reminisces about his boyhood days in Pella when the family would spend a whole day with relatives fishing in the Skunk River. A feast was then had by all. As a boy, he and his father would hitch up the wagon with wheat and take it to the Blommer's Mill to have it ground into flour. Earl had a pony cart and two ponies and would gather neighborhood children for rides. On Sundays the family would go by horse and a surrey to church. Services were in the Dutch language and lasted two hours. Many times the family would stay in town with relatives for dinner and then attend the afternoon services again.

As a boy, Earl remembers the excitement of threshing time. Then relatives would combine work and share the threshing machine. Earl remembers being a water boy and running errands from house to machine. Later when he was older he would run the bundle wagon. The weather would be hot and the chaff would cling to one's skin. In those early days all work was done with horses and few machines. Work on the farm improved greatly by the time Earl was ten years old. There were more machines and it required less time to do the field work. Winters were the least desired; stoves would go out during the night leaving it cold to dress in the morning. Water had to be chopped free from ice to obtain it, and hands would be rough and sore. But when summer came all that would be forgotten, and many enjoyable times were had.

Those early days are memorable in many ways, but life was not easy and lacked many conveniences. One likes to reminisce about those days but not to relive them.

by Mrs. Earl (Etta) Ver Meer

VERMEER, ELMER H.
F768

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Vermeer

September 20, 1946, was the wedding day for Elmer Harry Vermeer and Jeannette Vivian Lankelma. Elmer (Dutch) Vermeer is the son of Jacob (J.G.) and Anna Haven Vermeer. Dutch, two months premature, was born on his mother's 25th birthday. There are four brothers in the family: Gary J., co-founder and chairman of the board of

Vermeer Manufacturing; John H., co-founder and present owner of the Pella Nursery Company; Dutch, retired; and Harry G., owner and chairman of the board of the Marion County State Bank. All four still live in Pella, and all of them attended Plain View School through the eighth grade.

Dutch graduated from Pella High School in 1938 and attended Central College for two years and Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., for one year prior to enlisting in the regular army in the summer of 1941. He was stationed at Fort Belvoir, Va., where he entered officer's training school and graduated as a 2nd Lieutenant. Dutch was assigned to the 2nd Engineer Battalion of the 2nd Division, quartered at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Tex. From there the Division was moved to Camp McCoy, Wis.

Following the winter maneuvers in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the 2nd Division was sent overseas and landed in Northern Ireland in the fall of 1943. In January of 1944, Dutch volunteered and joined the 2nd Ranger Battalion as their demolitions officer in Bude, England. He made the landing at Pointe du Hoc on the Normandy Coast on D-Day, June 6, 1944, with the Rangers and was awarded the Silver Star for blowing up the observation post on the Pointe. He fought through Brittany, Northern France and the Battle of the Bulge and was in Czechoslovakia on V-E Day.

Separated from the service, Dutch began farming first with brother John H., and then on his own when he and his wife moved to a farm about four miles west of Pella on Highway 163. His wife, Jeannette (Jay) Vivian Lankelma, born Apr. 23, 1924, was the daughter of James V. and Ethel Guthrie Lankelma. Dr. Lankelma was a practicing dentist in Pella for 57 years, and Mrs. Lankelma was the first home economics teacher in the Pella Public School system. The Lankelmas had three children: Jeannette, the eldest; Ethel Ione, Mrs. E.M. Piche, born Sept. 8, 1926; and John William (Bill), born Oct. 4, 1927. Ione lives in Elmhurst, Ill., and Bill in Marshalltown, Ia.

The Vermeers have five children: Thomas E. (Tom), born Oct. 26, 1948; Richard L., June 4, 1950; William H. (Bill), Nov. 1, 1951; James E. (Jim), Apr. 2, 1955; and Ann Kathryn Vermeer Stienstra, Aug. 21, 1958. Tom and Sharman Lange Vermeer live in Mt. Pleasant, Ia., with their two children: Lucas James, born Apr. 19, 1974; and Mary Cathryn (Katie), Dec. 16, 1977. Tom is an accountant with the Crystal Forest Company of Fairfield, Ia., and Sharman is a teacher.

Richard and Kathleen (Kathy) Kessler Vermeer live in Davenport, Ia., where Dr. Richard is in charge of the emergency services at St. Luke's Hospital. They have four children: Anthony James, born Nov. 30, 1966; Carol Anne, July 17, 1968; Monica Brooke, Mar. 20, 1970; and Nicholas Kessler, June 2, 1978. Bill and Janice (Jan) Utter Vermeer live in Chandler, Ariz. They have one daughter, Jeanna Marie, born on June 4, 1973. Bill is employed as an engineer with Garret Engineering of Phoenix, Ariz., and Jan is a respiratory therapist.

Jim and Kimberlee (Kim) Miller Vermeer have one son, Brant, born on Mar. 31, 1984, named for his great-great-great-grandfather, Brant Vermeer. Jim is a production engineer for Iowa Electric Light and Power, and Kim is a book manager for Teleconnect. They live in Cedar Rapids, Ia. Ann, born Aug. 21, 1958, and her husband, Wayne D. Stienstra, also live in Cedar Rapids. Ann is a traffic engineer for Teleconnect, and Wayne is a carpenter.

The family moved from the farm home on the highway in 1958 to their present home three-quarters of a mile south. In 1953 Dutch was elected to the Iowa Legislature on the Republican ticket. He served in the House of Representatives five terms and as Speaker Pro Tem in 1957. In 1960 he was instrumental in founding the Pella Nursery Company with his brother, John H., and Earl L. Pohlmann. The partnership was terminated in 1971 when John acquired sole ownership.

Dutch served as co-chairman for Robert D. Ray's campaign for Governor of Iowa in 1968. When Ray took office, he appointed Dutch one of his administrative assistants, in which capacity he served until 1981. He was the Governor's liaison with a great number of state departments, including the Iowa National Guard, Liquor Control Commission, Public Safety, State Conservation Commission, and the Historical Departments. He was also the liaison with the Legislature.

Dutch has been a member of the board of the Pella National Bank and a member of the board of trustees of Central College for many years. In 1980 he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Central for the work he had done toward the passage of the Iowa Tuition Grant Program. A firm believer in the conservation of the land, he has been a member of the Marion County Conservation Board. He has been both an elder and deacon in the Second Reformed Church of Pella and is also a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. An active Republican, he has served as both a precinct committeeman and Marion County Republican Chairman. A long-time member of the Pella Historical Society, he is presently an ex-officio member of the board, and is a member of the Iowa State Historical Society.

A life-member and past president of the Ranger Battalions Association of World War II, since 1969 Dutch has attended every 5-year D-Day celebration held on the Normandy Coast on June 6. He was present in 1984 when President Ronald Reagan spoke to those gathered at the Pointe for the 40th Anniversary of the landings.

Jeannette (Jay) Lankelma Vermeer was named for a great-aunt, Jeannette Lankelma Geelhoed (Mrs. Herman). Jay graduated from Pella High School with the Class of 1942 and from Central College in 1946 with a major in history. In May 1943, Ruth Klein Green, now living in Holland, Mich., was the Tulip Queen. Jay, along with Carol Cook Pohlman, of Pella, Virginia Carpenter Ver Ploeg, West Des Moines, Ia., and Madeline Diekema Yohr, Grants Pass, Ore., were her attendants.

During the 1944-45 school year, when she was a college junior, Jay taught in the Grand River, Ia., High School on an emergency certificate. An active Camp Fire Girl, she enjoyed spending a part of her summers at Camp Hantesa, Boone, Ia. This interest in youth activities continued as her children were growing up, and Jay became a Boy Scout and Camp Fire leader on their behalf.

From 1964 until 1983, Jay was the Alumni Director at Central College. These were 19 very happy years. While she was Alumni Director, Homecoming activities were expanded, Parents Weekend was instituted, the Wind Ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Thomas Cook, toured Yucatan, and the A Cappella Choir, with Professor Laurence Grooters, director, sang concerts in Europe. Tour groups to Yucatan and Europe, comprised of alumni and friends of Central, were organized by the Alumni Office.

Jay and her sister and brother are fourth generation members of the Second Reformed Church where she continues an active interest and is a member of the Ladies Aid. She has been a member of Chapter BU, P.E.O. for almost 45 years and has served in more than one office. She is also a 25-year member of The Ladies Social and Literary Society (Reading Circle), was a member of The Ladies Legislative League and of the Women's Republican Club of Iowa.

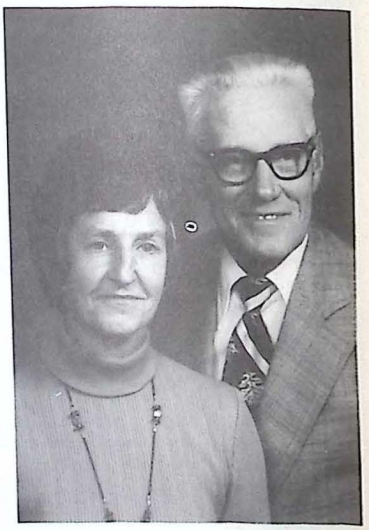
She shares her husband's interest in the Iowa-Yucatan Partners of the Americas and in the Pella Historical Society. Jay served on the Bicentennial Committee that planned the local celebration of the 200-year relationship between the United States and the Netherlands in 1982. In this capacity, she was able to attend a party in Chicago, Ill., at which Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus, of The Netherlands, were honored guests. When Pella celebrated the 50th Tulip Time anniversary, she had the privilege of serving on the committee and is presently involved in preparations for celebrating the 150th anniversary of Pella's founding (1847-1997) and is serving on the History Book Committee.

by Elmer Vermeer

VERMEER, GARY AND MATILDA

F769

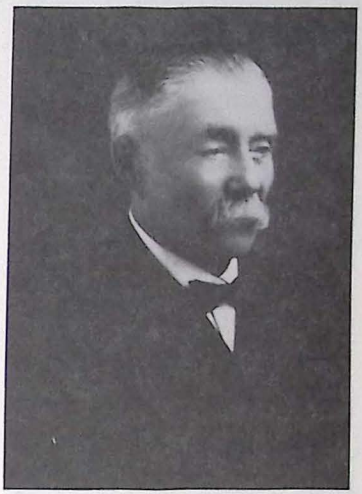
Gary J. Vermeer was born Sept. 29, 1918, on the same farm where his father, Jacob G. Vermeer, was born. This farm is two miles east of Pella and his brother John H. lives there now. This farm is also the Pella



Matilda and Gary Vermeer

Gary Vermeer Family. Front, l to r: Dan, Allison, Lois, Matilda, Mindi, Christy, David, and Jonathan; Back, l to r: Heidi, Bob, Mary, Jason, Dale, Gary, Stan and Alma.

Mrs. Gerrit Vermeer



Gerrit Vermeer

Nursery; it has been in the family for over 100 years. Gary is the oldest of a family of four boys, and his brothers are Elmer, John, and Harry. When Gary was eight years old, he had an appendectomy, performed at their home on the living room table, by Dr. Williams from Oskaloosa. His father promised him an air-rifle if he would be a good boy. Gary has been a hunter ever since. During his lifetime he has hunted moose, elk, antelope, deer and most other small game in Iowa. He also enjoys "hunting with a camera" during the winter.

Gary attended Plain View School and graduated from there. He graduated from Pella Public High School in May, 1935. Physics was his favorite subject in high school. After this he farmed with his father for several years.

Gary married Matilda Van Gorp on Feb. 14, 1941, at her parents' home. They moved to a farm one-half mile east of where Gary was born. Several house improvements were soon made, including indoor plumbing and electrical wiring. In 1987, Gary and Matilda are still living on the same farm.

Matilda's parents were John M. Van Gorp and Minnie Blom. They lived on a farm five miles east of Pella. Matilda was born on Feb. 14, 1920, on that farm. She had two sisters and two brothers (she was in the middle): Gertrude (Mrs. Everett Meinders, deceased), Edward who married Edith Newendorp, Evelena (Mrs. Arie Roozenboom), and John Jr. who married Dorothy Rus. Matilda attended Wheat Grow School. Over the years she has enjoyed baking, crocheting, and gardening. Now she also enjoys entertaining her grandchildren.

In September, 1948, Gary started Vermeer Manufacturing Company with his cousin Ralph Vermeer, who was with Marion County State Bank. Vermeer has grown considerably over the years, and Gary is still active in the business in 1987. Gary never gave up involvement in farming, and he still actively manages farming operations.

As a family, Gary, Matilda, and their children traveled to many states. As a couple, they have traveled to many countries, with some of their most memorable times being the train trip across the outback of Australia, and taking pictures of wild animals in Africa. For many years now they have spent part of their summer fishing in Canada, taking family members and friends with them.

Gary has been involved in several community projects: Pella Community Hospital building programs in 1958 and 1977, Hilltop Manor, and the indoor swimming pool. He received the Community Service Award in 1977.

Gary and Matilda are charter members of Faith Christian Reformed Church and were charter members of Calvary Church. Both are still active in church activities.

Gary and Matilda have three children: Stanley James, married to Alma Verdon; Robert Lee, married to Lois De Jong; and Mary Ann, married to Dale Andringa, M.D., who practices internal medicine in Des Moines. They have four grandsons and four granddaughters.

by Gary J. Vermeer

VERMEER, GERRIT

F770

Gerrit Vermeer, born Oct. 14, 1843, married Hendrika De Bruin, born June 30, 1850, on Apr. 23, 1874, when he was 30 years old and she was 21. Gerrit was a twin son of Brant and Teunetje Krukland Pothoven. was Hendrika, a daughter of Jacob and Wilhelmina De Bruin. Gerrit was 13 years old when he came to the Pella area with his parents from The Netherlands.

The home of the newlyweds was located two miles east, one mile north and one-half mile east of Pella on the farm which was the second place Gerrit's father, Brant Vermeer, purchased after leaving Holland. A twin himself, Gerrit and Hendrika's first-born were twins. Tonnetta, later Mrs. Adrian (Jim) Van Houweling, and Minnie, who married Peter Tysseling, were born on Dec. 8, 1874.

When the girls were three months old, the family moved to a farm located approximately four-and-one-half miles straight east of Pella. It was in this house, set back in the field, that Bertha, Mrs. Art B. Van Donselaar, joined the family circle on Nov. 26, 1877.

In 1882, Gerrit purchased a farm from a Mr. Veenschoten which is in the second mile east of Pella. It was here that a son, Jacob (J.G.), born on the same date as the twin girls, only eight years later, and two more daughters, Jennie, Mrs. Nickolas Meppelink, and Mattie, Mrs. Henry Jansen, were born on Oct. 30, 1884, and Oct. 7, 1889, respectively. The farm, designated in 1982 as a Century Farm, is owned by a grandson, John H. Vermeer, and is the location of the Pella Nursery founded in 1960 by John, his brother, Elmer (Dutch) Vermeer, and Earl L. Pohlmann.

Mrs. Vermeer died on Mar. 30, 1895, as she was approaching her 45th birthday. Her oldest daughters were just 20 and the youngest only five years old. Instead of holding her funeral in the home as was the custom,

because of the large crowd expected, services were held in a newly completed barn, which is still standing.

A hard-working, successful farmer, Gerrit Vermeer raised his family to follow the precepts of the Christian faith. As a young man he attended the Sunday School at Second Reformed Church taught by Rev. Thompson in order to improve his understanding and use of the English language. The Vermeers were members of the First Christian Reformed Church.

Through the years, a number of young men got their farming experience and training working with Gerrit Vermeer and his son, Jacob. Each were indebted to them for their example and guidance. He shared a number of financial ventures with his brothers and members of their families. Through the years the families remained very close, and, to this day, countless stories of happenings and misadventures are recounted.

When his son, Jacob G., married Anna Elsie Haven from Grand Rapids, Mich., in 1917, Gerrit and his daughter, Mattie, moved to 601 Washington St. in Pella. The home was on the corner of Washington and East First St. and was torn down to make way for a city parking lot late in 1986.

At the age of 73, Gerrit and his daughter still enjoyed walking out into the country to visit the family farm and friends and relatives along the way. He was, however, the proud owner of a Kissel touring car. It is remembered as having two outstanding features — there was a small aisle between the front and back seats and, should a rainstorm occur, all stayed snug and dry crowded together in the back seat.

Deeply devoted to her father, Mattie would take him for a drive almost every day even though toward the end of his life it was very difficult for her to help him into the car. Many a grandchild went riding with Grandpa Vermeer and Aunt Mattie and had a picture taken as they stood beside him and the prized Kissell.

His death came on May 30, 1923, and he was buried beside his wife in Black Oak Cemetery. Not until after his death did Mattie marry. By this time he was a grandfather of six grandsons and one granddaughter. All remember him, although some vaguely, as a friendly, loving grandfather who having a bristly mustache. The granddaughter, Junella Van Houweling Van Zee, remembers fondly how her grandfather loved to tease and play with her as he "hid the thimble" first behind his ear or perhaps in his coat pocket.

Gerrit Vermeer's grandsons are: Albert Tysseling, married to Edna Van Zante; Gerrit Tysseling, married to Georgiana Roorda; Gary J. Vermeer, married to Matilda Van Gorp; Elmer H. Vermeer, married to Jeannette Lankelma; John H. Vermeer, married to Effie De Jong; Harry G. Vermeer, married to Bernice Tromp; Herman Paul Meppelink (deceased), married to Emma De Bruin; and Gerald A. Meppelink, married to Leona May Newendorp (deceased), There were three granddaughters: Junella Van Houweling Van Zee (Mrs. A.K.); Evelyn Jansen Dykstra (Mrs. L.G., deceased); and Marsha Jansen Overbergen (Mrs. James).

by Elmer Vermeer

VERMEER, GERRIT AND ANNA

F771

In 1856 Brant Vermeer and Teunnetje Krukland Pothoven Vermeer with their three sons, twins Gerrit and Anthonie, Hendrick and Mrs. Vermeer son Otto Pothoven left the village of Lunteren in the Province of Gelderland and came to America on a sailing vessel. They traveled from New York to Iowa City by train and from there to Pella by oxen and horses. After arriving Brant Vermeer purchased 80 acres of land in Sec. 32 of Richland Twp., Mahaska Co. The home on this tract

Early homemade truck camper built by A.T. and Ed Vermeer.

The Great Adventure. Front seat, l-r: Ed Vermeer, Gerrit Vermeer, and driver; Middle seat, l-r: Wilbur (Bud) Vermeer, A.T. Vermeer, Tudor Vermeer, and Ella Vermeer Menninga; Back Seat, l-r: Mrs. Ed Vermeer, Mrs. William Vermeer, and Mrs. Gerrit Vermeer. Not pictured: Mrs. A.T. Vermeer.

Mr. and Mrs. Anthonie Vermeer and their eight sons.

Wedding photo of Dorothy De Zwarte and Tunis Vermeer, Feb. 12, 1941.

Nick and Ella (Vermeer) Menninga. Wedding photo, Feb. 12, 1941.

Gerrit and Anna (Blom) Vermeer. Wedding photo, Mar. 6, 1913.

of land was a one-room log cabin.

On Apr. 22, 1868, Anthonie Vermeer married Alida De Bruin. They had eight sons: Brant; Jacob; Tunis; William; Otto; John; Gerrit; and Neal. In 1881 Anthonie purchased a 160-acre farm from Harding Tice located two and one-half miles east of Pella. The boys attended nearby Wheat Grow School. Education was not so important in those days and older children sometimes would attend school just during the winter months when there was little else for them to do on the farm. Many stories have been told about how they made life miserable for the teacher by doing things such as tossing mud balls against the ceiling and walls. In 1903 when John married Minnie Van Gorp, Anthonie and Alida Vermeer retired and moved into Pella. Later the farm was divided between John and his brother Gerrit; John farming the west half and Gerrit the east half on which a new set of buildings was erected and became known as the "Wheat Grow" farm. Alida Vermeer died at age 68 in 1915, Anthonie died at age 77 in 1920. They were buried in Black Oak Cemetery.

On Mar. 6, 1913, Gerrit Vermeer married Anna Blom who was born in Herwijnen, The Netherlands, and had come to America at the age of three with her parents, Teunis and Frances Blom. Gerrit and Anna were both born on Aug. 29; he in 1884, and she in 1890. They had two children — Tunis born Jan. 5, 1915, and Ella born Mar. 29, 1917. They received their elementary education in Wheat Grow School where their father had attended. However, the schoolhouse had been rebuilt, the first one destroyed by fire. Tunis and Ella graduated from Pella Community High School.

During the Summer of 1930 the Vermeer family took a trip to see the mountains of Colorado. The mode of travel was a forerunner of the modern travel campers. Ed and A.T. Vermeer, nephews of Gerrit Vermeer, built a camper on a truck but without any of the modern conveniences of todays' campers. Ten people made the trip: the Gerrit Vermeer family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Vermeer, Mr. and Mrs. A.T. Vermeer and son Wilbur (Bud) and Mrs. William Vermeer (Aunt Tena). Every night they pitched a tent in which the three men slept; the others sleeping on various things, including the floor in the camper. They prepared all their food using a small camp stove. Everyone had a great time, for most this was their first experience outside the state of Iowa. They experienced some difficulties including a flat tire and a 7-inches-in-an-hour downpour which caused some leaking in the camper and driving through deep water.

In a double wedding ceremony on a rainy Feb. 12, 1941, at the Gerrit Vermeer farm home, Tunis married Dorothy De Zwarte, daughter of John and Marie De Zwarte and Ella married Nick Menninga, son of John and Helen Menninga. The Rev. John Vander Ploeg, pastor of the Pella First Christian Reformed Church, performed the ceremony. The joyful evening was not without some frantic moments when Nick and Ella could not find their marriage license. When after sending Nick's brother Bernie out to the car in the pouring rain still didn't produce the license, Rev. Vander Ploeg said "I trust you, we will proceed without it." Since honeymoon trips were almost unheard of in those days, both couples spent the night in the Vermeer home. After the downpours of the previous days, the Skunk River turned into a raging river flooding the bridge and the lowlands on the Galesburg Road. No traffic was going through. None except Nick and Ella, a just-married young couple with stars in their eyes and no sense of danger crossed it the next day going to Nick's mother's home near Galesburg. About half-way across the bridge, with the water dangerously high, they realized the danger and things were very scary when the motor began to get wet and stalled several times. They did make it through safely, but received sharp reprimands from their very worried families.

A few weeks after the wedding both couples received notices they were not legally married, having obtained the license in Marion County and being married in Mahaska County. More forms had to be filled out, Nick and Ella found the lost license, and the marriage bonds held.

Gerrit and Anna moved to 1201 Broadway in Pella to live with and care for Anna's invalid father until his death Mar. 6, 1941, her mother having died July 24, 1940. They continued to live there until their deaths; Anna at age 59 from a heart attack on Dec. 2, 1949, and Gerrit at age 79 on Mar. 5, 1965, after a lingering illness. Both were buried in Black Oak Cemetery. Tunis and Dorothy farmed the family farm which is now a Century Farm. Nick and Ella moved to a farm a mile west previously owned by Arie and Alida Thomassen. Tunis and Dorothy have three children: Jerry; Donald; and Rosemary. After they semi-retired and moved to 1004 Franklin in Pella, Jerry, his wife Ruth (Verschuure) and their three children, Steven, Gregory, and Sharon, moved to the home place. Donald, his wife Donna (Van Wyngarden) and four children, Carol, Laura, Angela, and Bradley live in the Denver, Colo. area. Rosemary and her husband Jerry Terborg, daughter Elizabeth, and son Daniel lived in De Motte, Ind. and moved to Pella in the summer of 1987.

Nick and Ella had four children: Larry; Bryce; Douglas; and Sheryl. Larry and Carolyn (Vanden Berg) live where Nick and Ella farmed and have a daughter Terri and a son Alan. Bryce and Kathy (Amos) live in Layton, Utah. Douglas and Debbie (Stanley) live in Lansing, Mich. Sheryl with her husband, the Rev. Jerry Van Groningen and four children, Sara, Julie, Lee, and Lisa live in Rock Valley, Ia.

Nick Menninga died in 1965 from diabetic complications. Ella Menninga lives at 1115 Broadway in Pella.

by Ella Menninga

VERMEER, HARRY
F772

Harry Vermeer family. Front, l to r: Melinda, Mike, Nancy, Bernice, Harry, and LuAnn.

Harry Vermeer was born on Mar. 22, 1929, the fourth son of Jacob G. and Anna Vermeer, and graduated from Plain View Country School, located just east of Pella. Memories of Plain View School include the "Central-College-pull" across Paul Vermeer's pond just across the road and coasting on the long hill on the grade school grounds. He graduated from Pella Christian High School in May of 1947, as valedictorian and president of his class. Harry attended Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Mich. for two and one-half years, taking a pre-seminary course and was active on the Calvin debate team. In Jan. of 1950, he quit college to join Gary and Ralph Vermeer in Vermeer Manufacturing Company.

In Feb. of 1951, Harry was drafted and spent two years with the 47th Infantry Division in Camp Rucker, Ala. On Nov. 23, 1951, he married his high school sweetheart, Bernice Tromp, daughter of Frank and Nellie Tromp. Bernice graduated from Pella Christian High in 1948 and attended Calvin College with Harry. She graduated with a two-year teaching certificate from Central College in 1950 and taught one year in the Peoria Christian Grade School and one year in the Pella Christian Grade School. After school was out in 1952 she joined harry at Camp Rucker, Ala.

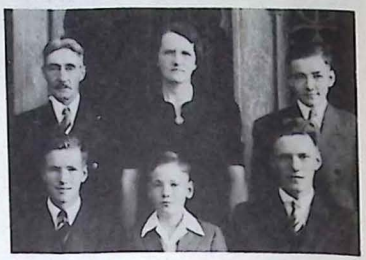
After service Harry returned to Vermeer Manufacturing Company and served for many years as Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, traveling extensively setting up and supervising company stores in the U.S., and overseas facilities including: Vermeer, Holland; Vermeer, South Africa; Vermeer, Australia; and Vermeer, Japan. In 1964, Bernice's parents accompanied them on a trip to The Netherlands, and Frank visited Giessendam where he had lived as a boy before coming to the U.S. when he was 13 years old. He showed them the slootje (small canal) where he had fallen in and almost drowned as a boy. They also visited the church and cemetery where his father was buried and the windmill he climbed as boy. In 1972, Harry and Bernice revisited these places with their children to show them where Grandpa Tromp had lived as a a boy. The trip also included visits to Switzerland, Rome, Athens, and Israel. In 1973, Gary Vermeer decided that he wanted his family to run Vermeer Manufacturing Company, and his son, Stan, returned home from the mission field in Nigeria. Harry reluctantly left Vermeer Manufacturing Company in 1975, and purchased Gary and Ralph's stock in Marion Co. State Bank (which the three of them had purchased from Kenneth Bean in 1961). Marion Co. State Bank had footings of four million dollars in 1961, and ended 1986 with footings of 75 million dollars as the largest bank in Marion Co., with Harry as Chairman of the Board.

Harry and Bernice have a personal commitment to Jesus Christ as their Lord, and have been active in church and community activities, Bernice as officer in the Christian High School Ladies Auxiliary, the Hospital Auxiliary, and church committees and societies. Harry served several terms as elder and deacon in Calvary Christian Reformed Church, where they were charter members, and on the Pella Christian Grade School, and Trinity Christian College Board. Harry was delegated to the Christian Reformed Synod twice and served six years on the Synodical Interim Committee. Harry and Bernice worked many years with Dr. Peter Boelens, Medical Missionary and Director of the Luke Society, Harry as Financial Advisor and Publisher of *The Luke Society News* while Bernice kept the mailing list up-to-date and sent out newsletters. They traveled to several mission fields with Dr. Boelens including: South Korea, China, Philippines, and Ecuador. Community involvement included two terms on the Pella City Council, Chairman of the Community Development Committee, Pella Historical Society, Pella Hospital Board, and the Klokkenspel – Arch Committee. He was also County and State Crusade Chairman for the American Cancer Society. Harry is an avid pilot and has given hundreds of Pella young people airplane rides.

Harry and Bernice have been blessed with four children. Nancy was born on Sept. 28, 1953, and attended Calvin College. She married Ruben Rodriguez and has a daughter, Heather Nicole born Dec. 24, 1981. They live in Lakeland, Fla., where Ruben is self-employed in construction and a limousine service. Mike was born Sept. 2, 1955, and graduated from Dordt College. He married Merry Disselkoen and lives in Grand Rapids, Mich. where he is employed by Ganto's as building operations supervisor. LuAnn was born July 4, 1957, graduated from Calvin College, and married Ralph De Haan. They have two sons: Matthew, born Dec. 25, 1981, and Derek, born Sept. 24, 1984. They live in Pella where Ralph is an optometrist. Melinda was born Dec. 19, 1958, and graduated from Calvin College. She married Eric Papadeus and lives in Denver, Colo., where they have a dry cleaning service. Melinda spent one year as a missionary in the Dominican Republic and three years with Inter-City Mission in Denver. In 1986 Mike designed a new small home for Harry and Bernice which they built on East Franklin St. near the Historical Village. It is affectionately known by their friends as Bernice's little Dutch house.

by Harry G. Vermeer

VERMEER, JACOB G.
F773



Front row, L-R: Elmer H. Vermeer, Harry G. Vermeer, Gary J. Vermeer; Back row, L-R: Jacob G. Vermeer, Mrs. Jacob G. Vermeer, John H. Vermeer.

Jacob G. (J.G.) Vermeer, only son of Gerrit and Hendrika Vermeer, was born Dec. 8, 1882, on the family farm approximately two miles east of Pella. J.G. farmed with his father and exhibited his love of horses during the wintertime as he broke and trained the animals throughout a wide area. He was an avid hunter — especially for crows — and enjoyed nothing more than the walks he took through the countryside with his friends.

Being the only boy in his immediate family, his closest friends were his cousins and he entered into many business enterprises with a number of them. Always interested in business and the law, J.G. obtained a diploma from the Chicago Correspondence School of Law and often used his knowledge to write contracts for himself, relatives, and friends. J.G.'s first car was an Overland, but he enjoyed rides in his father's Kissel touring car. Two of his grandsons remember riding with their grandfather, Aunt Mattie, and their father, as J.G. shot a red-tailed hawk from a large elm tree which stood beside the road.

When Anna Elsie Haven, the daughter of John F. and Elsie Wondergem Haven, came to Pella from Grand Rapids, Mich., to visit her girlhood friend, Dena Stadt Vermeer (Mrs. Otto), it was inevitable that Jacob G. and Anna should meet. They were married on Aug. 23, 1917, in the Haven home in Grand Rapids. J.G. was 34 and his bride was 22. The name of Anna's father was well known in the Grand Rapids area where he was a successful architect and contractor. Under his direction many of the large buildings erected in Grand Rapids at that time were built. Both Mr. and Mrs. Haven were born in The Netherlands. Following Elsie Haven's death in 1934, Grandfather Haven walked down to his wife's grave daily.

The recently-wed couple moved to the family farm. Although the house on the farm was fairly new, it was very cold. By 1925, a new home was constructed as a replacement. It had both running water and electricity (a 32-volt Delco system). J.G., Anna, and their three sons, Gary J., born Sept. 29, 1918,

Elmer H., born June 7, 1920, and John H., born May 13, 1925, moved into the new house. This home is still occupied by John H. and his wife. A fourth son, Harry G., was born to the couple on Mar. 22, 1929.

J.G. loved children, his own and the children of his sisters and of their family friends. His talent for teasing is well documented and many of his grandchildren were taught poems and Dutch sayings that are attributed to him. Active in church and community affairs, J.G. served on the consistory of the First Christian Reformed Church in Pella for many years and was an active deacon. All of his sons completed the eighth grade in the Plain View country school where he was often a member of the board. He served on the Board of Directors of the Pella Farmers' Coop and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Pella National Bank.

His family remembers as one of J.G.'s big thrills, hearing his first radio broadcast that Wally Fowler, founder of Pella's telephone system, sent to him via the telephone. In later years, he enjoyed listening to the program that featured George Burns and Gracie Allen.

Anna Vermeer loved to play the piano, and her family remembers her as an excellent cook, especially when she baked cherry pies — made from the cherries the boys picked in their own orchard — and chocolate cakes. She was active in the ladies' organizations in the First Christian Reformed Church and later in the Calvary Christian Reformed Church, where Anna and her three sons, Gary, John, and Harry, and their wives, were charter members.

In 1950 J.G. and Anna moved to 507 Washington St. in Pella. They very much enjoyed their grandchildren, although J.G. was gradually becoming infirm. Two of his grandchildren, William H. (Bill) Vermeer and Rita Vermeer Davis, were born just prior to his death on Jan. 15, 1952.

Anna Vermeer moved into a new home at 806 West First St. in 1954. She loved to entertain her family and many friends. In later years she traveled extensively with these friends and in the fall of 1960, accompanied her son Harry and his wife Bernice on a trip to The Netherlands, where they visited the Vermeer home at Lunteren.

A special tribute to Anna Vermeer is the fact that five of her six granddaughters were named after her: Mary Ann Andringa, Rita Ann Davis, Nancy Diane Rodriguez, LuAnn De Haan, and Ann Kathryn Stienstra.

Mrs. Vermeer died at the age of 78 on May 2, 1974. Surviving Jacob G. and Anna Vermeer are their four sons: Gary J., Elmer H., John H., and Harry G., their wives, 15 grandchildren, and 21 great-grandchildren. The couple is buried in the Oakwood Cemetery.

by Elmer Vermeer

VERMEER, JOHN H.
F774

John Haven and Effie De Jong Vermeer live in the second mile east of Pella on the farm purchased by his grandfather, Gerrit Vermeer, in 1882. John and his brothers Gary J., Elmer H., and Harry G., as well as his father Jacob G., were all born on this farm which is now designated a Century Farm. It is also the location of the Pella Nursery. Founded by John, brother Elmer H., and Earl L. Pohlmann in 1960, the nursery is now under the ownership of John and his two sons, Jay G. and Steve. Effie is also very active in the management of the business.

At Steve's wedding: Front, l to r: Rita Davis, Greta Davis, Effie Vermeer, John Vermeer, Joshua Vermeer, Jo Ann Vermeer, and Janis Vermeer; Back, l to r: Greg Davis, John Karl Davis, Jay Vermeer, and Steve Vermeer.

The son of Jacob G. and Anna Haven Vermeer, John was named for his maternal grandfather, John F. Haven. He was born on May 13, 1925. A new house had just been completed on the farm, and the story is told that baby John was moved from one house to the other as he was passed through the windows.

As did his brothers, John attended the first eight grades of school in the Plain View School on the East Prairie. He graduated from Pella High School with the Class of 1942. John worked on the family farm until 1946 at which time he and his brother Elmer farmed jointly for two years.

On Feb. 8, 1949, John and Effie were married. Effie was the daughter of Gerrit and Rena Tilma De Jong. The De Jong family farm was located in the area now known as Park Hills, a development on the shores of Roberts Creek Lake, nine miles west of Pella. The Gerrit De Jongs had four boys: Dick (deceased), Frank, Gerald, and John They also had three daughters, Cora (Mrs. Arie Dahm), Nellie, and Effie.

John and Effie are the parents of three children: Rita Ann, born Jan. 8, 1952; Jay G., July 20, 1954, and Stephen John (Steve), Aug. 6, 1960. Rita was married to Greg Davis on June 24, 1972, and they have two children: John Carl, born Dec. 31, 1976, and Greta Marie, who joined the family on Sept. 2, 1981. Rita attended Dordt College, Sioux Center, Ia., Iowa State University, Ames, Ia., and graduated from Indiana State University, Terre Haute, Ind. She is employed as a dietitian. Reverend Davis, a graduate of Iowa State University, Indiana State University, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Chicago, Ill., is the pastor of St. James Lutheran Church in Johnston, Ia.

Jay G. and Jo Ann Elscott were married on Feb. 14, 1976. They are parents of two children: Joshua Jay, born Sept. 15, 1980, and Julie Elizabeth, Jan. 22, 1986. A graduate of the landscaping program at the Des Moines Area Community College, Jay is associated with his father in the operation of the Pella Nursery. Jo is employed by Vermeer of Iowa. An avid hunter, Jay is expert with both the bow and muzzle-loader.

As were his brother and sister, Steve was enrolled in the Pella Christian School system and all graduated from Pella Christian High School. He attended Calvin College. Steve and Janice Dingeman were married on June 18, 1983. Janice is employed by the Pella Construction Company, and Steve is a partner in the Pella Nursery Company. He is also a hunting enthusiast and is proficient with the bow.

John and Effie were charter members of Calvary Christian Reformed Church where their family still attends. John has served the congregation in the office of elder. He has been president of the Iowa Nurserymen's Association and has served on the board of directors. He has also been president of the Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association. His special interest in growing things began as a youngster when he planted and harvested a crop of peanuts, a product normally not grown on an Iowa farm.

An interest on Fair Haven, a home for Senior Citizens founded in Pella in the early 1900's, is shared by both John and Effie. John was a member of the board when extensive remodeling was done on the original building and when a new building, Fair Haven East, was completed. Effie is currently president of the Fair Haven Auxiliary, an organization which provides entertainment for the residents and is also involved in fund raising.

by John H. Vermeer

VERMEER, STANLEY, MARGARET AND ALMA

F775

The oldest child of Gary and Matilda Vermeer, Stanley James, was born on November 4, 1942, in the farm house where Gary and Matilda moved after they were married. At age four, Stan wanted an electrical cord and light bulb for his birthday — although he usually let his mother plug it into the outlet! Stan attended Wheat Grow school for four years. The kindergarten class had ten students and was taught by his aunt, Evy Van Gorp. Often in the spring and fall, the students living west of the school would walk home and play along the way. When Stan was ready to enter fourth grade, he transferred to Pella Christian Grade School. He attended Pella Christian High School and graduated in 1960, and from there went to Calvin College, where he graduated in 1964 with majors in English literature and mathematics. During the summers of 1961 and 1962, he participated in his church's Summer Workshop in Missions program in California.

After hearing a challenge to spend a year overseas, Stan was able to go and teach in Nigeria for a year at Mkar Teachers Training College — high school level training for elementary school teachers. While there, Stan made the decision that he would like to spend some more time in Nigeria but felt that he should have more education and obtain a seminary degree. Lacking some requirements for entering Calvin Seminary, Stan decided to spend a year in Israel studying Hebrew, so that he could study Greek while in seminary and the other students were studying Hebrew. A memorable year was spent in Jerusalem studying at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and at the American Institute of Holy Land Studies.

Stan entered Calvin Seminary in 1966 and during the summer of 1967 went to Grand Forks, N. Dak. for a summer assignment. It was there that he met Benjamin and Katharine De Boer, and their daughter, Margaret. Stan's sister was staying at their house that summer and working in the same church. Margaret was teaching biology at Calvin College; they went together the following school year. Stan and Margaret were married on July 22, 1968, at Crookston, Minn. They were both interested in going overseas.

Stan and Margaret were able to go to Nigeria in the fall of 1969, and they both began to teach at Bristow Secondary School in 1970. Because of a shortage of teachers, Margaret spent a considerable amount of time teaching biology and chemistry. Stan taught religious knowledge, physics, and English literature. Christina Joy was born on July 13, 1970. She was a month premature and spent her first month in an incubator in Jos, Nigeria. While at Bristow, Stan was a sponsor of the Fellowship of Christian Students, and he was in charge of lights and water. Together, Stan and Margaret did the school's bookkeeping.

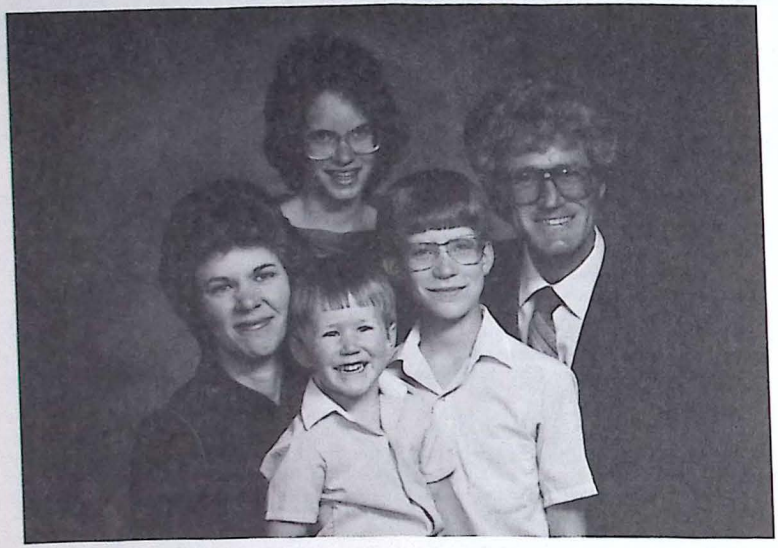
In 1974, while pregnant, Margaret had a biopsy of her breast and it was malignant. The family returned to Iowa City for surgery, and in the following weeks Margaret had a double masectomy. Jonathan Gary was born in Iowa City on June 11, 1974. Further surgery revealed that the tumor had spread, and chemotherapy, surgery, and radiation followed in the coming years. These were times of hope and discouragement, and many trips to Iowa City. Margaret died on March 14, 1978, and was buried at Oakwood Cemetery. Stan delivered the message at her funeral. After Margaret's death, Margaret's mother came and stayed with Stan, Christy, and Jonathan during the school year until January 1980.

In 1975 Stan began to work at Vermeer Manufacturing in the Experimental Department, working on balers with Arnold Mathes. He helped in the development of the 605 D, E, and F model balers. In 1979 he began working with the Industrial Engineering Department. After briefly working at Marketing Research in 1981-82, Stan became president of Vermeer in April 1982. In June 1986, Stan resigned as president of Vermeer and left the company at the end of that year.

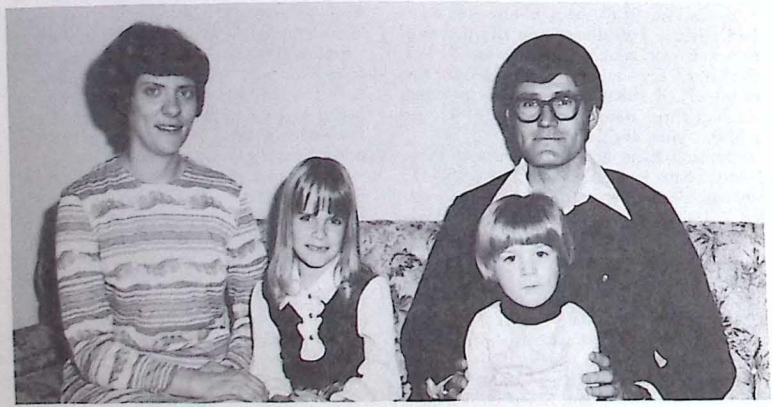
While at a Navigator conference in Colorado early in 1979, someone heard about Stan's situation and began to pray for a wife for him. That summer this matter was discussed with Stan, and he flew to Wichita, Kansas, to meet Alma Lee Verdon. They were married on January 5, 1980.

Alma was born on February 16, 1948, in Snohomish, Wash. (near Seattle). She had grown up living with her mother, brother, grandmother, and grandfather on an acreage outside Snohomish. While attending Washington State University, she became acquainted with the Navigators. After college and working for a year, Alma went to the Navigator headquarters to work for a summer — and ended up staying for five years. Alma worked making drapes, in the dining hall, and in the conference and camps office. In 1976 she went to Wichita and worked for Jim Morris, who was on Navigator staff there. She was Jim's secretary when Stan came to meet her. For Alma, going to Iowa was one more move eastward.

During Christmas vacation in 1980, Stan, Alma, Christy, and Jonathan went to Nigeria to meet friends, and so that Alma, Christy,



Alma, Christy, David, Jonathan, and Stanley Vermeer.



Margaret, Christy, Jonathan, and Stanley Vermeer.

and Jonathan could better understand Stan's past. Christy remembered past activities and discussed them with her brother — like climbing certain trees by our house.

It was in 1980 as well that the family moved from Pella to the country — four miles northeast of Pella. On March 12, 1982, David Stanley joined the family, being born at Pella Community Hospital.

by Stanley Vermeer

VERPLOEG, GRADUS H.

F776

Gradus H. VerPloeg, third-born child of Henry (Hendrik) E. and Hilleke Verploegh,

Gradus H. and Fannetta (Van Wyk) VerPloeg.

was born in Marion Co., Ia. June 23, 1886, on a farm four miles south of Pella. Between 1850 and 1858 this farm had been the location of the Welch pottery. In the early 1930's some coal was mined there. Gradus is the grandson of Engel Verploegh and Pauline Buwalda Verploegh, who both arrived in the United States on the ship, *Pieter Floris*, in 1847. (See "Engle Verploegh Family History.")

On Feb. 25, 1909, Gradus was united in marriage to Jennie Vroom, who died of a stroke Feb. 10, 1930. They had no children.

Gradus later married Fannetta VanWyk from Otley, Ia., on Feb. 22, 1935. Fannetta, the oldest child of Gerrit J. and Cornellia (Cora) VanWyk, was born on Mar. 6, 1906, on a farm north of Pella. The names and birthdates of their six children are: Arlene (Mrs. Loren Roorda) — Dec. 3, 1935; H. Corinne (Mrs. Simon Steenhoek) — Nov. 17, 1936; Gladys — Feb. 23, 1938; Lorna (Mrs. Willis DeGeus) — Oct. 8, 1939; Henry — June 30, 1945; and Janice (Mrs. David E. Klein) — Feb. 13, 1948.

Gradus had a special interest in horses and at an approximate age of 60 won the barrel race at a Pella horse show. For some time Gradus farmed with mules and horses. He owned a donkey jack, which he took to several area farmers for servicing horses to produce mules used for field work.

Crops raised on the VerPloeg farm during the 1930's and 1940's were corn, hay, oats, and cane; livestock included horses, mules, hogs, cows and calves, sheep, and chickens.

Gradus lived nearly 66 of his 90 and one-half years on his birthplace. In Feb. 1954, the family moved to 1212 Peace St., Pella, which was Gradus' home until his death on Jan. 1, 1977.

The VerPloeg family were members of the First Reformed Church in Pella. Those currently residing in the Pella area include Fannetta, who later married Ernest DeCook, now deceased; Corinne; Lorna; and Janice.

by Mrs. Loren Roorda

Gradus H. VerPloeg family. Front, l-r: Gradus, Fannetta, Gladys. Back, l-r: Lorna, Janice, Arlene, Corinne, Henry.

VERPLOEGH, ENGEL

F777

Engel and Paulene (Buwalda) Verploegh.

Engle Verploegh was the third of twelve children born to Hendrik and Aartje Van Zee Verploegh on Apr. 14, 1823. He accepted his Uncle Con Van Zee's offer to pay his way to America if Engel would work for him in the new land to pay for his trip, which cost $85.00. They sailed to America in Apr. of 1847 on the *Pieter Floris*.

In 1849 gold was discovered in California. After talking with the people as they were heading west, Engel, too, got the fever and joined one of the caravans as they came through Pella. It consisted of 30 prairie schooners with oxen teams. It took them six months to make this trip which was accompanied by many hardships, especially in crossing the Great Desert. It is told that Engel had to drive the oxen all the way as each person had certain jobs. The oxen teams were driven with one man at their side with a whip so it is very probable that Engel walked about all the way to California. On the way they saw remains of wagon trains that had not made it . . . abandoned equipment, skeletons of horses and oxen, and the graves. For many days a lone Indian rider followed them at a considerable distance. One evening he rode into their camp rapidly, killed a certain white man with a single shot, and fled.

In California, Engel apparently was meeting with some success. They say he did not actually search for gold himself; rather, he raised crops and sold them to the people who had gold. Little did he realize, when he left for California, that his parents had sailed for America. Engel stayed in California for five years. While there, he received the sad news that his father, two sisters, one brother, and an uncle had died. He came back to Pella by sea, crossing the land at Panama. He boarded another ship and sailed around to New York, and then came on to Pella, Ia. bringing with him a nice sum of gold, approximately $5,000, carrying it in leather bags tied around his

waist under his clothes. For a time he hid the bags deep under the oats in the granary. What a happy reunion it must have been for him to meet his mother and four brothers whom he had not seen for seven years!

On Aug. 20, 1858, Engel purchased the original farm where the present farm buildings now stand. This land is in Sec. 35, Lake Prairie Twp., Marion Co. He purchased 40 1/2 acres from John Welch, with the gold he brought from California, for the sum of $2000. John Welch had purchased this piece of ground from Mr. William Welch, who had purchased it from the State of Iowa in 1849 and 1850. Mr. William Welch made pottery from the clay on the land of this farm. Pieces of broken pottery are still found occasionally. On Aug. 20, 1858, the same date, he also purchased six and one-third acres from Walter Findley that joined the 40 1/2 acres.

On Mar. 11, 1859, Engel Verploegh was united in marriage to Pauline Buwalda who came to America with her family on the same ship as Engel, the *Pieter Floris*.

When the Civil War broke out, Engle with his wife and three children again set out for the West, this time in Oregon. They took the long way as they went to New York, around America, across Panama, and around to Oregon. They stayed there until the war was over in 1865. The railroad was completed across to the West at that time and they came back on the train. Engel probably took the trip to Oregon to escape the draft. It is assumed he escaped the draft because he had no close ties for the North or South, having come from The Netherlands 14 years previously. Slavery was not an issue in Iowa.

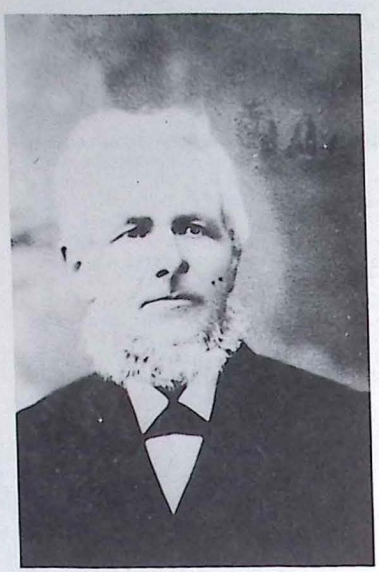
Engel again returned to his farm four and one-half miles south of Pella and farmed for many years. Engel and Pauline had five sons and three daughters: Henry E. was born Dec. 19, 1859-died Apr. 23, 1907, married Hilleke De Kock on Dec. 19, 1881, born on Dec. 19, 1859-died Jan. 9, 1940; Allie was born Nov. 22, 1862-died July 10, 1928, and married William Van Steenis on May 16, 1878, who was born May 5, 1856 and died Jan. 17, 1914; Abraham was born Sept. 20, 1863-died Apr. 9, 1948, married on Apr. 16, 1886, to Mattie Buis, who was born July 15, 1867, and died July 7, 1947; John was born in 1869, never married, and died Apr. 27, 1914; James was born Mar. 2, 1871-died Jan. 30, 1956, was married on Mar. 11, 1898, to Gertrude Vander Wilt, who was born June 2, 1876, and died Mar. 22, 1958; William was born in 1874 and died Dec. 4, 1942, and never married; Tryntje (Trina) was born Feb. 17, 1873-died Nov. 2, 1934, married Andrew Van Drimmelen on July 22, 1893, who was born Oct. 17, 1867, and died Sept. 30, 1957; Cornelia (Kate) who was born Mar. 10, 1876 (date of death unknown), married Rev. James J. Hollebrands on Dec. 10 or 29, 1904, who was born Mar. 11, 1877, and died Mar. 3, 1956.

Engel set out for The Netherlands in 1899 on a visit to meet his brother whom he had not seen for 50 years. He returned home in about four months. On Feb. 23, 1900, he sold the farm to his son, Henry Verploegh. Engel died at Pella, Ia. on Apr. 19, 1902, at the age of 79 years, five days. Pauline was born in 1842 and died in Apr. of 1916.

by Simon Steenhoek

VERPLOEGH, ENGEL

F778



Engel Verploegh 1823-1902

Was born in the Netherlands at Herwijnen on April 15, 1823; the second child of Hendrick and Aartje Van Zee Verploegh. At the age of 24 he bade his parents and eight brothers and sisters goodbye and sailed to America on the Pieter Floris with the first group of Pella settlers. His passage was paid by either Koenraad or Stephanus Van Zee for whom he worked in America until he had made good his fare . . . some say it was about $85.

In the early 1850's wagon trains were coming through Pella on their way to California . . . and gold. The Dutchmen sold them their extra food and grain, and began to make good money. About this time Engel wrote his parents in Holland that things were looking up here and urged them to bring the family to America.

Sometime after the Gold Rush started, Engel decided to join one of the groups going west, and wrote his parents of his plans. About that time his parents wrote him that they had decided to come to America, but because of the months of delivery time for mail, neither party received the other's letter before their own departure.

Engel walked to California — beside a team of oxen. Along the way they passed the remains of wagon trains that hadn't made it . . . abandoned equipment . . . skeletons of horses and oxen . . . and the graves. A lone Indian rider followed their train for many days, always at a considerable distance. One evening he rode into camp rapidly and killed a certain white man with a single shot . . . and fled, never to be seen again.

His parents, Hendrick and Aartje and six of their children set out for America in the early 1850's. They were at sea for two months during which time the second Adriana and Hendrick, the father, died. On Ellis Island Aartje's brother, Govert Van Zee, died. There is some belief that he actually died before they reached port, but it was not divulged because Aartje, by now a widow, could not bear the sight of another burial at sea. A son James (Jacobus) died within days of their arrival in America.

In California Engel was apparently successful in obtaining gold. There is some question of whether he actually searched for gold or if he raised some crops which he exchanged for gold. At any rate, he left with leather bags of gold dust on a ship which took him to Balboa on the Pacific coast of Panama. He then walked across Panama to get a ship to New Orleans. From there he walked most of the distance to Pella, the point of his departure some two years previous. When asked about his mode of travel, he said that he had walked a lot.

On March 11, 1859, Engel and Paulina Buwalda were married. She had also come to America on the good ship Pieter Floris in 1847 with her parents and three sisters Boukje, Doortje, and Geertje. Engel and Paulina had eight children; Henry, Alice, Abraham, John, James, Will, Trina, and Kate.

"They say" that Engel had a stubborn determination. When he set out to cut down a tree, he chopped without stopping until the tree was down and he could sit on it and smoke a pipe.

He died in 1902. Some twenty years earlier he had made a visit back to Holland; and in the early 1930's an old Dutchman working at the Oak Grove Nursery in Pella recounted how he had seen Engel walking on the dikes near his boyhood home in Holland — and how the villagers were excited because this man could tell them about America, having traveled that country east to west and most of its distance south to north.

by Stan Ver Ploeg

VERPLOEGH, HENDRIK

F779

Hendrik Verploegh was born in 1794 to Willem Verploegh and Cornelia Blom Verploegh. On Sept. 4, 1818, he married Aartje Van Zee, daughter of Engel Van Zee and Engeltje Bijl Van Zee, who was born on Dec. 13, 1800. Their marriage is recorded in the record books at Herwijnen, located along the Waal River. Witnesses were Kornelis Verploegh, Hendrik's brother; Maarten van Arendonk, his brother-in-law; Jan Vervoorn; and Johannes Verhoef van Zomeren. Hendrik was a farmer. Twelve children were born to this union, listed as follows with their birth dates: Willem, Feb. 6, 1819; Cornelia, Jan. 28, 1821; Engel, Apr. 14, 1823; Judik, Apr. 26, 1825; Jacobus, June 13, 1827; Engeltje, Oct. 10, 1829; Cornelis, Dec. 7, 1831; Koenraad, May 6, 1834; Adriana, Apr. 28, 1836; Govert, May 11, 1838; Adriana, Jan. 5, 1841; and Hendrik, Jr., Feb. 25, 1843. The first Adriana died in infancy; Engeltje drowned at the age of 15 years. Engel came to America in 1847 with his mother's brother, Con Van Zee, who told Engel he would pay his way to America if Engel would work for him when they got to America. They settled near Pella, Ia. with Henry P. Scholte and his followers.

The Dutchmen sold food and grain and began to make good money, especially as the wagon trains began coming through Pella in 1849 traveling to California for gold. Engel probably wrote his parents that things were looking up in the new land.

Sometime after the Gold Rush started, Engel joined one of the wagon trains going west. About that time his parents wrote him that they had decided to come to America. Engel had written them of his departure for California. Because of lengthy delivery time for mail, neither party received the other's letter before their own departure.

Hendrik and Aartje, their five sons, one daughter, and Aartje's brother Govert, started to America in 1853 and came across in sailing ships, being at sea for two months. One son and two daughters, already married, stayed in The Netherlands. Adriana took sick with measles and died at sea. Hendrik was so stricken with grief, it is said he died of a broken heart and also died at sea. On Ellis Island Aartje's brother, Govert, died. It is believed he actually died before they reached port, but Aartje, by now a widow, could not bear the sight of another burial at sea. What a heavy cross for any mother to bear! The dark waters about the struggling wind-jammer must have looked very dark for her as week in and week out she watched the dashing waves beneath, without a sign of land. A son, Jacobus, died within days of their arrival in America.

Then anxious to meet her son, Engel, who could help them get started in a strange land, the poor widow was sad and extremely disappointed to learn her son had just left on the covered wagon train for California. Engel had written them but they had not received the letter before they left for America.

Shortly after their arrival at Pella, they received word from The Netherlands that their married daughter, Cornelia, had also died. The last leaf to fall from this much-broken, drooping family tree, while the grief-stricken mother still trod upon the soil of her wonderful America, was her son Koenraad, who not many years later she followed where sorrow is no more.

The story of the life of Aartje Verploegh should be an inspiration. Severe sickness meant almost certain death in those days. Loved ones dropped from the family like leaves shaken from a tree in the wind. Who can realize the hardships of her day and the grief she experienced?

With six children, her husband, and her brother taken away, it is doubtful that she was very desirous to fill out the eighty-some years through which she nobly wound her tearful way. But when there are still children living, there is a powerful incentive for a mother to continue further her journey here below, and since time heals much, it is still possible that some of the bitter memory of death was taken away in the activities, friendly relationships with people, and the wonder of a new and glorious land.

by Simon Steenhoek

VERPLOEGH, HENRY
F780

Henry and Hilleke Verploegh.

Henry E. Verploegh was the eldest child of Engel and Pauline Buwalda Verploegh. He was born on Dec. 19, 1859. He lived most of his life on the farm about four and one-half miles south of Pella, except when his parents went ot Oregon during the time of the Civil War.

Henry was married to Hilleke De Kock, who also was born on Dec. 19, 1859; not only were their birthdays the very same day, they also married on that date in 1881. Henry's aunt, Cornelia Verploegh, was married to Gradus De Kock. Cornelia died probably around 25-30 years of age. Gradus De Kock then married Artie Van Dusseldorp and Hilleke was the oldest child born to Gradus and Artie.

Henry and Hilleke lived on the farm raising crops and livestock. He also made sorghum for neighbors in the area who brought their cane. Henry occasionally played the organ at Third Reformed Church in Pella.

Henry and Hilleke were always ready to help others. They cared for Henry's two single brothers, John and William, who came to live with them in 1903. At times they became mentally disturbed and were kept in an upstairs bedroom in their home. Also, a neighbor by the name of Mr. Donker agreed to will 60 acres of land to Henry if the Verploeghs would care for him.

Henry and Hilleke purchased the farm from his father on Feb. 23, 1900. He worked the land only until 1907 when he was injured while riding a horse. Infection set in and he died shortly after, in Apr. 23, 1907. The farm was in Hilleke's name from 1914 until their oldest son, Gradus, purchased it in 1933.

Henry and Hilleke were the parents of four sons and five daughters: Engel was born Jan. 6, 1883, never married, and died Aug. 14, 1914, of an abscess of the liver which was probably caused by injury when a horse kicked him several years previously. Martha was born May 14, 1884, and died Nov. 5, 1891, at seven years of age as a result of injury when a horse kicked her. Gradus (John) H. was born June 23, 1886, and married Jennie Vroom on Feb. 25, 1909. Jennie died Feb. 10, 1930. Gradus then married Fannetta Van Wyk on Feb. 22, 1935, and died on Jan. 1, 1977. Pauline was born Jan. 11, 1889, married Anthony G. Klein on Sept. 2, 1909, and died Feb. 15, 1945. Josie was born Apr. 5, 1891, married Anthony M. Blom on Feb. 13, 1914, and died on May 7, 1959. John Gradus was born on Mar. 9, 1893, married Cornelia Langerak on Dec. 23, 1915, and died Oct. 12, 1977. Abraham was born on Oct. 4, 1895, and died Nov. 22, 1900, at five years of age. Martha (Second) was born Nov. 11, 1898, and married Tunis Dykstra on Feb. 17, 1921. Tryne was born Aug. 5, 1900, married Albert Van Zante on Feb. 23, 1923. Albert died on

Left to Right: Gradus, John, Mother Hilleke (holding Tryne), Martha (in front), Father Henry E. Engel, Will (Henry's brother), Engle, Pauline, Josie, and John (Henry's brother).

Oct. 1, 1932, and on Nov. 11, 1940, Tryne married Peter Bloem who died May 11, 1978. Tryne had no children and died on Feb. 14, 1981.

When Hilleke Verploegh moved to town from the farm, she lived in a big house which has now been converted into a movie theater at 810 Washington St. in Pella. Hilleke died of cancer of Jan. 9, 1940.

by Simon Steenhoek

VERROS, TEUNIS AND NETTIE

F781

Teunis, 1815, and Nettie, 1828, Verros immigrated to America from The Netherlands in 1847, and 1848. There were 11 members in their family, two dying in infancy. They were buried in Graceland Cemetery, Pella, Ia. One of the children was Jennie. She lived with her parents in a brick house along Highway 163 known then as the "White Way". It was one mile east of Pella at the end of what was then called "Lovers' Lane", now Highway 102. She, with other members of the family, walked through this land to Plain View School. The school was then located on the corner of Sharon Road and Highway 102, hence the name, Plain View. The schoolhouse was later moved one half mile north. Remarkable was the fact that as a school girl she walked along the fields which would later be owned by and cultivated by her son-in-law and grandchildren. Those grandchildren attended the same school. Jennie loved music. She spent some years playing a pump organ for church services at the original Scholte Church then located on West First St.

by Leona Ver Meer

VERSCHUURE, PETER DAVID

F782

Peter David Verschuure was born July 12, 1878, in Wolfaartsdijke, in the province of Zeeland, The Netherlands. He was the son of Andrew and Maatje Goetheer Verschuure.

In 1902, when he was twenty-four years old, he and his brother, Neal, came to the U.S. Peter worked in a carpet factory in Patterson, N.J., whereas his brother was employed in a silk mill. The brothers left Patterson due to a bad flood, followed by a fire that lasted seven days. They went to Grand Rapids, Mich. where they were employed at a furniture factory. However, they didn't care for the work of sandpapering by hand for one dollar and twenty-five cents for a ten or twelve-hour day. They decided to go to the Dutch settlement of Pella, Ia. where they worked for farmers for a time.

They then heard the call "Go West, young man, go West" and were off to Mont. in 1906. The government was giving away land, and they could get a clear title if they lived on it for ten years. They were to improve it by building a house and breaking up a specified number of acres of sod each year. They tried

Peter David Verschuure and Adrajana (Jennie) Kleinendorst. Wedding picture of Dad and Mother, Feb. 23, 1910.

their hand at homesteading, but failed to raise a crop due to lack of rain. In less than a year's time they disposed of their horses and machinery and moved back to Pella where Peter worked for farmers again.

A farmer, named John Vogelaar, had broken his leg and hired Pete to help him. A young lady, Adrajana (Jennie) Kleinendorst, worked for the family also. A romance blossomed between Pete and Jennie and they were married on Feb. 23, 1910, at the parsonage of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church by Rev. Abel J. Brink. Their first home was a log cabin on the Vogelaar farm, near Lower Grove. Andrew, their first child, was born there on Dec. 28, 1810. The next year they moved to a farm southeast of Tracy, Ia. Their second son was born on Dec. 25, 1912, but he passed away on Dec. 27. The next year, the family moved to Evans (west of Oskaloosa) where they farmed with Art Kleinendorst, a brother-in-law, for one year. In 1914 they purchased an eighty-acre farm southeast of Tracy, Ia. The remainder of their children were born there.

A daughter, Jeanette, was born on Oct. 28, 1915, and a son, Tunis, on Feb. 3, 1917. Another son, Cornelis, was born on Feb. 19, 1918, but they were saddened by his death on Aug. 16, 1918. Their next three children were girls. Catherine came May 19, 1920; Cornelia, Jan. 13, 1923; Mattie, Feb. 20, 1925. The last addition to the family was a son, Peter Harold, July 31, 1926. The family experienced much sorrow when Mattie passed away Mar. 11, 1927 and Peter Harold, Mar. 14, 1927. Measles and pneumonia was the cause of their deaths.

Pete was faithful in serving the Lord. He took his family to church many miles in a buggy or sleigh. He made sure his children knew their catechism lessons (which they learned in the Dutch language).

When the depression of the thirties hit, they were forced to sell the farm. Corn sold for ten cents a bushel and hogs for two cents a pound. It was hard to clothe and feed the family. They moved to a rented farm west of Otley, where they lived one year. Most of the moving was done with horses and wagons. The hogs were moved in wagons; the cattle were driven those many miles, and a colt tied to its mother was very weary from the long walk.

During the years from 1931 to 1939, Pete and Jennie moved their belongings five times to various farms in the Otley, Prairie City, and Pella areas. In 1943 they discontinued farming and purchased a house at 414 Independence St., Pella, Ia. Pete was employed at the Rolscreen Co. for about twelve years, retiring about two years before his death on Jan. 25, 1957.

by Catherine Verschuure Vander Wiel

VIERSEN FAMILY

F783

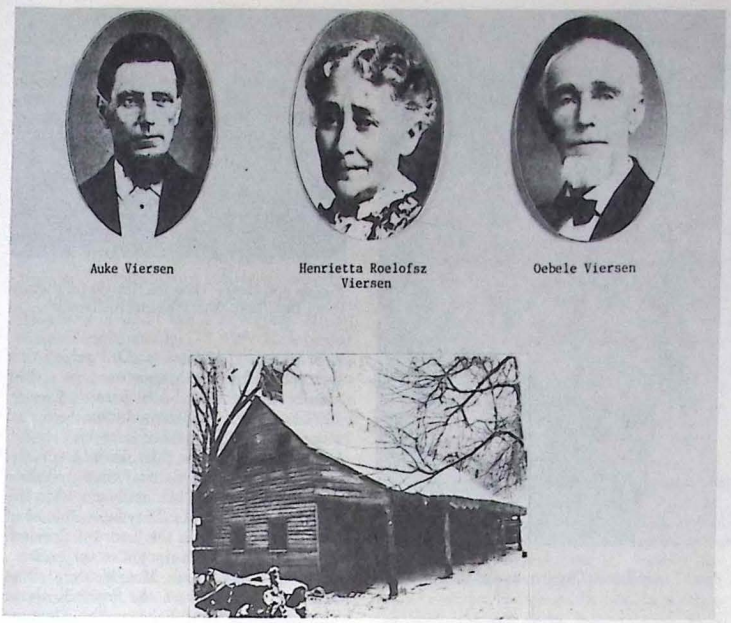
They were well-to-do Frisians, the Heerke Ypes Viersen family. Passengers on the ship *Pieter Floris*, they sailed from Amsterdam early in April 1847. The father was one of two men who were supervisors of the other Dutch passengers. Heerke's wife was from the Sipma family. She had been born in 1805. Six children accompanied the parents to America: Siebertje (17), Auke (16), Ype (14), Oebele (12), Heerke (9), and Sipka (4). An older brother Pieter remained in Driesum, Friesland, where he ran a chicory factory.

Also traveling to America aboard the same ship was Heerke's nephew, Pieter Oebele Viersen, born in 1814; the son of Heerke's brother, Oebele Ypes; and his wife, Froukje Piers de Groot. Peter's parents stayed in The Netherlands. The wife of Pieter was Tjitske Johanna Wouda born in 1819. With Pieter and his wife aboard the ship were their four children: Oeble (7), Maaike (6), Vrouwke (4), and little Johannes Pieter, who was only a year old and who died at sea.

Pieter O. bought one-third of Heerke's claim, which had two houses, 80 or 90 acres fenced in and cultivated. Heerke had brought three hired men with him, as had Pieter. It was soon evident to the two men that they did not need so many hired hands and they soon told the help to find employment elsewhere in the colony. (One of the hired men was Sjoerd Sipma, who came with his wife.)

Pieter later sold his share to Heerke and bought another claim of 160 acres of prairie and 60 acres of forest lying in Mahaska Co., five miles southeast of Pella. He had a home built there, renting a house nearby during the building. His wife at this time gave birth to a daughter as Sjoerd Sipma wrote in a letter to his Frisian family, possibly relatives of Pieter's wife.

Heerke Viersen was born in 1784 and died Aug. 3, 1861. He was buried in the Viersen Cemetery on his farm, on a hill south of the house in a pasture on the farm known as the Paul Roorda farm, now inhabited by Alan Roorda and family. In the presently untended, unmarked Viersen grave yard, it is difficult to find the stones. Also buried there are several children, none of whom reached the age of five. They were Pieter, Mary and Christina — Auke's children, and Freddie and Mary, children of Oebele, all Heerke's grandchildren. There is a burial plot in Oakwood Cemetery and it is conjecture that



Auke Viersen | Henrietta Roelofsz Viersen | Oebele Viersen

The Viersen cabin of early days and a few members of the family.

the remains of Heerke were removed from the Viersen Cemetery to the family plot at Oakwood. Heerke's name appears on the tall black stone in Oakwood.

Heerke's daughter, Siebertje, did not marry. The story is told that she was engaged to marry but that her fiance had to make a trip from which he never returned. It is surmised that he was waylaid. She died in 1910. [Her story appears elsewhere in these two volumes.]

Auke, Heerke's son, was in the mercantile business at the time Issac Overkamp was mayor. In 1861-62, Auke was county treasurer and recorder. He also held offices as city clerk, township clerk, and was a member of the city council. In 1872 he was appointed postmaster, a position he held until a Democratic administration was elected in the 1880's. Auke was associated with the Baptist Church and Central College. He married Henrietta F. Roelofsz Mar. 4, 1853. They had 12 children: Joost, Lillie, Mary, Auke, Henrietta, Lulu, Lydia, Josie, Benjamin, Ype, Andrew, and Birdie. Their daughter, Lillie, was a long-time teacher in the Pella schools. Auke lived in the house Dr. Roelofsz built on North Main. The hipped-roof house at the Historical Museum is a replica of that home. [The Roelofsz story is elsewhere in these two volumes.]

Oebele Heerkes Viersen lived on the family farm all of his life. He had been 12 when they left Friesland. He married Emma F. Renaud Dec. 26, 1860. They had four children, two of whom survived infancy, Harry and Lottie. Emma Viersen died Apr. 13, 1907, and Oebele lived on in the home with his son, Harry, who operated the place with his wife, Dora Lautenbach Viersen. Oebele died in 1926, Harry Apr. 17, 1941, and Dora May 18, 1939. They are buried in Oakwood Cemetery in Pella.

Heerke H. graduated from the University of Iowa Medical School in 1872 and practiced for 40 years. He died in 1912. He did not marry.

Sipke was county recorder in 1872. He married Jessie Fisher Nov. 6, 1872. Sipke died July 5, 1925.

The name of Viersen is remembered especially well as it was the spinster sister, Siebertje, who gave the money to establish a library in Pella, with the help of Andrew Carnegie. Her penurious thrift is told in many stories, the most amusing of which is the one about how she collected overdue accounts. A tailor, Siebertje had many debtors who were of the opinion that since she had so much money, their bills would be left unpaid. Sierberje is said to have gone through the list of debtors alphabetically, telling each that unless the bill was paid, she would come and board with them until the account was settled. No one was eager for this to happen and her accounts were soon paid in full. Her photograph appears dour but perhaps behind her staid eccentricities there was a marvelous sense of humor.

The Marion Co. Marriage Book records the data of marriages of the Viersens. Pieter Oebele married three times while living in the area. His second wife was Emaline Jarret Cannon whom he wed in 1853. In 1859 he married a third time, to Sarah Starr. On Dec. 1, 1864, he took his fourth wife, Elizabeth Roth. Pieter moved to Des Moines where he lived for 17 years at 1354 East 9th St. He died Mar. 9, 1895, and is buried in Des Moines.

Children of Pieter's second marriage were Mary, born in Marion Co. and died Aug.9, 1947, in Gordon, Neb.; and Abraham, born Jan. 19, 1856, and died Mar. 16, 1945, in Halstead, Kan. The child of the third marriage was Jacob Peter, born June 12, 1857. His fourth wife and he were parents of Gilbert Wayne, born Mar. 12, 1866, and Clara Adelia, born Sept. 3, 1868.

Benjamin A. Viersen, Auke's son, married Rose B. Fisk on Dec. 26, 1879. Auke's son, Auke A., married Mary E. McAdow Feb. 21, 1889. An A. Viersen is listed marrying Clarissa R. Grant Oct. 8, 1872. Oebele Viersen, Pieter's son, married Polly Starr Oct. 7, 1859. On June 9, 1875, a marriage is recorded for Joost A. Viersen (Auke's son) to Bertha E. Frazier.

Other marriages were Etta Belle Viersen to Charles A. Fisk, Nov. 28, 1895; Froukje to Henry W. Yowell, Oct. 25, 1860; Mary to Charles Parker, Jan. 24, 1876; Lottie to Frank A. Benjamin, Dec. 31, 1883; Margaret to Gerrit Hookster, Oct. 25, 1856; Anna to Hugh Morrison, July 24, 1872; and Marie to John Schut, July 2, 1889.

As this family's research was being done in July 1987, it was our good fortune to be included in a visit with two members of the Viersen line, of the brother who had remained in Holland. A family tree was given to us by Binne Y. Viersen of Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada, a descendant who had, earlier in the month, attended a Viersen Family Reunion in Nebraska. Binne Y. was accompanied by his brother Oebele Y. of Swifterbant (Flevoland) The Netherlands.

We were told that, although unproven, it is accepted in The Netherlands that the Viersens stem from the Viersen Friesian nobility . . . their genealogy is well-known and documented to the House of Charlemagne, King of the Franks (768-814) of the Western Roman Empire (800-814). The city of Viersen from which the family originated is in West Germany near the Holland border.

by M. Kooi

VINK, ARIE, JR.

F784

Arie Vink, Jr., son of Arie, Sr. and Nellie De Jong Vink, was born on Mar. 30, 1933. Arie graduated from Rose Hill School in Jasper Co. in 1946. He was drafted into the Army in 1953 where he was stationed at Fort Sill, Okla. and then at Pirmasens, Germany. Arie was released from the Army in 1955.

Arie married Joyce Elaine Ryken on Sept. 26, 1958, at the Ryken home near Otley, Ia. She was born in Mahaska Co. on Sept. 24, 1939, to Martin and Antonia Bos Ryken. Joyce moved with the family to a farm south of Otley in 1951. She graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1958.

After Arie and Joyce were united in marriage, they helped farm the Vink homestead on the Jasper-Marion Co. line with Arie's parents. Six children were born to Arie and Joyce: Arlyn David, born on Nov. 28, 1959; Mark Elvin, born on Mar. 5, 1961; Joann Eileen, born on Aug. 14, 1962; Loraine Jean, born on Dec. 13, 1963; Byron Lee, born on Mar. 23, 1967; Carolyn Mae, born on Sept. 5, 1968. All the children have graduated from Pella Christian High School.

Arie and Joyce also have three grandchildren: Steven Kent, born on Sept. 21, 1983, and Micheal Jay, born on Dec. 28, 1984, are the children of Stuart and Joann De Haan. Jennifer Jo was born to Greg and Loraine Van Veldhuizen on Feb. 21, 1984.

Arie and Joyce purchased the homestead in 1969 after the death of Arie, Sr. They sold the farm to Carl Boat in 1978 and moved to Pella where they now live.

Arie has been the custodian at Pella

Greg and Loraine (Vink) Van Veldhuizen's wedding. From l to r: Byron, Carolyn, Aarlyn, Arie, Loraine, Greg, Joyce, Stuart, Joann, and Mark.

Christian High School since Aug. 1975. Joyce helped him until she was employed at Central College Food Service in June of 1986.

Arie and Joyce have been members of the First Christian Reformed Church since 1965.

by Arie Vink, Jr.

VISSER, CORNELIUS

F785

Cornelius Visser was born June 18, 1850, in Krimpen a/d Lek, Holland. He married Teuntje Neef on Jan. 21, 1876. She was born Sept. 9, 1854, in Krimpen a/d Lek, Holland.

Mrs. Cornelius Visser; came to America in 1886.

In 1887 Cornelius and Teuntje and their three children came to the U.S.A. and settled in Pella, Ia.

Being a carpenter by trade, Cornelius first built a house for his wife and children. Later, he built several other houses still standing today on Union St., Peace St., and on East First. He also made fine furniture.

Cornelius and his son John built the Pella Brush Factory, located just west of the City Athletic Field. As the business grew, he built another brush factory in Ottumwa.

Teuntje was a fine seamstress. She was also a lover of flowers, planting a beautiful garden. She was the lady who brought the first tulip bulbs to Pella. They were given to her by a grower of tulip bulbs in Holland. She brought the bulbs to the States after having made a visit to relatives in the Netherlands in 1903. Teuntje made another visit to the Netherlands in 1924 at the age of 70 years.

Their three children were: Maggie, married to John F. Hiemstra, Nellie, married to Aart Van Roekel, and John, who married Mabel Miller.

Cornelius died Aug. 21, 1912. Teuntje on May 6, 1931.

by Mrs. Peter H. Westerkamp

VISSER, HENRY AND MAGGIE

F786

Henry Visser was born July 13, 1888, at Egmond son Zee, The Netherlands, the son of Engle and Johanna Stam Visser. Their children were: John (drowned at sea in Holland); Jane; Angeline; Henry; Jake; Minnie; Engle; Pete. Henry was about 13 years old when the family came to this country. Henry married Maggie Van Der Veer at Knoxville, Ia., on Dec. 14, 1911. Her parents

Maggie and Henry Visser of Harvey, Ia. Picture taken Dec., 1961, 50th Wedding Anniversary.

were Jacob and Maria (Van Drongelen) Van Der Veer of Harvey. Maggie was a twin (her twin brother died at birth) born on Dec. 9, 1892, near Olivet, Ia. Her older brothers and sisters were: Simon; John; Corneles "Case"; Conrad "Coon"; Lena (Mrs. Dirk Goemaat); and Johanna (Mrs. Gerrit Samson). When she was a small child her family moved to the Island near Harvey, Ia. They built a house of native lumber. Often the land was flooded, and sometimes the water got in the house.

When Henry and Maggie were first married, they lived on the Sandhill about nine miles south of Pella on the Elevator Road. They had 13 children and raised only six of them. Their children are: Engle "Babe"; Johanna, who died when two months old; John; Wilma (Mrs. John Trager); Johanna Mae (Mrs. Charles Manges); Henry Jr. who died of yellow jaundice when only ten days old; twin sons, who died at birth; Estellene (Mrs. Dick DeJong); Mary Isabel, who died at two weeks; Anna Pearl, who died of pneumonia at about nine months; a stillborn boy; and LaVerne.

Engle "Babe" Visser was born May 8, 1912. He married Ruth Heggwood of Harvey. They had one son, Glen. She died of tuberculosis when Glen was about a year old. Babe married Betty Jane Thomas June 21, 1946. Their children are Dwight and Linda. Babe lived in Harvey. He farmed, did trucking, and was a junk dealer until his death Dec. 1, 1984.

John Visser was born Feb. 16, 1915. He married Frances Marshall. They had three children: William; Sheryl Kay; and Pamela. They divorced. Later Babe married Florence Johnson, who was known for her pie-baking skill. She died Mar. 14, 1986. John worked in a coal mine at Pershing and then at Rolscreen Company when he retired. He lives in Harvey.

Wilma Visser was born Sept. 18, 1920. She married John Trager, who died in Mar. of 1982. She lives at Prairie City. Their children are: Pamela (Mrs. Terry Harvey) of Knoxville; and Beverly (Mrs. Max Kain) of Prairie City.

Johanna Mae was born May 1, 1920. She married Charles "Bud" Manges Dec. 23, 1956. They live at 418 Huber in Pella. She has a daughter Marilyn (Mrs. Marvin Jellema) of Prairie City.

Estellene was born Nov. 20, 1925. She married Dick DeJong Feb. 14, 1952. They lived on a farm near Otley for 16 years, then four years at Prairie City. Dick died Nov. 1972. Their children are: Elaine (Mrs. Erwin "George" (Usher) of Prairie City and Gary of Pella. Estellene worked at Pells Community Hospital until she recently retired. She lives in Pella.

LaVerne was born Oct. 23, 1935. He married Carol Brooklander. They live on his parents' 80 acre farm south of Pella on the Washboard Road. LaVerne farms and works at Rollscreen Company. Their children are: Sherrie, Daniel, and Bonnie.

Henry worked as a coal miner, at the Harvey brickyard, and farmed. He enjoyed farming and growing a big garden. They grew more than they needed and were very generous to share with family and friends. Henry and Maggie were very hospitable people, often sharing their home with relatives and friends. About 1920 they converted to the Pentecost belief and attended the Assembly of God Church in Harvey. Henry died of lung cancer Jan. 11, 1967. He is buried at Porter Grove Cemetery south of Pella. Maggie has an excellent memory and remembers dates very well. She is a good Christian woman and known for her generosity. She has always enjoyed offering her visitors some candy. She has lived, since, 1979 at Hilltop Manor Retirement Home in Pella. It is located near the Pella Community Hospital where her sister, Lena Goemaat, age 98, is a resident of the Pella Nursing Home.

Maggie has 14 grandchildren, numerous great-granchildren and some great-great-grandchildren. She was 94 on her last birthday. She is loved by all who know her.

by Joanne Pennock

VOS, ADRIAAN AND SARAH (VANDER MOLEN)

F787

Adriaan came as a child with his parents from North Brabant on the ship *Dubbeldam*. He was born Nov. 22, 1878, and was fourteen when he came, having celebrated his birthday on the ship. During the winter months he continued his education and helped his father farm and also was a farmhand.

Wedding Picture, March 28, 1906 Adriaan and Sarah Vander Molen Vos.

On Mar. 28, 1906, he married Sarah Vander Molen, daughter of Bendert and Gietje (Stouwie) Vander Molen. Sarah was born Sept. 2, 1885, in Marion Co., Ia.

Their first farm was southeast of Peoria, Ia., now owned by Peter Gerrit Vos, their oldest son. The farm has been in the Vos family for over eighty years. While living on this farm they increased the family to five, two sons and one daughter were born to them: Peter Gerrit, Ben and Anna.

In 1913 Adriaan bought a farm west of Taintor now owned by Lawrence Roose, a grandson of Adriaan and Sarah Vos. While living here two sons and three daughters were added to the family: Margaret, Cornie, Martin, Anna (named for the deceased Anna) and baby sister. These years were not without hardship and sorrow. Anna, born Dec. 9, 1912, died on Feb. 9, 1920, after suffering after surgery. Baby sister died June, 1923, after her birth three days before.

The first farm Adriaan and Sarah owned was 110 acres and was purchased at a tax sale at the court house for $67.25 an acre. It had a good house which today would be called a "split level." The next farm of Adriaan's had a new house built costing $2000 with running water and carbide lights. (To show how prices changed, the new horse barn built in 1927 cost $2000 without water or light.)

Peter Gerrit married Edith De Vries and they rented a farm until Peter bought one. Their family was complete after Alvin, Morris, David and Sharon came to join them. Peter Gerrit is at home at Fair Haven East as Edith went to her heavenly home July 22, 1980. There are ten grandchildren.

Ben was mother's helper and worked as a farm hand. He married Mathilda Jonker and they became parents of Marvin, Paul, Ron, Roger and Beverly. Death entered this family circle when their son Roger died at age thirty-four. On Dec. 26, 1985, Mathilda was suddenly taken in death. Thirteen grandchildren complete this family.

Margaret remained unmarried until Feb. 21, 1970. She had started early in life to help Mother and then started to work in homes when babies were born. Mothers were confined to their beds for 9 or 10 days after childbirth so hired girls were usually at such a home for three weeks to two months. Margaret spent two years in Grand Rapids, Mich., where she helped after the birth of a child to a former pastor's family. She also worked as a clerk in a grocery store and at Vander Linden's Drug Store for many years. On the happy day Feb. 21, 1970, she married Louis Van Haaften. They reside in Pella, both retired but still very active. With this marriage, Margaret became a wife, stepmother and grandmother. Louis' son Marvin and his wife and children complete the family. There is one little great-grandson to add joy to Louis and Margaret.

Cornie got married to Cornelia Van Zee after he had worked at home and as a farmhand. They purchased a farm near KBOE in Oskaloosa. Their children are: Arvin, Darl Dean, Carolina, Don, Pauline and John. Darl Dean died of a fall when only three years old. There are fifteen grandchildren. Cornie was forced into early retirement when he was disabled due to a farm accident in the fall of 1970 and spends his time in a wheelchair.

Martin worked for his father on the farm and spent three years in the army, part of the time overseas. After his discharge he married Tillie Van Maanen and moved on the farm vacated by Margaret and her mother a mile south of Peoria, Ia. Adrian, Milton, Corrine and Twila were their children and they have eight grandchildren.

Adriaan and Sarah have moved to his farm in 1942 and Adriaan passed away Apr. 7, 1944. In Dec. 1945, Sarah and Margaret moved to 1206 Broadway in Pella where Sarah passed away Sept. 20, 1969. Martin passed away on this farm on Dec. 5, 1977, due to a tractor accident on an icy road after aiding a stalled car. Grandson Milton Vos is in charge of the farm.

Anna married Cornelius Roose and farmed until retiring to Pella. Lawrence, Sherma, Marcia, Carl and Rosabel all came to make their family complete. Sorrow entered their home when Sherma passed away at age twenty-seven. Although retired, Anna and Cornelius remain active with part-time jobs. They have sixteen grandchildren.

by Margaret Van Haaften

VOS, CORNIE AND GLADYS

F788

Gladys Ver Meer, daughter of Antonie A. and Johanna Kolenbrander Ver Meer, born Sept. 26, 1918, married Cornie Vos, born Oct. 7, 1919, on Feb. 13, 1941, at the family home. They lived on a farm, near Leighton, owned by her grandfather, Brant Ver Meer. To them three children were born: Sue Ann born Apr. 9, 1944; Rick Lee born Nov. 17, 1946; and Keith Loren born Jan. 30, 1951. They continued to live on the same farm, which they had purchased, until 1973 when they moved to 412 Lincoln Street in Pella, where they presently live. Cornie was employed at the Farmer's Co-op Lumber Company and Elevator until his retirement in 1982.

Their daughter Sue married Glen De Bruin, born Oct. 12, 1938, on June 11, 1965. Glen farms east of Pella and is also the Standard Oil jobber and tank wagon driver for this area. They are the parents of three children: James Allen born Sept. 19, 1966; Sharon Gail born Oct. 29, 1969; and Carol Ruth born Jan. 11, 1972. James is employed by Midwest Sanitation Company and also assists his father with farming. Sharon and Carol are students at Pella Community High School.

Rick married Carolyn Meinders of Rose Hill, born Sept. 26, 1951, on Dec. 20, 1969. They live in Pella. Rick is employed at Morrison Car Body Shop in Oskaloosa. He is co-owner of the business with his brother, Keith. Carolyn works in the housekeeping department at Christian Opportunity Center. They have three children: Roger Dean born Oct. 23, 1970; Cheryl Lynn born Aug. 2, 1973; and Cynthia Renee born Sept. 20, 1976. Roger is a student at Pella Christian High School and Cheryl and Cindy are attending Pella Christian Grade School.

Keith married Ruth Cochrane, born June 4, 1953, on June 30, 1972. Keith works at Morrison Car Body Shop of which he is co-owner with his brother, Rick. They have two daughters: Pamela Kay born Sept. 9, 1974;

and Issalena Marcella Joan born June 9, 1978. The family resides in Oskaloosa, where the children attend Webster School.

by Alice Ver Meer

VOS, DALE AND EDNABEL "BEL"

F789

Dale, born in July of 1931, was the sixth child of Nic and Hattie Zwank Vos. His grandparents were Jacob and Nellie Vos Zwank and Abraham and Sophia Gertrude Vander Wilt Vos.

Dale was born in the Leighton area and attended school in Tracy and Pella, graduating from Pella High in 1950. He served his country for two years. Thirteen months and thirteen days were spent in Korea. The peace treaty was signed during this time. Dale has worked in various jobs in the area. He has been maintenance engineer at the Pella Hospital for the last 21 years.

Bel, born in 1933, was the fourth child of Albert Tunis (A.T.) and Jennie Van Heukelom VerMeer. Her grandparents were Brant and Gysbertha Tysselaing VerMeer and Ryk and Trynie De Wild Van Heukelom Onstine.

Bel attended Pella Christian Grade School and graduated from Pella Christian High School in 1951. She worked at various jobs in the area most of her adult life.

Dale and Bel were married in Apr. of 1954, and to this union three sons were born: Michael Dale in Jan., 1955; Mark Edwin in Apr., 1957; and Nick Allen in May, 1963.

Michael married Laura Lynn Evans in Sept. of 1976, and they have one son, Simon Anthony, born in July, 1977.

Mark married Roni Eugenia Kinney in Dec. of 1976. Their children are: Dawn Machelle born in Jan., 1976; Misty Morning born in Nov., 1978; Dustin Levi born in Feb., 1983; and Joseph Ryan born in Feb., 1985.

Our baby Joseph lived only one and one-half hours. He is buried in Sandridge Cemetery.

At the time of this writing we all live and work in the Pella area.

by Dale and Ednabel Vos

VOS, DENNIS AND LORNA (VAN ZEE)

F790

Lorna Kay Van Zee, daughter of Albert A. and Matilda Jabaai Van Zee, was born on Jan. 25, 1951, at the Mahsaska County Hospital. She attended Pella Christian Grade School and Pella Christian High School. After graduation she became the bride of Dennis Jay Vos on Nov. 28, 1969.

Dennis, the eldest son of Jacob N. and Julia Van Houweling Vos of Pella, was born on June 14, 1949, in Oskaloosa, Ia. He attended Pella Community Schools and graduated in 1967. After graduation Dennis enlisted in the U.S. Air Force.

Their first home was in Columbus, O., where Dennis was stationed and Lorna was employed at a pharmacy. Upon Dennis's discharge in 1971, they returned to Pella. Dennis worked as a plumber for one year before going to work at Vermeer Manufacturing Company in Aug., 1972. Lorna was employed part-time at Vander Linden Drug until Ryan Jay was born on Feb. 12, 1973. Dennis became a salesman for Vermeer Sales & Service of Iowa in Aug., 1977. In July of 1979, Lorna began working at the Central College Bookstore.

Lorna and Dennis Vos and Ryan J.

In Nov., 1981, Dennis became a Territory Sales Manager for Vermeer Manufacturing Company. Lorna started working in Central College's Development Office in 1985. As of Jan., 1987, the Vos's are living in Pella. Ryan is a seventh grader at Pella Middle School.

by Lorna Vos

Dale Vos family. Front, l to r: Dawn, Dale, Misty, Bel, and Dustin; Back, l to r: Michael, Mark, Nick, Roni, Laura, and Simon.

VOS, EDWARD HAROLD AND EMELINE (GEZEL)

F791

Edward Vos was born Mar. 18, 1914, in Jasper Co., Ia. and died Apr. 1, 1981. He was married on Aug. 29, 1935, to Emeline Gezel, born Oct. 6, 1915. His parents were William A. Vos and Kate Vander Zyl Vos.

He attended country school in Jasper Co., near Runnells, Ia., and he went to high school for three years in Runnells. He completed his senior year at Prairie City High School. The family moved to Pella in the fall of 1931 hoping that Edward could attend Central College. Due to the depression, the man that Ed had worked for was unable to pay him, so he went to work at odd jobs as so many people had to do in the 30's. He drove a truck for Rene Huyser and worked at Geurts Feed Mill in the 1100 block of North Main St. This is now owned by the schools for it is part of the Lincoln School playground. He worked for Dykstra Creamery where they made butter. The farmers would bring the cream in, and the creamery employees would have to stay until the farmers arrived on Saturday evening. Then the cream was put in the walk-in refrigerator. He went to work at the Gamble Store which was managed and owned by Joe Stientjes. It was like the large department stores are today for they sold tires, batteries, household goods, pots and pans. This was in 1937. Ed worked on the Alcan Highway for one season, from July to Nov., 1943. Then he

went back to the Gamble Store for a few years. He became a carpenter along with Walter Visscher. In the fall of 1960, he went to work for the school system as a custodian. He worked until his retirement in 1975, retiring because of poor health.

Ed and Emeline had three children: Harold Edward Vos, born Apr. 7, 1937; Charles Wesley Vos, born June 30, 1939; and Bonnie Louise, born Sept. 7, 1942. Harold married Patricia Rysdam. She passed away Oct. 16, 1986. They had one son, Vincent Edward, born Apr. 30, 1968. Charles married Ella M. Cunningham on Nov. 11, 1960. They have two children: a son, Chuck Edward, born Oct. 19, 1962; a daughter, Jamie Lynn, born Jan. 27, 1965. Bonnie married Thomas Pierce on Sept. 12, 1961. They have two children: Steven, born Nov. 7, 1963; and Jennifer Susan born Oct. 8, 1975.

by Emeline Vos

VOS, EMELINE GEZEL

F792

Emeline Gezel was born Oct. 6, 1915, to George Gezel and Edith Lillian Porter. I lived at 1010 South St. on the south side of the street which is now occupied by the Rolscreen Company. As a girl we had dirt streets but had side walks, and at the crossings ashes were spread from the light plant. We had paved streets on Main St. and Oskaloosa St. I attended Webster School from kindergarten to fourth grades, then went to Lincoln School for fifth grade. I went back to Webster for Junior High which was seventh and eighth grades, and from there on, I attended Pella High School.

Miss Leona Reuvers was my first grade teacher. Bessie Brooks was my second grade teacher until she became ill. Then Mrs. Bousquet was my teacher for a few months, till Mrs. Brooks returned. The teachers I had in third and fourth, were teachers from out of town. Mrs. Florence Sack was my teacher in fifth grade. Miss Dora Bootsma and Miss Marie Lautenbauch were teachers in junior high. Miss Henrietta Ver Heul was the math teacher in high school, and every one liked her.

After high school I worked at the Pella Chronicle putting cook books together, and I helped with menial jobs, until marriage to Ed Vos. In the 30's there were not enough jobs for the men, so the girls were not kept on a job after marriage. We had our family, and I was able to get odd jobs of cleaning houses, wall papering, taking care of children other than my own. We lived first in the Sjaardema Apartments on Washington St. for a year. This is where the present Standard Oil Station, 834 Washington St., is located. We moved to 1009 Union St. where Harold and Charles were born. Then we moved across the street to 1010 Union St. in 1941. In 1960, we built our present house. Ed, at that time was a carpenter, so we did most of the work as a family. When we first moved to Union St., the Christian Grade School was on the corner of Union and West Second Sts. The paving ended at that corner. Paving was laid during he summers of 1945, and 1946, on several streets in Pella. They also paved many alleys and put fill dirt on many gardens. Ed had built a garage on the alley before he built the house. He kept his tools and equipment he used in his work in the garage. We enjoyed our family, we built the house together, and we enjoyed vacations together.

At present I have had the pleasure to spend the winter months in Arizona and am able to keep busy. I would not be able to do that, if I hadn't had the chance to work at the Rolscreen Company for 23 years. With the retirement program that is set up, a person is able to do the extras you would not do with Social Security alone.

by Emeline Gezel Vos

VOS, HAROLD E.

F793

I was born to Edward H. Vos and Emeline (Gezel) Vos. Growing up in the Pella community, I attended the Pella schools. There I was a member of the band from the sixth grade on, playing saxophone. I graduated in 1955.

After graduation I enlisted in the Navy. Of the four years I was enlisted, I spent three of them aboard ship in the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea.

The summer after returning from the Navy I began work with my dad in the carpentry trade. In 1962 we began work together as building custodians at the new public high school.

In July of 1964 I met Patty Rysdam. We were married that October tenth. Her parents were longtime Pella residents – Gerald Rysdam, former Assistant Postmaster for Pella, and his wife, Artie (Gaass) Rysdam.

In 1965 I accepted the position of Hospital Engineer at the Pella Community Hospital.

On April 30, 1967, our son, Vincent Edward Vos, was born. Due to complications, this was to be our only child.

Our family, as we grew, searched for a fullness in our lives. February 21, 1972, we joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. We felt this filled our void and answered our questions.

In the fall of 1973 I again changed jobs. I started work for the local post office. Later we moved to an acreage that was five miles north of town. There we enjoyed raising horses, calves, goats, and sheep, as well as dogs and cats.

Upon the death of Patty's mother on Mar. 18, 1985, we decided to move into the family home later that year. After moving sorrow struck our family when on Oct. 24, 1985, Patty suffered a blod clot above her heart and passed away. My son Vince and I picked up our lives and gave thanks that we knew the Gospel of Jesus Chirst and His comforting power. We continued our lives and enjoyed traveling. In December of 1985 medical problems caused me to leave my job at the post office. We again, picked up the pieces and stood steadfast together. Vince, at this time, firmly decided to go on a two-year mission for our church.

In the Spring of 1986 we attempted to operate a pet store in Pella. It lasted until the Fall of 1986, but we found it to be a losing business.

In June of 1986 I met Gisela Kalitzki and her two daughters. She had two other children, both married, who lived elsewhere in the state. Gisela and I were married August ninth of that year. We are all continuing to be a happy family.

by Harold E. Vos

VOS, KRYN B.

F794

Kryn and Rika Vos, wedding picture taken Feb.3, 1899.

Drusen, in the Province of Noord Braaband, The Netherlands, was the birthplace of Kryn Bastian Vos. In 1892 he immigrated to America with his parents Pieter and Anneke Vos. He settled in Alamosa, Colo., for a couple of years and then moved with his parents to Luctor, Kan. In 1897 or 1898 they moved to Mahaska Co. settling on a farm south of the town of Peoria, Ia.

On Feb. 3, 1899, Kryn was married to Rika Van Zuuk who was born Nov. 9, 1875, in Epe, the Province of Gelderland in The Netherlands. After their marriage they moved to what was called the Skie farm south of Leighton, Ia. They farmed there for several years and then moved to a farm near Galesburg, Ia. They then purchased a farm south of Leighton, a 160-acre farm. They lived there for 30 years and then moved into the town of Leighton in 1939.

Kryn and Rika were the parents of nine children: Hattie (Mrs. John Brummel) born Oct. 24, 1900; Benjamin, born Feb. 18, 1904; Nellie (Mrs. John Van Zuuk), born May 20, 1906; Carrie (Mrs. Barney Memmelaar), born Sept. 3, 1907; Pete G., born Feb. 10, 1909; Harry, born Jan. 19, 1913; Anna (Mrs. Pete De Boet), born Sept. 25, 1915; Elizabeth (Mrs. Ben Outlaw), born Mar. 28, 1917; and Cornie, born Oct. 7, 1919.

Kryn passed away on Nov. 26, 1948, at the age of 77. His wife Rika died on Dec. 22, 1951, at the age of 76. They are both buried in the Evergreen Cemetery in Leighton, Ia.

by Leona Vande Voort

VOS, MELVIN AND JOHANNA

F795

Melvin and Johanna Vos were married on Feb. 27, 1947, at the Otley Reformed Church.

Johanna (Jo) was the fourth child of a family of six girls and two boys. Her parents, Joe and Alpha (Den Hartog) Vanden Berg

farmed near the village of Cordova which is now inundated by Lake Red Rock. After graduating from the Fair Oaks School, her first job was with the Rolscreen Company, she later spent several years as a salesperson with the J.C. Penney Company until her marriage.

Melvin (Mel) was fourth in a family of five children, having two brothers and two sisters. His parents, Nick A. and Hattie (Zwank) Vos, farmed in the Galesburg, Leighton, and Tracy areas before moving to Pella. After high school, he entered the Army serving with the 72nd Ordinance Base Depot Company, receiving his discharge in Nov., 1946. 12 years of self-employment in the sheet metal and appliance sales and service followed. On Feb. 1, 1959, Mel began employment with the Farmers Coop Exchange in Pella as office manager. He later assumed the position of credit manager where he remains until retirement.

Mel and Jo have been active in the First Reformed Church, having served on several committees and consistories.

For five years Mel & Jo resided in an apartment in the home of Jane Gosselink, a long-time high school teacher and principal. From this grew a very close bond of friendship that lasted until Jane's death. Together, Jane and Jo mutually developed an appreciation for antique furniture and housewares.

Mel and Jo are the parents of three children: Jerry Dean (Jan. 31, 1949), Kristen Sue (July 8, 1952), and Stuart M. (Sept. 11, 1956). They are all graduates of the Pella Community grade and high schools. Jerry married Patricia Skeffington of West New York City, N.J. in 1973 and are the parents of two boys, Rylan and Coda. Jerry received his bachelor's degree at University of Iowa and his master's degree in special education at Drake University. He is presently teaching emotionally handicapped children in Raleigh, N.C. Kristen married Donald Andre of Wayne, N.J. in 1972, and has two children, Sara and Jeffrey. Kris and Don both attended Central College where Kris is employed part-time. She and Don are partners in Strawtown Furniture Store. Stuart married Barbara Bremer of Cushing, Iowa in 1981. Barbara's children by a previous marriage, Brian and Melissa, helped welcome a new brother Eric, in 1986. Stu and Barb live in Adel, Ia. Stu graduated from Iowa State University with a Masters degree in Business Management. He is employed by the Iowa State Comptroller in Des Moines with responsibility for the budget of the State Board of Regents.

by Johanna Vos

VOS, PETER G. AND ANNEKE (NEDERVEEN)

F796

Peter Gerrit Vos was the oldest child of Kyrn Vos and Adranna Confurius. He was born Apr. 7, 1839, in Almkerk, province of North Brabant. He was baptized in the Christian Reformed Church of Almkerk.

On Dec. 18, 1875, he married Anneke Nederveen. She was the daughter of Wauters Nederveen and Marie Hagens from Klundert

Front, l-r: Peter Gerrit Vos, Anneke Nederveen Vos; Back, l-r: Kryn Bastiaan, Maria, Adriaan.

born on Mar. 11, 1838. She was baptized in Ouderbosch Christian Reformed Church.

They left The Netherlands and arrived in New York Nov. 26, 1892, on the ship *Dubbeldam* destined for Alamosa, Colo. where they arrived in 1893. Three children accompanied them. They were: Kryn Bastiaan born July 29, 1871, of his father's first marriage (his mother had died when he was four); Maria Wonterine, a daughter, born Oct. 13, 1876; and Adriaan on Nov. 22, 1878. The last two children were of the marriage to Anneke.

The Alamosa settlement was not successful and the couple moved to Iowa. Peter Gerrit Vos died Feb. 22, 1914, and is buried in the Peoria Cemetery, Peoria, Ia. His wife, Anneke, died Dec. 1, 1918, and is buried in the same cemetery.

Kryn Bastiaan married Rika Van Zuuk on Feb. 3, 1899. Their children were Hattie (Vos) Brummel; Ben; Nellie (Vos) Van Zuuk; Carrie (Vos) Memmelaar; Peter; Harry; Anna (Vos) De Boer; Elizabeth (Vos) Qutlaw; and Cornie. There are thirty-three grandchildren, two deceased. Kryn died Nov. 26, 1948, and his wife Rika (born Nov. 9, 1875) died on Nov. 22, 1951. They are buried in the Leighton Cemetery near Leighton, Ia.

Maria remained with her parents. When her father died, she and her mother lived in a house on the yard of her brother Adriaan where they were cared for by Adriaan and his wife, Sarah. Maria later moved to Pine Rest in Grand Rapids, Mich., where she died on Sept. 17, 1936. She is buried in the Peoria Cemetery with her parents.

Adriaan worked for his father and as a farm hand until he married Sarah Vander Molen on March 28, 1906.

by Margaret Van Haaften

VOS, WILLIAM AND CLAZIENA

F797

Willem (William) Vos, born Feb. 24, 1856, and Claziena Van Mersbergen Vos, born May 15, 1856, left their home, "De Kleijberg", in Genderen, Noord Brabant, The Netherlands and sailed for America. They arrived in the U.S. on Aug. 14, 1892, after spending 11 days at sea on the *Spaarendam*. They settled in Pella with their nine children. Three other children died in infancy in The Netherlands. Four more children were born in Iowa while living in the New Sharon and Peoria areas. They then moved to a farm west of Sully and later retired to a home in Sully. Claziena died on Christmas Day, 1917. She was buried at Dairy Grove (Bethany) and was later rein-

William and Claziena Van Mersbergen Vos. Front, l-r: Maggie, William, Claziena, Dirk, with Doris in front. Middle, l-r: Jennie, Marie, Marienus, Peter, Louise, Cynthia. Back, l-r: William, Johanna, John, Nellie.

terred as the first burial when the Sully Cemetery was established.

William also lived in Grand Rapids, Mich., and returned to Sully before his death on Mar. 16, 1937.

Their children were: Dirk (1879-1974); Maggie Van Genderen (1879-1968); Johanna Van Rees (1881-1965); John (1882-1964); Peter (1883-1962); Adriana (Jennie) Meppelink (1885-1972); William (1887-1971); Cynthia Colsman (1888-); Marienus (1889-1960); Nellie Herder (1893-1981); Louise Volcklandt (1895-); Marie Monsma (1896-); and Doris Ballast (1898-).

At this writing, Marie, 90, resides in Grand Rapids, Mich. Cynthia, 99, Louise, 92, and Doris, 88, reside in Denver, Colo.

by Wilma Vandevoort

VOS, WILLIAM, III AND JENNIE

F798

Jennie Vos, William Vos III

William Vos III was born on a farm two miles west of Sully, the oldest child of William Jr. and Cornelia Arkema Vos, on Sept. 27, 1915. He attended the Christian Grade School of Sully and later worked as a hired man.

On Jan. 19, 1944, he married Jennie Klein, daughter of William G. and Marie Van Gent Klein. Jennie had her schooling in Pella and worked in the Rolscreen factory for seven years before she was married.

For 15 years William and Jennie lived and farmed in the vicinity of Pella, Reasnor, and Leighton. In Dec. of 1959 they moved to Pella and William worked in the Rolscreen factory for 22 years, and retired from the company in Feb., 1978.

William and Jennie are the parents of one daughter, Mary Jane, born July 22, 1946. Mary married Marvin Meinders and they are the parents of three children: Ronald, Stephen, and Ruth. They are living on a farm southeast of Pella.

by Mary J. Meinders

WAECHTER FAMILY

F799

We have been in this area four generations. My great-grandfather was Frederick Wilhelm Waechter, born Aug. 27, 1821, in Malmedie, Germany. He married Christiane Berghofer June 30, 1850, at St. Louis, Mo. Four children were born to them: Fritz was born June 22, 1851, in St. Louis, and the others born in Pella, Ia.; William Nov. 4, 1852, Emily Sept. 26, 1854, Adolphus Jan.11, 1857. They lived in Nauvoo, Ill. from 1857 to 1861, when they returned to Pella.

My grandfather, Adolphus, married Eva Middlekoop and to this union six children were born: William, Nelle, Gerrit, Louise, Edward, and Clara. Eva died March 1927, and Adolphus, March 1937. My father was Gerrit, usually called Grady. He was born July 13, 1881, and he died June 20, 1949. Clara, Mrs. Leonard Allen, who was born Dec. 25, 1895, passed away May 6, 1986, at the age of 90. She lived longer than any of the Waechters.

My father married Clara Marie Kramer, daughter of Dr. Martin and Harriet Williams Kramer. They were married on June 6, 1905. I was born Dec. 2, 1907. In 1909 they were divorced and I was reared in my grandfather's house by my Aunt Nelle. Aug. 15, 1917, my father married Exie McQuilkin, a Pella music teacher from La Porte City, Ia. and one son John Judson was born Feb. 21, 1925. Judson died Jan. 14, 1940, before his 15th birthday after a brief illness. Exie died Mar. 23, 1978.

On Oct. 10, 1935, I married Margaret Elizabeth Wilcox, daughter of Dr. E.B. Wilcox, of Oskaloosa, Ia. and the late Margaret Bevan Wilcox. On Feb. 19, 1940, Thomas Judson was born, and on Aug. 16, 1946, Margaret Ann was born. Thomas is single and he resides in Pella. Margaret Ann was married Sept. 10, 1977, to Christian Caille, from Paris, France. For a time they lived in Montreal, but now reside in Minneapolis, Minn. where they operate their own catering service, Quail Catering. They have two daughters, Natalie Margaret, born Jan. 3, 1980, and Colette Anais, born Nov. 14, 1981.

The Waechter Lumber Company was

Margaret and Donald Waechter.

established in 1871 by F.W. Waechter, who later was joined by his son, Adolphus. In 1905 his son, Gerrit H. came into the business, and then in 1930 I became the fourth generation member of the company. After the death of my father in 1949, I continued to operate the business until I sold it in 1968 to Martin (Bats) De Jong. During my time there were two disastrous fires, in 1947 and 1953, following which the yards were rebuilt.

I graduated from Pella High School in 1925. Our class kept up regular reunions. I graduated from the University of Iowa in 1930, where I was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and where I played in the band. Margaret graduated from Oskaloosa High School and was Valedictorian of her class in 1930. She attended Penn College in Oskaloosa, Oberlin College, in Oberlin, Ohio, and she graduated from the University of Iowa in 1934, where she became a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Mortar Board, and Kappa Alpha Theta fraternity.

Our son, Thomas, has his undergraduate degree from the University of Indiana in Opera Staging and his Master's degree in voice from the University of Iowa. Music is his primary interest. He sings well and has a background of directing operas. He taught at the University of Tennessee four years. Margaret Ann attended Central College, had her junior year at the Sorbonne in Paris, France, returned to Pella to graduate from Central in 1968, taught one year at Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. and returned to graduate school at the Sorbonne. She speaks French fluently.

Both Margaret and I have had a great interest in music and in various activities. We have been long time members of the Second Reformed Church. I have been a member of the choir and consistory, and served as treasurer. Margaret is a member of the Guild and Ladies Aid. For over sixty years I have played clarinet and tenor saxophone in the city band. For many years I had a great interest in golf and was club champion in 1953. I was also a member of the Pella Kiwanis Club and served as president.

Margaret was employed as a social worker from 1934-1939; she worked in the Admissions Office of Pella Community Hospital 1965-1970, and she was part-time bookkeeper at Waechter Lumber Company 1953-1968. Margaret studied violin and viola with Carl Woodford, of Oskaloosa, and she had played in the orchestras at Oberlin College, the University of Iowa, the Oskaloosa Symphony, and the College Community Orchestra at Central College, Pella. She was a charter member of Chapter AE, T.T.T., Oct. 21, 1938, and also of the Pella branch of A.A.U.W. Feb. 16, 1950. She has also been a member of Chapter BU, P.E.O. since 1939, and of the Ladies Social and Literary Club since 1949. She served as trustee at the Carnegie Viersen Public Library from 1959 to 1984.

I was born in Pella and have lived here my entire life. I would not like to live anywhere else. We have all enjoyed the close ties of friends.

by Donald Waechter

WALRAVEN, GERRIT AND ALIDA

F800

Gerrit Walraven was born Jan. 4, 1862, in Herwijen, Gelderland, The Netherlands, the son of Jan and Geertje (Van Zee). Gerrit started his education in The Netherlands. In 1869 he and his family came to the United States and settled in the Leighton area. A few years later they moved to a 160-acre farm north of Pella in the Bethel neighborhood which his father Jan purchased from Adrianus Kuyper on Mar. 1, 1883, for $6,080. Here he lived with his one brother and three sisters.

Alida Van Zante was born Oct. 23, 1872, the daughter of Dieles and Echje (Van Houweling) who had come from Holland around 1854. She lived in the Otley area and received her education in a rural school. Alida had four brothers and five sisters. On Mar. 10, 1897, she married Gerrit Walraven at the Van Zante home. She moved to the Walraven farm where Gerrit was already farming after his mother had moved to Pella in the Strawtown area on Washington St. They later purchased the farm from the Walraven heirs as well as the farm across the road from John and Cora Hagens.

The couple were the parents of seven children: Agnes, Gertrude, Rossetta, John, Delis, Harold, and Carolina. All the children received their education at the Battle Ridge School north of Pella.

Agnes was born Sept. 27, 1898. She married Francis De Geus son of William and Regina (Huyser) on Feb. 27, 1924. Most of their married life was spent on a farm west of Pella. They now reside at 914 Union. Their two daughters are Gladys Newendorp and Bernice Van Gorp.

Gertrude was born May 11, 1900. On Dec. 29, 1926, she married Richard Lautenbach son of Lambert and Elizabeth (Toom); and they farmed in the Des Moines River area southwest of Pella. Her husband passed away in Dec. of 1927, and she and her infant daughter Richarla Alida moved back to her parental home. Her daughter married Bernard Van Ee who passed away Nov. 2, 1986, and Gertrude died on Jan. 20, 1987.

Rossetta was born on Jan. 13, 1903. She graduated from Pella High School in 1922. She taught Battle Ridge School for four years and married Elias Kolenbrander son of Gerrit B. and Cornelia (Hollenbrands) on Feb. 17, 1927. They farmed in the Leighton area until moving to Pella in 1931. Rossetta passed away on May 23, 1986.

John was born on Oct. 27, 1904. He loved farming the Walraven family farm which he and his sister later purchased. They lived there until 1973 when he and Gertrude moved to East First and Lincoln where he still lives. He enjoys helping out on the farm.

Delis was born on Sept. 12, 1906. He married Beulah Wheeler daughter of Vern and Netta (Bain) on Feb. 14, 1934, in a double ceremony with his sister, Carolina. They lived on farms in the Pella area until purchasing a farm east of Otley. In 1983 they moved to their present home at 1361 Main. Their two daughters are Joan Glassman and Marilyn Cummings.

Harold was born Feb. 6, 1908. He graduated from Pella High School. He married Jennie Ver Schuur daughter of Aart and Janje (Ver Meer) on Apr. 16, 1930. They farmed in the Pella, Otley, and Galesburg areas until building their new home on the Walraven farm they purchased across from the Walraven homestead. Harold met with a fatal accident caused by an overturned lawnmower on Aug. 22, 1986. They have three daughters: LaVelma Quintanella; Donna

Gerrit Walraven Family taken in 1924. Front, l-r: Gerrit, Rossetta, Alida; Middle, l-r: Carolina, Delis, Harold; Back, l-r: Gertrude, John, Agnes.

Vriezelaar; and Phyllis Ulrich. Their son Gerrit Arthur died in infancy.

Carolina was born on Feb. 4, 1910. She attended Pella High School. On Feb. 14, 1934, she married John Zuidema, son of Henry and Sykie (Bergman), in a double ceremony with her brother Delis at the Walraven home. They farmed in the Sully area and retired on an acerage west of Killduff where they still live. They have one son, Henry.

Gerrit and Alida attended the Bethel Church and later transferred their membership to the First Reformed Church of Pella. They enjoyed the Dutch worship services and also talking the Dutch language.

As the family got older there was time for Gerrit to go hunting and Alida to do handwork, which they very much enjoyed. They were devoted to their children and grandchildren. Gerrit died May 30, 1938, and Alida, June 10, 1954.

by Bernice Van Gorp

WELLER FAMILY

F801

The first records of the Weller family are from Gouda, dated 1799, when Jacob Weller married Teuntje Maarschalk, daughter of Steeve Maarschalk and Pietertje de Pier. Jacob and Tuentje's oldest son Johannes Valentyn Weller married Pieternella Snel, daughter of Piet Snel and Hester Van Horn, and to Johannes and Pieternella, Johan Jacob Weller was born in 1827 in Gouda. Johan married Berendina Lekkel, daughter of Berend Hendrik Lekkel and Catrina van der Voort of Zwolle. The Lekkel family has been traced to the 1748 marriage of Johan Lekkel and Elizabeth Dorgeloo in Ommen.

In the 1850's Johan and Berendina Weller settled in Boskoop, South Holland, a town with a world wide reputation for the growing of nursery stock. In Boskoop, Johan started the Weller Nursery and it continued in the Weller family until the middle of 1970's.

In 1905 Johan's son Berend Hendrik and wife, Trintje Booij, daughter of Arie Booij and Martintje Ramp, sailed from Rotterdam to make their home in Holland, Mich. with their seven children. They were preceded by Berend's sister Petronella and brother Pieter. Berend and Pieter began a new world Weller's Nursery immediately, which remained a family operation until it was sold in 1980.

Arie, the oldest son of Berend and Trintje, was six years old when the family arrived in Michigan and at an early age worked in the Nursery. He traveled nationwide as a salesman for the Nursery, and in 1928 started his own business called "Regal Bulb Company" which acted as a wholesaler of tulip and gladiola bulbs. The business functioned until the early 1950's when the market was invaded by lower-priced bulbs imported from The Netherlands. Arie turned the business over to his brothers Henry and Jack and established himself in the real estate business until his death in 1968.

In 1924 Arie Weller married Gertrude Ver Hey of Holland, Michigan. Gertrude's parents were Jacob Ver Hey and Hendrika Zonnebelt. Jacob's father, Willem Ver Hey, was born in Lopik, South Holland, and came to the U.S. in 1854, settling in the Zeeland area of Michigan, and married Santina de Koejer, daughter of Jan de Koejer and Francina de Visser, in 1856. Jan de Koejer, a native of Zaamslag, Zeeland, came to the U.S. in 1848. Jan was 66 years old, a widower, and arrived with five children. His name is honored on a monument in Zeeland as one of the first settlers.

Parents of Hendrika Zonnebelt, Willem Zonnebelt and Geertje Boone, were raised in the Ommen area of Overisel. In 1873 they settled in Fillmore Twp., Allegan Co., Mich., with three small children. Six more children were born in the U.S., including Hendrika, born in 1880.

Hendrika and Jacob Ver Hey were married in 1900 in Holland, Mich. and were the parents of four children, Anthony, Gertrude, Stanley, and Ruth.

Front, l-r: Cindy, Kate, Sally; Middle, l-r: Matt, Shirely, Ben, Bill; Back, Ken.

The only child of Gertrude Ver Hey and Arie Weller was Kenneth born in 1925. Ken attended Holland Public Schools and graduated in 1943. Following service in the Navy, he enrolled at Hope College and graduated in 1948. He earned his M.B.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan in the field of business and economics. He was a member of the Hope College faculty from 1949 until 1969, and served as chairman of the economics and business department and as a coach for the college football team until he resigned to accept the position as President of Central College in Pella, Iowa.

In 1950 Ken Weller had married Shirely Gess, daughter of William and Mildred Fuller Gess of Buchanan, Mich. Shirely was a graduate of Hope College and taught school until William Arie was born in 1953. Bill attended grade school in Holland Mich., and entered the tenth grade in Pella in 1969. He graduated from Pella High in 1972, and after studying in London, graduated from Hope College in 1976. He received an M.A. degree in English from the University of Iowa in 1979. In 1978 Bill married Sally Brumels, daughter of Weldon and Marilyn Trapp Brumels of Grand Rapids, Mich. Sally graduated from Hope College in 1978. A son, Benjamin Arie, was born 1986 in Crystal Lake, Ill., where Bill is teaching literature at South High School.

In 1956, while the Ken Weller family lived temporarily in Ann Arbor, Mich., Matthew Jay was born. Matt attended grade school in Holland, Mich., entered the seventh grade in Pella in 1969, and graduated from Pella High in 1975. He graduated from Central College in 1979, after studying in Wales and Yucatan. The same year he married Cynthia Harrison, a graduate of Iowa Lutheran School of Nursing, and daughter of Robert and Louise Hale Harrison. The Matt Wellers lived in Grundy Center, Ia., from 1979 to 1983 where Matt taught Jr. High English. In 1983, they moved to Missoula, Mont. where Matt received a master's degree from the University of Montana. In 1985 he became principal of the Harding County High School, Buffalo, S. Dak., where a daughter, Kathryn Elise, was born. The family moved to Salmon, Id. in 1986 where Matt is principal of the Salmon High School.

Kenneth J. Weller has served at the helm of Central College since 1969. He was tabbed as one of the most effective college presidents in the nation in a 1978 study which singled out 100 of the top presidents in the United States.

Since 1975 Weller has worked extensively with the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). He is a past chairman of the Division III NCAA President's Commission and remains a commission member. He was also a vice president of the NCAA and he has served on the NCAA Council, the executive committee, and the long-range planning committee.

Weller serves on the board of directors of the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), and he was a member of that organization's government relations advisory council from 1981-85. He is also a member of the Iowa Association of Independent Colleges and Universities Executive Committee. He has served as President of this group and currently chairs the federal relations committee.

During his years at Central, the campus has

seen many significant changes. The Arts and Behavioral Sciences Building, International Studies Building, Central Hall, Douwstra Auditorium and Jordan Hall were all renovated. Weller also oversaw the construction of the Geisler Learning Resource Center, the Vermeer Science Center, The Chapel, the Kruidenier Center, the P.H. Kuyper Gymnasium, the H.S. Kuyper Fieldhouse, the A.N. Kuyper Field and more than a dozen student residences.

Throughout his presidency Weller has placed special emphasis on the relationship between the Reformed Church in America and its colleges. He has organized joint conferences with the presidents, special ongoing consultations with various church officers and staff, and a sustained program to honor, through formal recognition, the church's key leaders.

by Shirely Weller

WESSELINK, EDWARD JAMES AND ANNA JOYCE

F802

Joyce Klein married Edward James Wesselink (1916) in 1939. Ed's family lived in Sioux Center, Ia. He served as Pella Postmaster and earlier was a school teacher. Ed has had a life-long interest in education and served for 17 years on the Pella Community School District school board, serving as a board member and as president.

During her high school years, Joyce was a member of "The Three Little Girls in Blue", a singing group which performed on WHO radio. She was a vocal music major at Central College, and graduated in 1970, after taking several years off to raise four children. She taught music in New Sharon, Ia. for a brief time. She later became an outreach person with Marion County Community Action Agency, which led to the position as teacher in the Head Start program for pre-school children from low-income families. She retired in 1982.

Ed and Joyce have four children.

Karen Nelle Wesselink (1942) married Don TeRonde in 1963. They live in Pella, Ia. Don is a clinical pharmacist at the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Knoxville, Ia. Karen is a registered nurse in the Pella Community Schools and a partner with her sister, Gayle, in the Midwest Nanny Academy in Des Moines, Ia. Don and Karen have two children: Stephanie (1967), a student at Central College; John Mark (1975), a sixth grader at Lincoln Elementary School in Pella.

Gayle Wesselink (1948) is a registered dental hygienist and assists her husband, Dr. Charles Collins, in his orthodontics practice. She is also a partner with her sister Karen in the Midwest Nanny Academy in Des Moines, Ia. Gayle and Chuck live in Des Moines, Ia., and have three children: Jennifer Joyce (1970), a junior at Roosevelt High School; Christina (1979), a second grader at Hubbell Elementary School; Charles Edward (1981), a kindergarten student at Hubbell Elementary.

Mark Edward Wesselink (1953) married Melinda Miller in 1983. Melinda is active in the field of graphic arts. Mark has followed the sport of tennis to many areas of the world, such as Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. He is presently assistant women's tennis coach at Harvard University. Mark and Melinda live in Boston, Mass.

Peggy Joyce Wesselink (1957) is a broker for Edward D. Jones, Inc., with an office in Atlantic, Ia. Peggy married David Dozark, a teacher with the Community College in Council Bluffs, Ia. in 1976. Their children are: Katherine Nelle (1979), a second grader in the Atlantic Elementary School; Douglas David (1981), at home.

by Joyce Wesselink

WESTERKAMP, HARMEN

F803

Harmen Westerkamp was born Aug. 20, 1845, at Wolvega, the Netherlands. There he learned the carpenter trade.

He came to the United States of America in 1869, and settled in Marion Co., north of Pella, where he was engaged in farming. He served as a deacon in the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

In 1871, his father Fedde Westerkamp, born on Feb. 21, 1813, and his mother, Jeltze Jelsma Westerkamp, born May 5, 1814, came to live with him. A letter written in Apr., 1871, tells of their coming with two trunks and a feather bed. They asked that Harmen meet them in Pella.

In 1879, he helped his brother Johannes and his wife Aalije and their seven children come to the United States. They lived with Harmen awhile as he helped them make a new start in the States. Their seven children were: Fred Westerkamp, Albert Westerkamp, Yelle Westerkamp, Lena Westerkamp Den Burger, Betsy Westerkamp De Haai, Harmen Westerkamp, and Nellie Westerkamp Crosby. Later, in the States, their eighth child Maggie Westerkamp De Geus was born.

In 1895, Harmen married Franzina Vermeulen. She had come to the United States in 1893, to care for her aunt, Mrs. Albert Pyer, who was one of the first settlers of Pella. Harmen and Franzina had three children. They were: Herman born Mar. 25, 1899, Nellie born Feb. 5, 1903, and Peter H. born July 17, 1906.

Herman farmed north of Pella all his life except for one year that he spent in the South. He died Oct. 9, 1982.

Nellie died of polio at the age of 7 yrs., 8 mos., 10 days, on Oct. 15, 1910.

Peter married Nellie Hiemstra, daughter of John F. and Maggie Visser Hiemstra, on Feb. 15, 1933.

Harmen died Oct. 24, 1929. Franzina died Mar. 31, 1950.

by Mrs. Peter H. Westerkamp

WESTERKAMP, PETER H.

F804

Peter H. Westerkamp family. Front, l to r: Nellie, Norma, and Peter; Back, l to r: Mildred, Howard, and Francine.

Peter H. Westerkamp, son of Harmon and Franzina Vermeulen Westerkamp, was born July 17, 1906. He was married to Nellie Hiemstra, daughter of John F. and Maggie Visser Hiemstra, on Feb. 15, 1933. She was born Aug. 16, 1909.

Peter and Nellie farmed near Peoria for 43 years. They were members of the Peoria Christian Reformed Church.

They are parents of four children: Francene born Oct. 17, 1935, Mildred born Feb. 13, 1938, Howard born May 24, 1941, and Norma born Feb. 10, 1945. They also have 19 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

In 1976 they retired and moved to Pella at 1218 West 2nd St. They transferred their church membership to the Third Reformed Church in Pella.

Peter and Nellie have enjoyed traveling in the U.S. and abroad, especially in Holland, visiting relatives. Nellie also enjoys crocheting as a hobby and has made many crocheted things for family and friends.

Their children and their families are as follows: Francene Pearl (1935) married on June 10, 1953, to Gerrit Rooda (1933), son of Andrew and Clara Van Dyke Rooda. Gerrit and Francene farm and operate a dairy farm near Searsboro, Ia. Their six children and grandchildren are: Norma Kay (1954) married to John Whitehead on Aug. 1, 1980, and their son Joseph (1984); Gary (1956) married to Jo Fisk on Sept. 17, 1976, and their children Teneil (1979) and Trustin (1981) (this marriage was dissolved); Grant (1959) married to Sue Bowen on Nov. 30, 1979, their daughter Trisha (1982); Gayla (1960) married to Scott Van Soelen on Aug. 10, 1979, and their two children Jeremy (1981) and Justin (1982); Fonda (1962); and Heidi (1976).

Mildred Joyce (1938) married on Oct. 18, 1956 to Clifford Vos (1936), son of Joe and Elizabeth Moes Vos. Cliff and Mildred grain farm and do mechanical work near Reasoner, Ia. Their six children and grandchildren are: Judson (1957) married to Pamela Jansen on June 17, 1977, and their four children Joel (1978), Jaren (1980), Janae (1982), and Jacie (1984); Clinton (1959) married to Marla Nieuwsma on Dec. 28, 1979, and their two children Curtis (1982) and Mindy (1985); Meldon (1963); Weston (1965); Nolan (1970); and Neisha (1972).

Howard Peter (1941) married on Jan. 19, 1962 to Bonnie Vander Linden (1943), daughter of Kenneth and Carolyn Roorda Vander Linden. Howard and Bonnie farm and operate a machinery business north of Pella. Their three children are: Harris (1963) married to Jacki De Boef on Jan. 19, 1985; Bryce (1969); and Vance (1971).

Norma Lurana (1945) married on Jan. 23, 1964 to Wayne Van Dyke (1943), son of Gert and Gertrude Vande Lune Van Dyke. Wayne and Norma farm and own Van Dyke Repair north of Pella. Their four children are: Ward (1968), Niles (1970), Wade (1972), and Natasha (1978).

by Mrs. Peter H. Westerkamp

WIELAARD, HENDRIK

F805

Hendrik Wielaard was born on Nov. 29, 1837, in The Netherlands, the son of Adrian Wielaard and Kryntjie (Klein) Wielaard. He married (date unknown) Aagje Huyser, born on June 18, 1837, in The Netherlands, the daughter of Arie Huyser and Sophia (V.d. Schelling) Huyser. In 1873 they left for America bringing with them their children: Sophia, born in 1860; Arie, born in 1865; and George, born in 1868. Before coming to Pella, they lived for ten years in Passaic, N.J. where Kryn was born in 1877 and Leenderdt in 1879. At Pella, they first farmed and later moved into town where Hendrik and his son, Leenderdt, started up a store selling groceries and dry goods. In about 1907 or 1908, Hendrik and Aagje moved into the Home for the Aged — now known as Fair Haven. They paid $1,500.00 for a room which was theirs until death. She passed away Jan. 3, 1915, at age 77; he passed away Dec. 6, 1916, at age 79. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Sophia Wielaard married Mathew "Tice" De Leeuw on Oct. 11, 1882. They had eight children: Adriana, Henry, Agnes, John (died at age 4 mos.), Hester, Jennie, John, and Ira. Mathew and Sophia were engaged in farming. Mr. De Leeuw passed away in 1900 at age 45 and was buried in the Dunsmore Cemetery north of Leighton. In about 1901 or 1902, Sophia married a widower, John Simon Korver, and they had two daughters: Corena and Willa. Willa passed away at the age of two days. Mr. Korver passed away in 1920 at age 82 and was buried in the Black Oak Cemetery. Sophia passed away in 1944 at age 83 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. At the time of this writing Sophia's only living child, Corena (Korver) Hardy, resides in Arcadia, California She has been a resident of California for 61 years.

Arie Wielaard married Gertrude Van Nimwegen on Nov. 18, 1885. They had three children: Henry John, Elton, and Marie G. After the deaths of Elton at age 14 and Marie at age 12, they adopted a daughter, Helen. Arie changed his name to Wielard. Arie and Gertrude farmed, and later in Pella he operated a blacksmith and welding shop at 709 E. 1st Street, where at the time of this writing Custom Automotive is located. Henry John married Susanna Rapp, and they had two daughters: Gertrude, now Mrs. Leonard J. Maasdam of rural Pella, (their story appears elsewhere in this edition), and Johanna, now Mrs. Arie J. Lanser of Sully. Helen married John R. Johnson and resides in Ottumwa. Arie passed away in 1940 at age 75; Gertrude passed away in 1952 at age 94. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

George Wielaard married Mary Ella Runk, but the date is unknown. They resided in Oskaloosa where he was employed as a carpenter and sold tombstones. George changed his last name to Wielard. To this union no children were born, but they did raise and care for her niece, Mary Ella Kranenburg, now Mrs. John A. Van Zee of California John and Mary Ella had two children: Kenneth and Judith. John passed away in 1978 at age 71 and was buried in California; Mrs. Van Zee still resides in California Mrs. Wielard passed away in 1922 at age 56 or 57; George passed away in 1931 at age 62. Both were buried in White Cemetery near William Penn College, Oskaloosa.

Kryn Wielaard married Tryntje (Kate) Vander Wiel on Feb. 23, 1900. Tryntje was born in 1876, the daughter of Geert (Gerrit) Vander Wiel and Lena (Van Rheenen) Vander Wiel. Kryn changed his name to Wielard. Kryn and Tryntje had four children: Gerrit, Frank, Jennie, and Pauline. Kryn and Tryntje farmed until the spring of 1917 when they moved into Pella, where on Dec. 7, 1917, she passed away at age 41 from pneumonia. Tryntje was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Kryn was employed as an electrician, a repairman for the Otley telephone exchange and did clock repair. On Oct. 14, 1931, he married Henrietta (Bosveld) Veenstra. They resided in both Oskaloosa and Pella. Kryn passed away in 1965 at age 88; Henrietta passed away in 1966 at age 84. Both were buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

Gerrit, son of Kryn and Tryntje, married Jennie De Hamer on Dec. 8, 1932. Their children are: Kenneth, Janice, and Marvin. Gerrit was employed as a repairman for the Otley telephone exchange, as an electrician with his father, and later for Gerrit Van Den Berg Electric Company. Then he worked for Vermeer Manufacturing Company as an electrician, and while employed there, he helped wire the Dutch Buffet and Roler Rink, the first Hilltop Manor, the indoor swimming pool, and at the Vermeer Manufacturing Company plant itself. Gerrit passed away in 1984 at age 82 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Jennie resides in Fair Haven. Frank, son of Kryn and Tryntje, married Grace Van Ryswyk on Feb. 28, 1930. Their children are: Vernon and Marilyn. Frank and Grace farmed until Dec. 1948, when they moved into Pella. He worked in maintenance at Central College, and later the REC; Grace was self-employed as a piano instructor. Frank passed away in 1977 at age 74 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Grace resides in Pella. Jennie, daughter of Kryn and Tryntje, married William H. Van Der Hart on Mar. 10, 1930. Their children are: Frank, Katherine, Harry, Thomas, and Louis. William and Jennie farmed all their married life. He passed away in 1974 at age 73 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Jennie resides in Pella. (Their story appears elsewhere in this edition). Pauline, daughter of Kryn and Tryntje, married Louis De Wild on Nov. 19, 1931, and to this union was born a son, Howard. Louis and Pauline farmed all their married life and were employed part time at Fowler Telephone Company, later known as Contel. Louis passed away in 1972 at age 71 and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery. Pauline resides in Pella.

Leenderdt (Leonard) Wielaard married Maggie Rozenberg on Mar. 18, 1903. They had two daughters: Agnes and Delia. Leonard was the only son of Hendrik and Aagje who did not change his last name. Leonard entered the general merchandise business in South Pella in 1900 — at first operating the small store with his father, and later by himself after his father's retirement. In 1914, he built a new and larger store at the corner of Oskaloosa and Carson Streets. The new store adjoined the old one. (The building erected in 1914 still stands and is an apartment house now). Also in 1914, Leonard entered into a partnership with James Van Dusseldorp and in 1917 sold his interest to him. In 1918, Leonard was engaged in the clothing business with Dick Den Adel. In May 1919, Leonard bought half-interest in the White Way Auto Company and continued in business there until 1942, when he sold his interest. Agnes married Arie G. Van Gent, and they had three children: Margaret, Donald, and Leo. Delia married Jake Vander Wal, and they had three children: Carl, Marvin, and Jerry. Leonard Wielaard passed away in 1960 at age 80; Maggie Wielaard passed away in 1964 at age 82. Both are buried in Oakwood Cemetery.

by Vernon Wielard

WILLEMSEN, HENRY W. AND JOHANNA (SPRONK)

F806

In 1911, Henry and Johanna (Spronk) Willemsen left Doodewaard, Holland for the United States of America, with their family of ten children. Their oldest son William (Bill) had come one year earlier. The children that came with them were: John, Jennie, Dick, Johanna, Cornelia (Kate), Henry Jr., Jeff, Henrietta, Corneilus (Neal), and Joe. Joe was only one year old when they arrivedied

Once here, the mother was very unhappy and would have returned if possible. In all the years she lived in this country she never spoke English.

Henry W. was a hired man for Barney Van Roekel on a farm near Sully, Ia. They later moved to a farm north of Bunker Hill School. While living there the oldest daughter, who was married to Chris Vander Peut, diedied She left two children: a daughter Josephine, age five; and a son Albert, age one. Henry and Johanna took the grandchildren and gave them and their father Chris Vander Peut a home.

In 1922 they moved to a farm northwest of Otley, Ia. Upon retiring in 1936 they moved to Pella where they lived the rest of their lives. Henry W. died in 1952, and Johanna, his wife, in 1957, both at the age of 85 years.

by Betty (Van Zee) Vander Peut

The Henry Willemsen Family. Front, l-r: Henrietta, Joe, Neal, Jeff, Henry, Kate, Johanna, and Dick; Back, l-r: Jennie, Johanna and Henry W. Willemsen, John, and Bill.

WISSE, CHARLES

F807

Charles Wisse was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. on July 24, 1954, to Ralph Wisse and Freda Hoeksema Wisse, the last of three children. His brother is John Wisse, and his sister is Mary Wisse Vande Noord.

Charles graduated from Pella High School in 1972, and after working for a while, enrolled at Hawkeye Institute of Technology in Waterloo. He graduated from this college in 1978, and took a job with Intel of Santa Clara, Calif., immediately after graduation. He is presently an engineer with this company and lives in Santa Cruz, Calif. He is unmarried.

by Freda Wisse

WISSE, JOHN

F808

John Wisse was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. on Feb. 11, 1948, to Ralph and Freda Hoeksema Wisse, the oldest of three children. He has a sister Mary and a brother Chuck.

Beverly Roozeboom was born in Oskaloosa, Ia. on Oct. 1, 1951, to Henry G. and the late Mary Ann Groenendyk Roozeboom. She has three brothers: Dennis, Marvin, and Gary; and four sisters: Marge, Martha, Arlene, and Patti.

John and Bev both graduated from Pella Community High School. They were married June 16, 1972, and have always resided in Pella.

John is a communications technician for Contel, and Bev is a teller at Marion County State Bank.

Their children are: Patrick John, born May 29, 1975, Alison Jean, born Apr. 7, 1977, and Julie Ann, born July 28, 1979.

The children are all students at Pella Community Schools.

by Freda Wisse

WISSE, RALPH

F809

Ralph and Freda Wisse's 35th wedding anniversary in 1981. Front, l to r: Mary and Freda; Back, l to r: John, Chuck, and Ralph.

Ralph Wisse was born in Pella Apr. 23, 1921 to John Wisse and Bessie Runyan Wisse, the last of three boys. His brothers are James and Arthur Wisse.

Freda Hoeksema was born in Pella on July 29, 1923 to John Hoeksema and Alice Koopmans Hoeksema, the oldest of four children. She has one brother Max and sisters Dorothy and Shirley.

Both Ralph and Freda graduated from Pella High School. Ralph served with the Army from 1942 to early 1946. Ralph and Freda were married Apr. 14, 1946 in Pella and have spent their entire married life here. Ralph served sixteen years with the Pella Volunteer Fire Department.

Ralph retired in 1986 after having worked twenty-five years at Rolscreen. Freda is working part-time at Stravers Hardware, where she has been employed for the past nineteen years.

The members of the Ralph Wisse family are: John, born Feb. 11, 1948, married Beverly Roozeboom. Their children are Patrick, Alison, and Julie. Mary Jane, born July 7, 1952, married Donald Vande Noord. Their children are Tracy, Todd, and Timothy. Charles Jay was born July 24, 1954.

by Freda Wisse

WITZENBURG FAMILY

F810

Mrs. Henry Braafhart standing by the street sign in Nijwegen, Netherlands.

Witzenburg Coat of Arms.

Marble plate on a barn in Groningen near Bedum.

The bridge on the Witzenburg farm in Groningen.

The Witzenburg Name

Jacob Van Hinte's brother, Jan E. Van Hinte, did the Witzenburg family genealogy in The Netherlands. Jacob Van Hinte was the author of the book recently translated into the English language entitled, "Netherlanders in America." Jan and Jacob Van Hinte's grandfather, Meertin Witzenburg, was a first cousin to Maartin and Johannes Witzenburg who came to America in 1849.

In The Netherlands we find the name spelled in various ways, but according to Mr. Van Hinte they are all related; also the name is found in various places. We found the name in marble on a large brick barn in Groningen; also on the bridge that goes to the farm. Jan Van Hinte wrote once regarding the farm in Ellerhuizen Co., Bedum, that it was the birthplace of him and his father, and when he searched the archives he looked at the book, a list of the highest taxed people in the Dept. of the Wester Eems written by P.J. Van Winter, from which he learned that in 1807 Jan Leendrts Groenevelt lived there so many yards or meters 100 from house #167 close to Bedum. This place was called Witsenborg. The rent was 100 guilders and a fat goose annually! the place was bought on May 10, 1782, for 6,750 guilders. The sellers were Roelef Emes and Janna Meiendens jointly. Married in Bedum Dec. 18, 1772, the bride came from Ten Boer.

According to an article in the Nieuwsblad van het noorden of Jan. 12, 1935, written by the late Mr. Tilbusscher the farm had originally been a real mansion. The name was then Witsenhurd, but in the 18th century the estate was promoted to the name Witsenborg. The later farm was built in 1835. You can still see the course of the canal and the land itself had been quite a large tract. There is a higher elevation which may be in connection with an ancient settlement. By digging in the canal Mr. Van Hinte's parents found a beautiful urn which they kept to show people, but the important thing is that nothing is known in the archives about where this name of Witsenborg came from.

In Rijswijk there stood, in the year 1952, the oldest hotel in all The Netherlands. It was a huge structure built in the year 1039. It was named Kuys Witsenburg. It was my idea that this was one name but, when I was in The Netherlands, I learned that this was two men — one named Kuys, the other Witsenburg. In May 1963 the hotel was closed and later replaced by a shopping center. The restaurant in the shopping center, however, still kept the name Witsenburg, but when we visited Rijswijk in the summer of 1986 the restaurant too had disappeared and a new bowling alley stood in it's place.

In Nijmegen I had my picture taken by a street sign which read Witsenburgselaan. We were told that eons back there stood a Witsenburg castle, therefore the name Witsenburgselaan. Mr. Van Hinte once wrote me that Witsenburgselaan comes from the house named Witsenburg which was located in the high elevaion between the Groesbeek en Mookse road. This was mentioned for the first time in 1554 and, with a large degree of certainty, built by Reiner van Eembruggen who died in 1558. He was the head of the royal mint in Nijmegen. One can check his family tree Werken 27, 1955, page 92 and the following pages. The name Witsenburg has been mentioned several times in the local history of genealogy, however, no information can be found. Perhaps the name was adopted from Witsenburg in Rijswijk. Also, it could have happened in 1500 Johannes von Witzelenborch was a deacon of the Kapittel of the diocese church. His brother or another relative Walter de Witzelenborch was named a canon in 1496. The previously mentioned Johannes is also identified with Johannes De Boemel who in 1488 was the papal commissioner of Utrecht; he was also a priest Alkmaar. The huis named Witsenburg probably was torn down 1580-1582.

by Leona V. Witzenburg

WITZENBURG, JOHN A.

F811

John A. Witzenburg, son of Anna and Dena (Klein) Witzenburg, was born Dec. 28, 1892. He was married Sept. 29, 1917, to Grace Fennema, who was born Mar. 25, 1898. They had one daughter, Pauline Witzenburg, or Mrs. Harold Van Zee.

John was in business with his brother, Gerrit, for many years. It was John and Gerrit who brought the first large groups of sheep into the Pella vicinity and the surrounding area. They traveled far and wide into the Dakotas, Montana, Colorado, and New Mexico. They would buy up box cars of sheep, and have them shipped by rail to sell to Iowa farmers. Later when the farmers clipped their sheep they would buy the wool. I can remember well how our basement would be stacked with these big long wool sacks way up to the ceiling. Sheep was their speciality for several years until competition became too competitive. They then switched to general livestock until they retired.

John and Sarah (Witzenburg) Menninga are the only living children of Anna and Dena (Klein) Witzenburg of their ten children.

by Leona V. (Witzenburg) Braafhart

WITZENBURG, MAARTIN

F812

Maartin Witzenburg.

Lutche (Jelsma) Witzenburg.

Home in Pella of Maartin and Lutche Jelsma Witzenburg. Located at W. 4th Street.

One of Marion County's most successful farmers was born in Bergum, Friesland, The Netherlands, on Aug. 2, 1820. He was married on May 3, 1846, to Lutche Jelsma. She was born Jan. 15, 1827. On Dec. 23, 1846, their first child, a baby girl named Beerentje, was born; on Dec. 16, 1848, a son, Jella. On Sept. 22, 1849, Maartin, his wife and little family, together with his brother, Johannes, all left for the United States of America. According to my grandfather, Anna, Maartin paid for an entire boat load of people to travel to America.

He bought 525 acres, well improved, from Daniel Earl in Marion County, Iowa, four miles west of Pella. He served as township trustee two terms.

The late Mrs. Ed Cook told me he was her and her sister's guardian. She also told me that Maartin was very knowledgeable about medicine. Doctors were scarce, and he would help people in need. Several people were also given their financial start in the Pella community by Maartin Witzenburg. After he bought the land he wanted for himself and his children, he still had lots of money left over but he didn't want any more land for himself, so several people in the community became rich on land Maartin helped them buy.

According to T.G. Van der Meulen, when he visited Pella, in 1881, Maartin was the most well-to-do cattleman in the vicinity of Pella. He concentrated on the fattening of steers which he sold per pound. In order to weigh 20 steers all at once a scale was specially built for that purpose behind the barn.

T.G. Van der Meulen spent many a rewarding hour and day in the home of this Frisian, M. Witzenburg, in his "dwarshuizinge" (a red brick), Frisian-style house, in which the ridge of the roof runs at a right angle to that the attached barn.

Mr. Van der Meulen remarked that at times much reading was evident. This writer was very surprised by the range of reading and "the solid knowledge" of Dutch history that M. Witzenburg appeared to have. He had a knowledge that enabled him to draw conclusions and parallels between the rights of nations and the rights of the law. This once more goes to show that not just the least from among the Dutch emigrated to America. Surprising to me was the fact that their family Bible was in English!

Maartin and Lutche lost five children, including the two they brought over with them, and had five living children: Seitske, or Sarah R. married William Van Peursem; Anna Witzenburg married Dena Klein; Beerentje, who changed her name to Rebecca, married Nickolaas Vander Linden; Jella Witzenburg married Lena Ver Dught; and Johannes, or John, Witzenburg married Myria Van Zante. He must have been a twin, even though he was born 16 days before his sister, Johana, according to the record in the Bible. I never heard that he was a twin, but according to the record, Delos's father and Harold Witzenburg's grandfather, was a twin! His sister died the same year she was born, in Oct.

by Leona V. (Witzenburg) Braafhart

WORMHOUDT FAMILY

F813

Hendrik Wormhoudt (1825-1907) left Rotterdam, Holland, on the good ship Maastroom early in Apr. of 1847, bound for Baltimore, Md. However, his final destination was Marion County, Ia., via Penn., the Ohio River, St. Louis, and Keokuk. He was the only member of his family to journey to America. On the same ship was the G.H. Overkamp family, destined to play a major role in the life of the Wormhoudts. In Apr. of 1850, Hendrik and Aartje Overkamp were married and they had two children – Johanna M. who was born in 1851, and married J. de Gelder Hospers, and Gerrit Hendrik (1853-1935). Aartje died in 1855. Three years later Hendrik married Aartje's sister, Antje Overkamp (1839-1939) who may be remembered as Grandmother Wormhoudt and lived a little more than 100 years. Hendrik and Antje had several children – Henry D. of Chicago, Effie (Mrs. Tony Kuyper) of Chicago, Isaac of Eddyville, John of Ottumwa, Edward of Kahoka, Mo., Andrew I. of Pella, and Dominicus (Dump) of Newton. Hendrik was a carpenter, at one time operated a sawmill, and later was a partner in the retail lumber business of Waechter and Wormhoudt.

Gerrit H. married Maria Den Boer (1859-1928) in June of 1876, and their ten children were: Artie (1877-1912), Dorothy (1879-1951) a schoolteacher and milliner, Anna (1881-1907), Cornelius H. (1883-1957) owner of Wormhoudt Furniture, Henry E. (1885-1964) various business interests, Andrew J. (1887-1974) carpenter and upholsterer, Alonzo B. (1889-1954), G.H. Overkamp (1891-1971) Pella dentist, Alfred (1892-1971) steel mill foreman, and Marion P. (1898-1979) attorney in Washington, D.C. Gerrit was a partner in the Wormhoudt and Plette Furniture Store and undertaking business. He was a devoted and life-long member of the First Reformed Church, where he served many terms as an elder.

Alonzo B. (Lon) married Elisabeth C. De Vries (1890-1979) in Mar. of 1916. Their two sons are Herbert L. born in 1918, and Eugene E. born in 1923. Lon worked as a retail clothier all of his life. He was a partner of Wormhoudt and Kempkes which opened in 1916. Always interested in civic affairs, he was one of the founding fathers of the Pella Historical Society and Tulip Time. He served as general chairman of Tulip Time on more than one occasion. Lon was a member of First Reformed Church, serving as a deacon for several terms, and also a Central College trustee. Elisabeth (Bess) was his devoted wife and homemaker.

Herb, a medical doctor, married Hazel R. Durden in Sept. of 1948. He practiced general surgery in Ottumwa from 1951 until his retirement in 1984. He and Hazel now reside on Amelia Island, Fla. Their children are Lisa M., born in 1953, and James F. born in 1956. Lisa married Stephen B. Nickel in Nov. of 1977, and they have two daughters – Kari Elisabeth born in 1980, and Jennifer Marie born in 1982. At the present time they are stationed at Ramstein AFB in Germany, where Stephen flies an F-16 jet in the U.S. Air Force. James married Amy Mardegan in June of 1984, and they live on Amelia Island, Florida, where Jim owns and operates Lunker Hunters, a bait and tackle business.

Eugene (Gene) lived in Pella most of his life. He was employed at Wormhoudt and Kempkes for several years prior to becoming Credit Manager at Rolscreen Company in 1961. Retiring in 1984, he now resides in Mesa, Ariz.

by Eugene E. Wormhoudt

WYNBERG, JOHN

F814

Jan Wijnberg was born on Oct. 29, 1881, at Akersloot, North Holland, of Hendricus Wijnberg and Keetje Brasser. Jan had only one living brother, Evert Wijnberg. On Aug. 6, 1903, Jan married Cornelia Slings at Velsen, North Holland. While living in The Netherlands, Jan sold insurance. On July 24, 1904, a daughter Cornelia (Cora) Henrietta was born to Jan and Cornelia. On Aug. 10, 1907, Jan sailed for America aboard the S.S. *Columbia*. He arrived in New York on Aug. 18, 1907. John, as he became known as, then went on to Firth, Neb. where a friend from The Netherlands, Chris Bakker, lived. John worked as a section man for the railroad. On Oct. 19, 1907, Cornelia and their daughter, Cora, sailed for America on the S.S. *Nordin*, reuniting with John.

John later started a cream, eggs, and poultry business. In 1917 the Wynberg family moved to Pella. John changed the spelling of his name from Wijnberg to Wynberg. Six more children were born to John and Cornelia. They are Hubert, Henry, Adriana (Ada), Evalena (Evie), and two who died in infancy.

Wanting to expand the poultry and egg business, the Wynbergs added a building that at one time housed a stacker factory and a

washing machine company. Here they housed the chickens which John and his two sons trucked to Chicago. After John retired from the trucking business, he worked part-time at the Overall Factory.

In Pella the family lived for 20 years at 507 Franklin St., the home which was the former Wyatt Earp home. When their children were grown, married, and left home, John and Cornelia (Kay) moved next door to a smaller home at 509 Franklin St. This building is now the Historical Society Store.

On July 4, 1965, John died; Cornelia died on May 7, 1974. Three daughters, Cora Bos (Mrs. John Bos), Ada Dean (Mrs. John Dean), Evie Stravers (Mrs. Tony Stravers), still reside in Pella. Hubert and Berdene reside in Clarendon Hills, Ill., and Henry and Milly in Phoenix, Ariz.

by Evie Stravers

ZANTE, EARL VAN FAMILY

F815

Earl Van Zante, son of Charles Van Zante, married Jennie G. Vande Voort June 16, 1942. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Gerrit Vande Voort. Earl bought the farm, seven miles southeast of Pella on the county line, that his grandfather had bought in 1876. Jennie and Earl's family are: Carol Ilene born 1945. She graduated from Central College. She taught High School for six years. She married Leanord Roovaart. They have three children: Heather, Alesha, and Ryan.

Charles Eugene, born 1950, graduated from Area 5 in Ottumwa and from Sheldon, and was in Iowa Guard. He married Sandi De Groot and has four children: Rochelle, Robert, Joshua, and Joseph.

Howard Allen, born 1954, graduated from high school, attended at Ames, and married Sheryl Shaffer. He is now farming.

Jayne Ellen, born 1956, graduated from Pella High School, married Doug Nunnikhoven and is farming. Their children are Sara Renee, Ben Jay, and Adam Earl.

June Erlyn, born 1958, graduated from Pella High School, went to Area II school and got her R.N. She worked at the VA hospital in Knoxville. She married Verlan Van Wyk. They are farming near Lynville. They have three children: Erlene Verlyn, Hannah Lynn, and Amber Lynea.

by Earl Van Zante

ZWANK FAMILY

F816

In Apr., 1847, Mr. and Mrs. Pieter Zwank and five children, four boys and one girl, sailed from The Netherlands to America on the ship – Catherina Jackson – and were on the ocean 26 days. Somewhere on the ocean Pieter Zwank died and was buried at sea. They were my great-grandparents.

Mrs. Pieter Zwank and children landed at Baltimore, Md., then went on to St. Louis, Mo., then landed at Keokuk, Ia., from there they went to Pella, Ia., under the leadership of H.P. Scholte with the other Hollanders who came as the first Dutch settlers in Pella.

Mr. and Mrs. Pieter Zwank were my great-grandparents.

Mrs. Pieter Zwank and children settled on a farm in the Pella area.

Hubert Zwank, born in The Netherlands in 1835, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Pieter Zwank. He came to America with his mother, sister and brothers. He grew to manhood in the Pella area. He was my grandfather.

Mr. and Mrs. Jan Den Hartog came from The Netherlands to America in 1855 with their six children. Mr. and Mrs. Jan Den Hartog were also my great-grandparents.

Hendrika Den Hartog was born in The Netherlands in 1841. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jan Den Hartog and she was my grandmother.

In 1860 Hendrika Den Hartog married Hubert Zwank. To this union eight children were born: Peter, Effie, Gertie, Jacob (my father), John, Tom, Annie, and Etta.

Peter married Jane Hoksbergen; Effie married Gerrit De Bruyn; Gertie married Wm. Rootselaar; Jacob married Nellie Vos; John married Lizzie Van Oostrum; Tom married Tillie Slycord; Annie married Plez De Moss; and Etta married Joe Slycord.

Baldwin Vos and Anna Van Der Zalm were born in The Netherlands and married there. (They were my grandparents on my mother's side.) They came to America in 1870. They came with three children: John, Jane, and Susan. Five more children were born to them in America: Tony, Henry, Nellie, Sophia, and Johanna.

Baldwin Vos bought some land in the Sandridge neighborhood north of Pella in 1876. Later he bought more land adjoining his previous purchase and that is the farm that Peter owns now.

Jacob Zwank and Nellie Vos (my parents) were married Mar. 17, 1892. To this union eight children were born. Annie was born in 1892 and died in infancy; Hattie in 1894; Bennie in 1896; Nettie in 1898; Herman in 1900; Johanna in 1902-died in 1903; Peter in 1904, Susie in 1906.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Zwank bought the farm from the Vos Estate in 1903 and raised their family there.

Jacob Zwank died Apr. 8, 1944. Nellie Zwank died May 31, 1948. Bennie died Sept. 6, 1965, and Herman died Aug. 11, 1974.

Peter Zwank married Laura Irene Sabin Jan. 12, 1931. To this union two children were born: Donna Rae and Ronald Kay.

Donna married John S. Gosselink. To this union four children were born: John Daryl, Laura Denise, Rhonda Lynn, and Steven Paul.

John married Nancy Hofman. Laura married Roger Kubli. Rhonda married David Van Soelen, and Steven is still at home.

Ronald married Phyllis Ahnen. To this union two boys were born: Ronald Bradley and David Jeremy. Both boys are still at home.

Peter and Irene bought the same farm form the Zwank Estate in 1948 and still own it today. Its location is Section 1 and 2, Twp. 77, Range 18. Peter lived on that farm for 73 years and raised his family there. In 1977 Peter and Irene bought an apartment in a condominium known as East View Terrace at 304 East Third St. in Pella and moved there on Sept. 29, 1977.

by Peter J. Zwank

Earl and Jennie Van Zante children and grandchildren at the wedding of their daughter June to Verlan Van Wyk. The picture was taken at the 3rd Reformed Church in Pella in 1981. Front, l-r: Sheryl, June, Earl, Jennie, Robert, Sarah, Alesha and Heather; Middle, l-r: Verlan, Jayne, Adam, Rochelle, Ryan, and Carol; Back, l-r: Howard, Joshua, Charles, Sandi, Doug, Ben, and Leonard.

ZYLSTRA, CHESTER D.

F817

Chester Duco Zylstra was born in Jasper County, Ia., on Jan. 22, 1919, to Martin and Bertha Schutting Zylstra. On Jan. 24, 1952, he married Leona Mae Schilder, who was born in Pella, Ia., on March 27, 1920, to Arie and Johanna Van Der Beek Schilder.

Chester Duco became engaged in the photo engraving trade upon graduation from high school in 1937. He continued in this business until retirement, with time out of three years to serve in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

Leona taught school after graduation from college in 1942; she also served in the American Red Cross for one year, and did secretarial work before her marriage.

Three children were born to them: Helen Jo (Feb. 11, 1953) married Tom Van Dyke (Feb. 3, 1952) on Aug. 15, 1975. Their children are Amanda Jo, who was born on Feb. 3, 1977, and died on March 10, 1977; Joel Thomas, born Feb. 10, 1978; Greg David, born on Aug. 28, 1979; Laura Ann, born on Nov. 15, 1981; and Megan Joy, born on Sept. 14, 1985.

James Duco (May 21, 1954) married Debra Lynn Wineland (Sept. 24, 1954) on August 27, 1976.

Susan Lee (Oct. 13, 1955) married Duane Groenenboom (Nov. 13, 1956) on Feb. 27, 1976. Their children are Andrew James, born Dec. 18, 1979; Emily Sue, born July 26, 1981; and Hannah Lee, born March 12, 1985.

by Mrs. C.D. Zylstra

ZYLSTRA, MARTIN G.

F818

Mr. and Mrs. Martin G. Zylstra

Martin G. Zylstra was born on July 4, 1863, at Engwierum, Friesland. He came to America at the age of 18 with his parents Gerben Zylstra and Kornelia Smits Zylstra, a brother Tjebbe and sister Antje. His older brother Paul had come a year earlier. After coming to Pella, Martin worked as a farm hand in the Bellefontaine area in Mahaska Co. Working in a non-Dutch community he soon learned to speak the English language. He also worked on the John Voorhees farm for a period of time.

On Nov. 22, 1894, he was united in marriage with Boukje Schuttinga. Boukje, later known as Bertha, was born on Sept. 12, 1873, at Gerkesklooster, in the province of Friesland. At the age of 13 she came to America with her mother Antije Vander Leest Schuttinga, a younger brother Geert and sister Alice, her father having died some years earlier at the age of 38. This family of four accompanied her mother's brother and family to America. After arriving in Pella, Bertha attended school for a year to learn the language. This school stood where the Pella Post Office now stands. For a number of years she worked as a mother's helper and maid in various homes in Pella. After Martin and Bertha were married they lived across the Des Moines River near Durham where they farmed. Their mode of transportation was by means of a spring wagon drawn by a team of horses. Six sons and six daughters were born to this couple, but two daughters died in infancy. Gerben, the eldest, became a minister in the Christian Reformed denomination. Upon graduation from seminary he married Marguerite Smitter from Grand Rapids, Mich. Ann remained with her parents helping in the home and caring for her parents until their death.

Rienk and Paul both farmed in the Sully area. Rienk was married to Johanna Rolffs and Paul married Gertrude Vanden Hoek who came to Sully from South Dakota to teach at the Sully Christian Grade School.

Gerald and Cornelius, better known as Cornie, entered the field of education. They both found their marriage partners in Grand Rapids, Mich. Gerald's bride was Nan De Jong and Cornie married Hendrena Van Wesep. Next in line was Cornelia who became Mrs. Peter R. Van Gorp of Pella. Alyce is now Mrs. Jacob A. Ver Meer. Martha worked at the Pella National Bank for a number of years. After the parents death she and her sister Ann moved to Palo Alto, Calif., where Martha is employed as a secretary. Chester Duco served his country in the navy and after that went into the printing-engraving business in Pella. He then married Leona Schilder.

Having lived in the Durham area for some years Martin and Bertha and the three eldest of the children bought a farm north of Sully, Ia., where they continued to farm, later moving a mile west of Sully. In 1924, after several of the children had left the parental home, they retired and moved to Pella where they resided the remainder of their lifetime.

by Alyce Ver Meer

Chester D. Zylstra Family, Front, l-r: Joel Van Dyke, Laura Van Dyke, Helen Van Dyke, Leona Zylstra, Debbie Zylstra, Susan Groenenboom, and Emily Groenenboom; Back, l-r: Greg Van Dyke, Tom Van Dyke, Megan Van Dyke, Chester Duco Zylstra, Jim Zylstra, Hannah Groenenboom, Duane Groenenboom, and Andrew Groenenboom.

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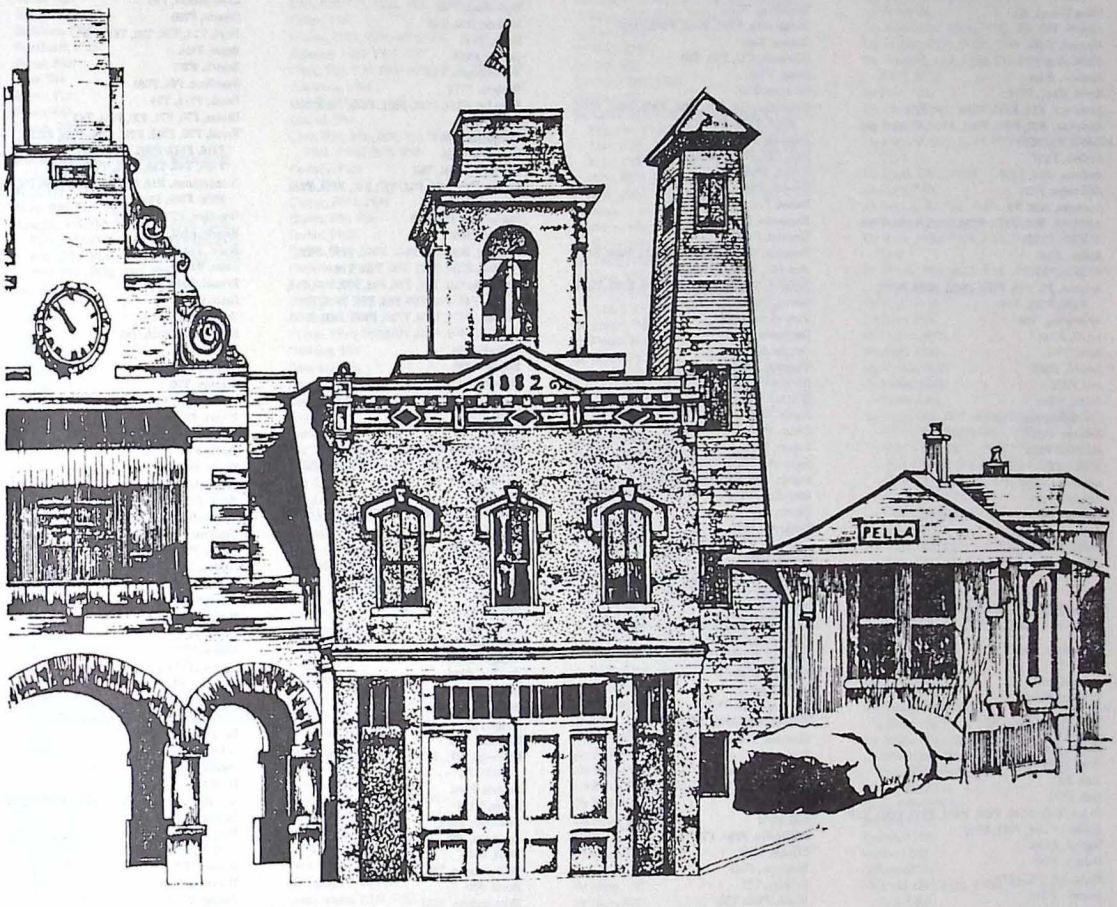

Drawn by Lauri Schurbring Dykstra.

Surnames in this index are alphabetized by computer, and spaces are considered as well as letters. Thus, the reader will find that VAN DER HART and VAN WYK will appear before VANDER BEEK.

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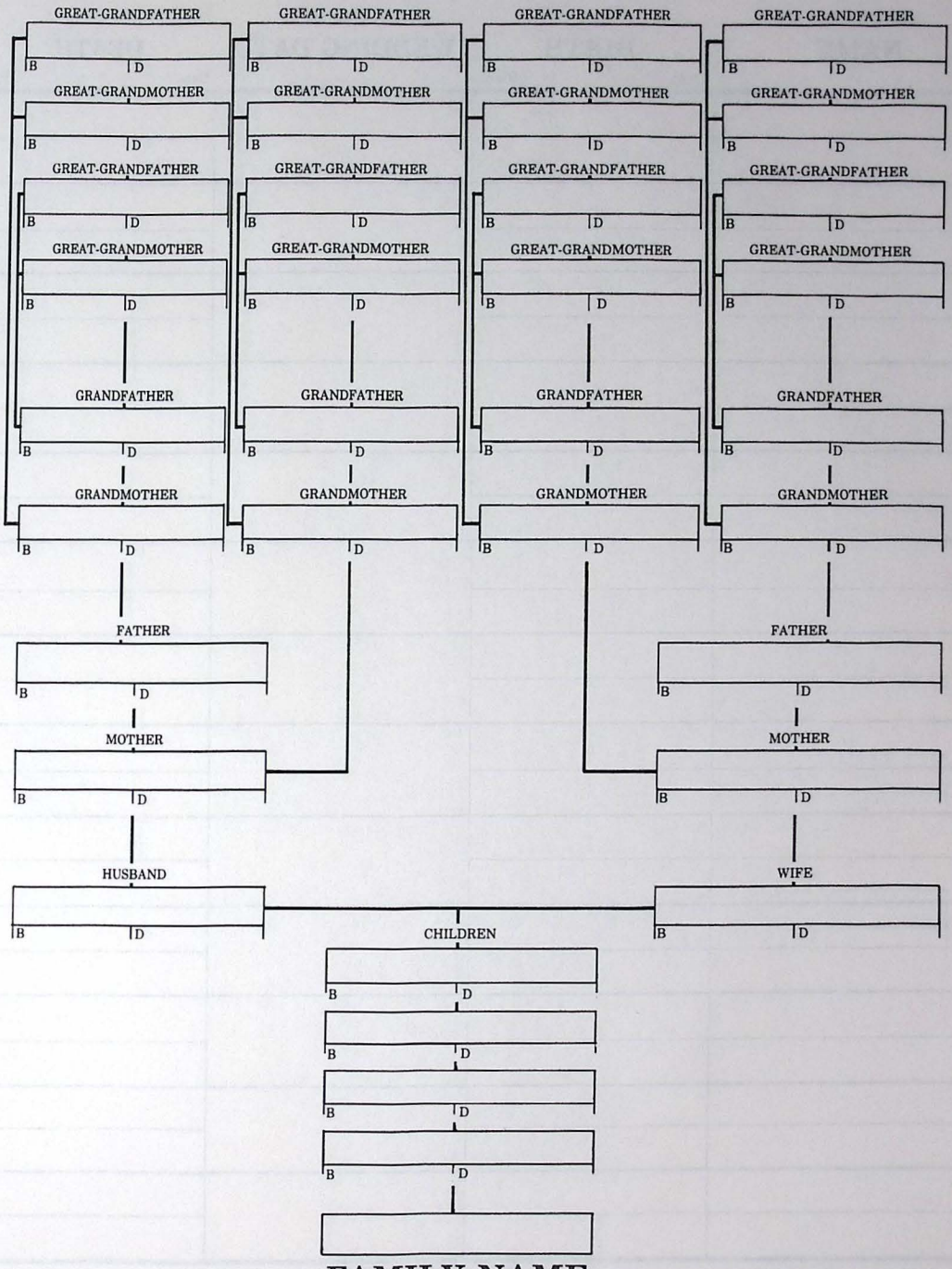
FAMILY RECORD

NAME	BIRTH		WEDDING DATE	DEATH	
	Date	Place		Date	Place

FAMILY TREE



FAMILY NAME

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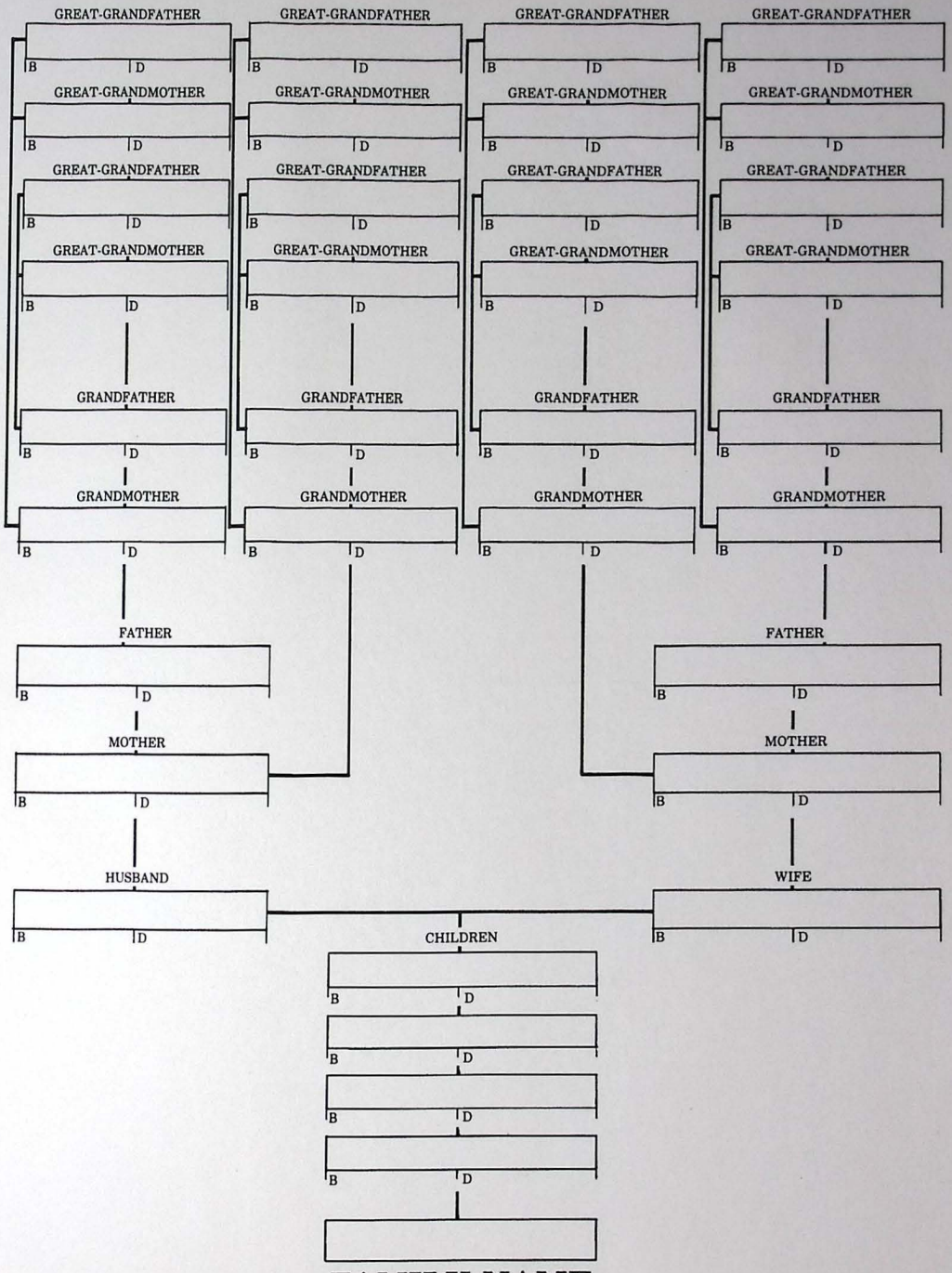
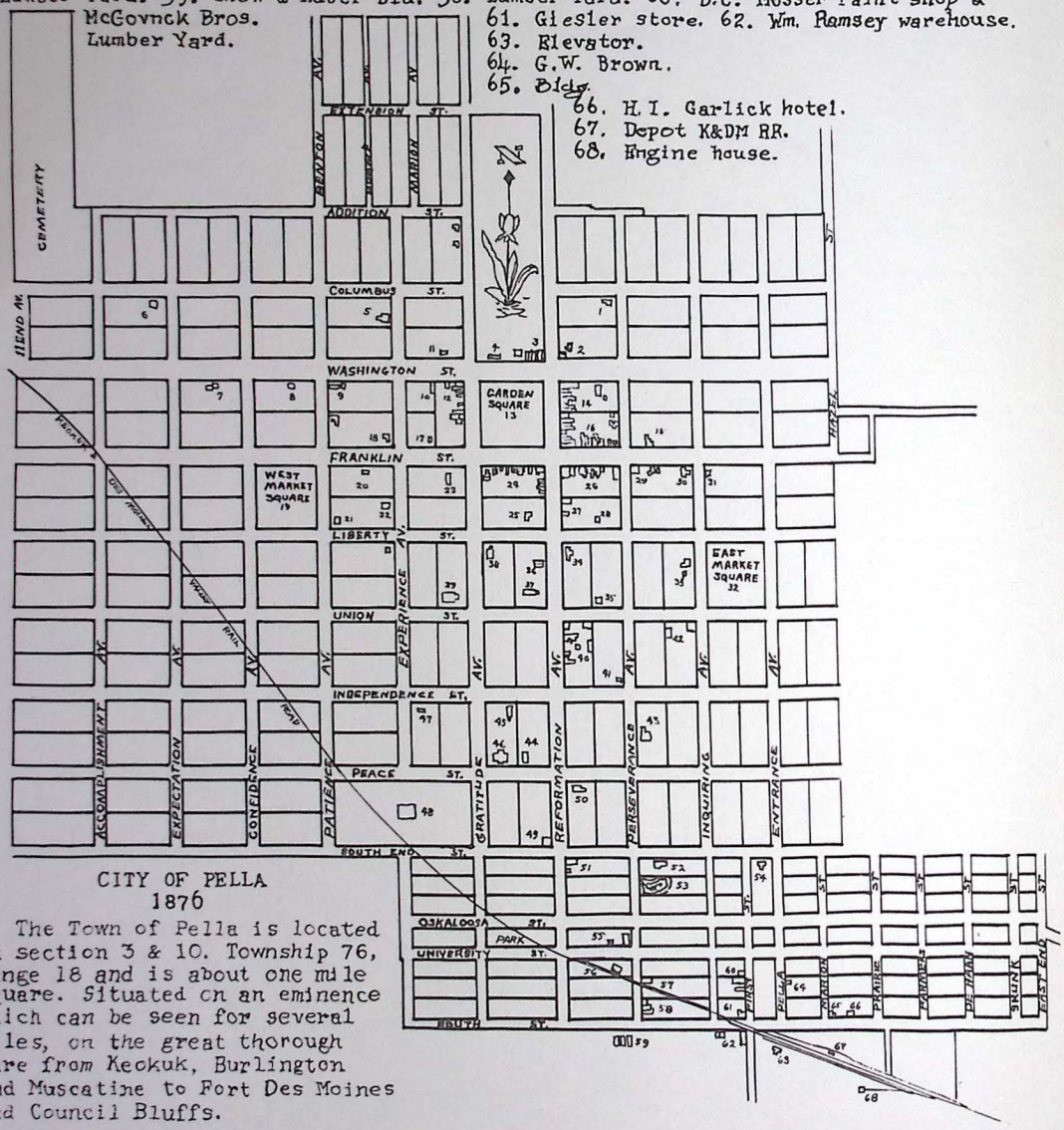
	Date	Place		Date	Place

FAMILY TREE



FAMILY NAME

1. Home of J.H. Stubonrauch. 2. H.L. Bousquet. 3. Law office & Pella National Bank. 4. Scholte home. 5. Pella Grist Mills. 6. Home of H. Neyenesch. 7. Home & store of H. DeBooy. 8. Home. 9. Home. 10. Bldg. 11. Home. 12. Business Bldg. 13. Park. 14. Store of J. Muntingh, B.G. Bomen, E.W. Brinkhoff. 15. Brick home. 16. Stores of S. H. Vierson, H.F. Bousquet, C. Van Vliet, Maasdam, H. Van Vliet. 17. Church. 18. S.H. Vierson. 19. West Park. 20. Brick home. 21. True Reformed Church. 22. Church 23. School house. 24. Stores Mrs. H.M. Bousquet, S.H. Vierson, Mrs. H.M. Bousquet, G. Van Vliet, B.H. Van Spanekeren, S.H. Vierson, Post office, Dr. Guthries office. 25. Home of B.G. Beven. 26. Stores H. Kuyper, American House, U.S. Express office, Livery stable & Sale, Wheeler & Wolfe, H. Van Vliet. 27. Bldg. 28. Home of G. Van Vliet. 29. Van Spanckeren. 30. Home. 31. Home. 32. East Mkt. Square. 33. Brown Res. 34. Thomas Houck 35. Presbyterian Church. 36. Bldg. 37. 3rd. Reformed Church. 38. 2nd. Reformed Church. 39. 1st. Reformed Church. 40. Pella Mfg. Co. 41. Wm. Herhig. 42. Egg & Fruit House. 43. Brewery. 44. Holland Reformed Church. 45. Baptist Church. 46. Webster school. 47. Catholic Church. 48. Central University of Iowa. 49. Lumber Yard. 50. Methodist Church. 51. Catheart & Brown Dealers in grain. 52. Tysselling Bros. Grist Mill. 53. Mill Pond. 54. Pearl Grist Mills. 55. Snow & Huber Store house & office. 56. Snow & Huber Elevator. 57. Baldwin & Wormhoudt Lumber Yard. 59. Snow & Huber bld. 58. Lumber Yard. 60. D.C. Mosser Paint shop & 61. Giesler store. 62. Wm. Ramsey warehouse. 63. Elevator. 64. G.W. Brown. 65. Bldg. 66. H.I. Garlick hotel. 67. Depot K&DM RR. 68. Engine house.



CITY OF PELLA
1876

The Town of Pella is located in section 3 & 10. Township 76, Range 18 and is about one mile square. Situated on an eminence which can be seen for several miles, on the great thorough fare from Keokuk, Burlington and Muscatine to Fort Des Moines and Council Bluffs.

A souvenir of tulip time in pella iowa